

U.S. vessels in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) in waters off the coast of Alaska is managed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska and the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (FMPs). The regulations implementing the FMPs are found at 50 CFR part 679.

The owners of shoreside processors and stationary floating processors are required to annually submit the Commercial Operator's Annual Report (COAR) to the State of Alaska, Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), under Alaska Administrative Code (AAC), chapter 5 AAC 39.130. The owners of catcher/processors and motherships operating in the EEZ off Alaska are required to annually submit the COAR to ADF&G under 50 CFR part 679.5(p).

The COAR provides information on ex-vessel and first wholesale values for statewide fish and shellfish products. Containing information from shoreside processors, stationary floating processors, motherships, and catcher/processors, this data collection yields equivalent annual product value information for all respective processing sectors and provides a consistent time series according to which groundfish resources may be managed more efficiently.

## II. Method of Collection

Paper reports are required from participants and transmitted by U.S. mail.

## III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0428.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 87.

Estimated Time Per Response: 8 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 696.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

## IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and

clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 16, 2006.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-19710 Filed 11-21-06; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 111406B]

### Endangered Species; File No. 1540-03

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of permit modification.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR), Marine Resources Division, P.O. Box 12559, Charleston, SC 29422-2559 has been issued a modification to scientific research Permit No. 1540-01.

**ADDRESSES:** The modification and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)427-2521; and Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Ave South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701; phone (727)824-5312; fax (727)824-5309.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kate Swails or Patrick Opay, (301)713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On October 5, 2006, notice was published in the *Federal Register* (7 FR 58805) that a modification of Permit No. 1540-01, February 6, 2006 (71 FR 7019), had been requested by the above-named individual. The requested modification has been granted under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*)

and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

Permit No. 1540 currently authorizes the permit holder to study loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*), green (*Chelonia mydas*), leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*), and hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) sea turtles. The purpose of the research is to continue to document in-water relative abundances, size distributions, sex ratios, genetic contributions, and the health of sea turtles in coastal waters in the southeastern U.S. SCDNR is authorized to capture 146 loggerhead, 48 Kemp's ridley, 15 green, 1 leatherback, and 3 hawksbill sea turtles, during the first year of the permit's five-year period. The permit authorizes research on up to 346 loggerhead, 48 Kemp's ridley, 15 green, 1 leatherback, and 3 hawksbill sea turtles annually for the remaining four years. Turtles are captured by trawls, handled, blood sampled, measured, flipper and Passive Integrated Transponder tagged, photographed, and released. A subsample of animals have barnacles and keratin removed from their shell, have cloacal samples taken, have laparoscopic and ultrasound exams, and have satellite transmitters attached. Up to 7 loggerhead and 1 leatherback captures could potentially result in accidental mortalities over the course of the entire permit. Additionally, up to 5 Kemp's ridley, green, or hawksbill sea turtles (combined total but no more than two of any given species) may potentially be taken as accidental mortalities over the course of the entire permit. The permit is issued for 5 years.

The permit modification authorizes skin biopsy of 50 loggerhead sea turtles annually as well as authorizing an increase in the number of turtles undergoing ultrasound, cloacal swabbing, keratin scraping, and having satellite transmitters attached. The number of sea turtles captured does not change. The goal of the additional research would be to assess the potential diversity of diets and foraging habits and document over-wintering habitats of loggerheads.

Issuance of this modification, as required by the ESA was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of any endangered or threatened species, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: November 16, 2006.

**P. Michael Payne,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Docket No. 030602141-6291-43]

#### Availability of Grants Funds for Fiscal Year 2007; Reopening of Application Deadline

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice

**SUMMARY:** NOAA publishes this notice to reopen the solicitation period on the "NOAA Office of Hydrologic Development Hydrologic Research Announcement of Opportunity, FY 2007," which was originally announced in the **Federal Register** on June 12, 2006. This notice is being modified to more fully explain ensemble streamflow forecasting. This notice applies to only those applicants who have already submitted pre-proposals. The solicitation period is being extended from June 12, 2006, to December 15, 2006, to provide pre-proposal applicants the opportunity to submit revised proposals.

**DATES:** Proposals must be received by the NWS no later than 3 p.m., eastern standard time, December 15, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** Applications should be submitted electronically to <http://www.grants.gov/>. Electronic submission is strongly encouraged. Applicants without Internet access may send hard copy applications to Pedro Restrepo, NOAA/NWS; 1325 East-West Highway, Room 8176, phone number 301-713-0640, ext. 210; Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283; these applications must be received by the Office of Hydrologic Development no later than 3 p.m. EST on December 15, 2006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Pedro Restrepo by phone at 301-713-0640 ext. 210, or fax to 301-713-0963, or via internet at [Pedro.Restrepo@noaa.gov](mailto:Pedro.Restrepo@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NOAA recently became aware that the Office of Hydrologic Development Hydrologic Research's Announcement of Opportunity for FY 2007 (71 FR 33919, June 12, 2006) did not clearly describe

the program priority identified as Ensemble Streamflow Forecasting, which was listed under the heading: "B. NWS/OHD/HL Hydrologic Modeling Priorities." In order to ensure that applicants are fully informed of NOAA's program priorities, NOAA clarifies that Ensemble Streamflow Forecasting includes the preprocessing of atmospheric forecasts, and the use of weather and climate reforecast datasets to produce reliable and skillful ensemble forcing and to evaluate improvement in hydrologic forecast skill.

NOAA recognizes that applicants who submitted their full proposals may wish to revise their submission in light of this clarification. Therefore, NOAA re-opens the solicitation period from November 22, 2006 to December 15, 2006 to allow these applicants the opportunity to revise and submit their full proposals. This re-opening applies only to those applicants who previously submitted a pre-proposal. This re-opening is not a solicitation for new pre-proposals. All other requirements for this solicitation remain the same.

#### Limitation of Liability

In no event will NOAA or the Department of Commerce be responsible for proposal preparation costs if this program is cancelled because of other agency priorities. Publication of this announcement does not oblige NOAA to award any specific project or to obligate any available funds. Applicants are hereby given notice that funding for the Fiscal Year 2007 program is contingent upon the availability of Fiscal Year 2007 appropriations.

#### Universal Identifier

Applicants should be aware they are required to provide a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number during the application process. See the October 30, 2002, **Federal Register**, (67, FR 66177) for additional information.

Organizations can receive a DUNS number at no cost by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS Number request line at 1-866-705-5711 or via the Internet at <http://www.dunandbradstreet.com>.

#### National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

NOAA must analyze the potential environmental impacts, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), for applicant projects or proposals which are seeking NOAA Federal funding opportunities. Detailed information on NOAA compliance with NEPA can be found at the following

NOAA NEPA Web site: <http://www.nepa.noaa.gov/>, including our NOAA Administrative Order 216-6 for NEPA, [http://www.nepa.noaa.gov/NAO216\\_6\\_TOC.pdf](http://www.nepa.noaa.gov/NAO216_6_TOC.pdf), and the Council on Environmental Quality implementation regulations, [http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/regs/ceq/toc\\_ceq.htm](http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/regs/ceq/toc_ceq.htm). Consequently, as part of an applicant's package, and under their description of their program activities, applicants are required to provide detailed information on the activities to be conducted, locations, sites, species and habitat to be affected, possible construction activities, and any environmental concerns that may exist (e.g., the use and disposal of hazardous or toxic chemicals, introduction of non-indigenous species, impacts to endangered and threatened species, aquaculture projects, and impacts to coral reef systems). In addition to providing specific information that will serve as the basis for any required impact analyses, applicants may also be requested to assist NOAA in drafting of an environmental assessment, if NOAA determines an assessment is required. Applicants will also be required to cooperate with NOAA in identifying feasible measures to reduce or avoid any identified adverse environmental impacts of their proposal. The failure to do so shall be grounds for not selecting an application. In some cases if additional information is required after an application is selected, funds can be withheld by the Grants Officer under a special award condition requiring the recipient to submit additional environmental compliance information sufficient to enable NOAA to make an assessment on any impacts that a project may have on the environment. The Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements contained in the **Federal Register** notice of December 30, 2004 (69 FR 78389) are applicable to this solicitation.

#### Paperwork Reduction Act

This document contains collection-of-information requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). The use of Standard Forms 424, 424A, 424B, SF-LLL, and CD-346 has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the respective control numbers 0348-0043, 0348-0044, 0348-0040, 0348-0046, and 0605-0001. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the PRA unless that