

practical experience in maritime operations. GLPAC members serve for a term of 3 years and may be reappointed. All members serve at their own expense but receive reimbursement for travel and per diem expenses from the Federal Government.

In support of the Coast Guard policy on gender and ethnic nondiscrimination, we encourage qualified men and women and members of all racial and ethnic groups to apply. The Coast Guard values diversity, which includes persons with different characteristics and attributes who will enhance the mission of the Coast Guard.

Dated: November 30, 2009.

W.A. Muilenburg,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Office of Waterways Management.

[FR Doc. E9-29125 Filed 12-7-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9110-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

[Docket No. USCG-2009-0973]

Random Drug Testing Rate for Covered Crewmembers

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Notice of minimum random drug testing rate.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard has set the calendar year 2010 minimum random drug testing rate at 50 percent of covered crewmembers.

DATES: The minimum random drug testing rate is effective January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. Marine employers must submit their 2009 Management Information System (MIS) reports no later than March 15, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Annual MIS reports may be submitted to Commandant (CG-545), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street, SW., STOP 7581, Washington, DC 20593-7581 or by electronic submission to the following Internet address: <http://homeport.uscg.mil/Drugtestreports>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions about this notice, please contact Mr. Robert C. Schoening, Drug and Alcohol Program Manager, Office of

Investigations and Casualty Analysis (CG-545), U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, telephone 202-372-1033. If you have questions on viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under 46 CFR 16.230, the Coast Guard requires marine employers to establish random drug testing programs for covered crewmembers on inspected and uninspected vessels.

Every marine employer is required by 46 CFR 16.500 to collect and maintain a record of drug testing program data for each calendar year, and submit this data by 15 March of the following year to the Coast Guard in an annual MIS report. Marine employers may either submit their own MIS reports or have a consortium or other employer representative submit the data in a consolidated MIS report.

The purpose of setting a minimum random drug testing rate is to assist the Coast Guard in analyzing its current approach for deterring and detecting illegal drug abuse in the maritime industry. The testing rate for calendar year 2010 is 50 percent.

The Coast Guard may lower this rate if, for two consecutive years, the drug test positive rate is less than 1.0 percent, in accordance with 46 CFR part 16.230(f)(2).

Since 2008 MIS data indicates that the positive rate is greater than one percent industry-wide (1.53 percent), the Coast Guard announces that the minimum random drug testing rate will continue at 50 percent of covered employees for the period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 in accordance with 46 CFR 16.230(e).

Each year, the Coast Guard will publish a notice reporting the results of random drug testing for the previous calendar year's MIS data and the minimum annual percentage rate for random drug testing for the next calendar year.

Dated: November 20, 2009.

K.S. Cook,

Rear Admiral, United States Coast Guard, Director of Prevention Policy.

[FR Doc. E9-29127 Filed 12-7-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R9-FHC-2009-N166; 71490-1351-0000-L5]

Letters of Authorization To Take Marine Mammals

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of issuance.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA), we, the Fish and Wildlife Service, have issued letters of authorization to take polar bears and Pacific walrus incidental to oil and gas industry exploration, development, and production activities in the Beaufort Sea and adjacent northern coast of Alaska and incidental to oil and gas industry exploration activities in the Chukchi Sea and adjacent western coast of Alaska.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Craig Perham at the Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503; (800) 362-5148 or (907) 786-3810.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 2, 2006, we published in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 43926) a final rule establishing regulations that allow us to authorize the nonlethal, incidental, unintentional take of small numbers of polar bears and Pacific walrus during year-round oil and gas industry exploration, development, and production activities in the Beaufort Sea and adjacent northern coast of Alaska for 5 years from date of issuance of that rule. In accordance with that rule, section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA, and our regulations at 50 CFR part 18, subpart J, we issued a letter of authorization (LOA) to the following companies in the Beaufort Sea and adjacent northern coast of Alaska.

BEAUFORT SEA, LETTERS OF AUTHORIZATION FOR 2008

Company	Activity	Project	Date issued
Denali—the Alaska Pipeline Group	Exploration	2008 Hydrology study	Sept 15, 2008.
Brooks Range Petroleum Corp	Exploration	North Shore Sak River	Nov 1, 2008.
Pioneer Natural Resources Alaska, Inc ..	Production	Oooguruk Project	Dec 15, 2008.