

they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 6, 2002.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-31450 Filed 12-12-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-12-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 112602C]

Endangered Species; File No. 1377

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Ms. Tracey Mueller, Mote Marine Laboratory, Sea Turtle Conservation and Research Program, Sarasota, FL has been issued a permit to take threatened and endangered green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*), endangered hawksbill turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), endangered Kemp's ridley turtles (*Lepidochelys kempii*), and threatened loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*) for purposes of scientific research.

ADDRESSES: The permit 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)713-0376; and Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432; phone (727)570-5301; fax (727)570-5320.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Tammy Adams or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 19, 2002, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 19416) that a request for a scientific research permit to take green, loggerhead, Kemp's ridley, and hawksbill turtles had been submitted by the above-named individual. The requested permit has been issued 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 parts 222-226).

The permit authorizes annual takes of 150 juvenile and subadult green turtles, 100 juvenile and sub-adult loggerhead, 150 juvenile and sub-adult Kemp's ridley, and 5 juvenile and sub-adult hawksbill turtles by capture, tagging, blood and tissue sampling for a five year population assessment of the juvenile sea turtles inhabiting Charlotte Harbor on the west coast of Florida. Up to 10 green, 10 Kemp's ridley, 10 loggerhead, and 5 hawksbill turtles will also be collected annually incidental to the Center for Shark Research gill netting for sharks in the areas of Pine Island Sound and the Gulf waters near Crystal River, FL. These turtles will be measured, flipper tagged and released. In the second through fifth years of the permit, up to 5 green and/or Kemp's ridley turtles will also have satellite tags attached.

Issuance of this permit, 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 the endangered species which is the subject of this permit, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: December 4, 2002.

Eugene T. Nitta,

Acting 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

[I.D. 111802C]

Marine Mammals; File No. 995-1608

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Mr. Thomas F. Norris, Science Applications International Corp., 3990 Old Town Avenue, Suite 105A, San Diego, California 92110 has been issued an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 995-1608.

ADDRESSES: The amendment 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)713-0376;

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0700; phone (206)526-6150; fax (206)526-6426;

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018; and

Protected Species Coordinator, Pacific Area Office, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm. 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808)973-2935; fax (808)973-2941. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Tammy Adams or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 21, 2000, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 80420) that a request for a scientific research permit to take gray (*Eschrichtius robustus*), minke (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), Bryde's (*Balaenoptera edeni*), blue (*Balaenoptera musculus*), fin (*Balaenoptera physalus*), and humpback (*Megaptera novaengliae*) whales had been submitted by the above-named individual. Permit No. 995-1608 was issued on May 4, 2001 (66 FR 23884, May 10, 2001) for takes of gray, minke, and Bryde's whales by attachment of scientific instruments, photo-identification, behavioral observation, and incidental harassment.

Authorization to take endangered blue, fin and humpback whales was deferred pending receipt of additional information and consultation required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. The amendment to include takes of these endangered species has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), 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).

The amended permit authorizes takes of up to 11 each of blue, fin, and humpback whales per year by attachment of scientific instruments, photo-identification, and behavioral observation and up to 20 whales of each species by harassment incidental to these activities.

Issuance of this amendment, 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 the endangered species which is the subject of this