

collected legally from any species of cetaceans and pinnipeds, except walrus, for the purposes of scientific research including studies on taxonomy, genetic diversity, population structure, abundance and individual movement of cetaceans and pinnipeds. No takes of live animals, direct or indirect, are authorized by the permit. The permit expires on February 28, 2019.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

As required by the ESA, issuance of this permit was based on a finding that such permit: (1) Was applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of such endangered species; and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: April 8, 2014.

Tammy C. Adams,

Acting Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2014-08764 Filed 4-16-14; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Evaluation of State Coastal Management Programs

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of intent to evaluate.

SUMMARY: The NOAA Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) announces its intent to evaluate the performance of the Massachusetts, Texas, and Michigan Coastal Management Programs.

The Coastal Zone Management Program evaluations will be conducted pursuant to section 312 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended (CZMA) and regulations at 15 CFR part 923, Subpart L. The CZMA requires continuing review of the performance of states with respect to coastal program implementation. Evaluation of a Coastal Management Program requires findings concerning the extent to which a state has met the national objectives, adhered to its

Coastal Management Program document approved by the Secretary of Commerce, and adhered to the terms of financial assistance awards funded under the CZMA.

The evaluations will include a public meeting, consideration of written public comments and consultations with interested Federal, state, and local agencies and members of the public. When the evaluation is completed, OCRM will place a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing the availability of the Final Evaluation Findings. Notice is hereby given of the date, local time, and location of the public meeting.

Date and Time: The Massachusetts Coastal Management Program public meeting will be held on Thursday, June 5th at 4:30 p.m. local time at the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, 2nd Floor Conference Room D, 100 Cambridge Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114. A picture ID is required for building entry.

The Michigan Coastal Management Program public meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 4th, at 5:00 p.m. local time at Lansing Community College-West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Room M119—Section 1, Lansing, Michigan, 48917.

The Texas Coastal Management Program public meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 4th, at 5:00 p.m. local time at Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi Natural Resources Center, 6300 Ocean Drive, Room 1003, Corpus Christi, Texas 78412.

ADDRESSES: Copies of each state's most recent performance report, as well as OCRM's evaluation notification letter to the state, are available upon request from OCRM. Written comments from interested parties regarding these programs are encouraged and will be accepted until June 6, 2014 for the Michigan Coastal Management Program and June 13, 2014 for the Massachusetts and Texas Coastal Management Programs. Please direct written comments to Carrie Hall, Evaluator, National Policy and Evaluation Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS/NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, 10th Floor, N/ORM7, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, or Carrie.Hall@noaa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carrie Hall, Evaluator, National Policy and Evaluation Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS/NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, 10th Floor, N/ORM7, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, (301) 563-1135, or Carrie.Hall@noaa.gov.

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog 11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program Administration)

Dated: April 11, 2014.

Christopher C. Cartwright,

Associate Assistant Administrator for Management and CFO/CAO, Ocean Services, and Coastal Zone Management National, Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2014-08723 Filed 4-16-14; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO-P-2014-0024]

Notice of Forum on the Guidance For Determining Subject Matter Eligibility of Claims Reciting or Involving Laws of Nature, Natural Phenomena, and Natural Products

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (Office) is hosting a forum to receive public feedback from organizations and individuals on its guidance memorandum titled, "Guidance For Determining Subject Matter Eligibility of Claims Reciting or Involving Laws of Nature, Natural Phenomena, and Natural Products (Laws of Nature/Natural Products Guidance)," issued on March 4, 2014 and available at www.uspto.gov/patents/announce/myriad-mayo.jsp. The Laws of Nature/Natural Products Guidance implemented a new procedure to address changes in the law relating to subject matter eligibility under 35 U.S.C. 101 in view of recent Supreme Court precedent. The forum will be open for any member of the public to participate. The forum will provide an opportunity for participants to present their interpretation of the impact of Supreme Court precedent on the complex legal and technical issues involved in subject matter eligibility analyses during patent examination. Participants who believe that the Supreme Court decisions could be implemented in an alternative manner from the approach taken in the Laws of Nature/Natural Products Guidance should use the forum to present their alternative approach and the legal rationale for the alternative. The forum also can be used by participants to suggest additional examples for use by the Office to create a more complete picture of the impact of Supreme Court precedent on subject matter eligibility.