

Chinook and extend the research period through 2009. Information gathered by this study will be used to help develop the Henry M. Jackson Hydroelectric Project management plan. The study will help resource managers design water management strategies and habitat protection and restoration projects for salmonids. The researchers propose to conduct snorkeling and electrofishing surveys for juvenile salmonids. Supplemental sampling may also be conducted using minnow traps. Fish will be captured, anesthetized, measured, checked for hatchery marks, allowed to recover, and released. The researchers do not intend to kill any listed fish but a small number may die as an unintended result of the activities.

Permit 13434

The Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) is requesting a two-year research permit to take juvenile and adult UCR spring-run Chinook salmon, UCR steelhead, SR spring/summer Chinook salmon, SR fall Chinook salmon, SR sockeye salmon, MCR steelhead, LCR Chinook salmon, LCR coho salmon, LCR steelhead, CR chum salmon, PS Chinook salmon, PS steelhead, and HCS chum salmon. The DOE would conduct surveys for the Environmental Protection Agency's National Rivers and Streams Assessment project. The purpose of the research is to assess the condition of Washington's rivers and streams and establish a baseline description for future comparisons. The information gathered by this research would benefit listed salmonids by helping resource managers evaluate water quality conditions and ecological health of habitats occupied by listed salmonids. The applicant proposes to capture fish with backpack and boat electrofishing equipment in randomly selected streams throughout Washington. Listed fish would be enumerated and immediately released. The applicant does not intend to kill any listed fish species, but a small number may die as an unintended result of the activities.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 10(c) of the ESA. NMFS will evaluate the applications, associated documents, and comments submitted to determine whether the applications meet the requirements of section 10(a) of the ESA and Federal regulations. The final permit decisions will not be made until after the end of the 30-day comment period. NMFS will publish

notice of its final action in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: August 12, 2008.

Angela Somma,

Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E8-18945 Filed 8-14-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XJ74

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Scallop Committee in September, 2008 to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate. **DATES:** This meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 10, 2008, at 9 a.m. and Thursday, September 11, 2008, at 8:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: This meeting will be held at the Hotel Providence, 311 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903; telephone: (401) 861-8000; fax: (401) 861-8002.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The committee will review Section 7 Endangered Species Act Consultation for the Scallop FMP (Biological Opinion) and develop potential management measures to comply with findings of biological opinion. The committee will also review input from Scallop Advisory Panel on development of Amendment 15 alternatives to date and discuss additional measures for

consideration in Amendment 15. The primary management topics include: implementation of annual catch limits (ACLs); measures to rationalize the limited access scallop fishery; revision of the overfishing definition; modifications to specific aspects of the general category limited entry program implemented by Amendment 11; measures to address EFH closed areas in the Scallop FMP if the EFH Omnibus Amendment is delayed; alternatives to improve the research set-aside program; and modifying the start date of the scallop fishing year. The committee may discuss other topics at their discretion.

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, at 978-465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: August 12, 2008.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E8-18908 Filed 8-14-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal Nos. 08-60]

36(b)(1) Arms Sales Notification

AGENCY: Department of Defense, Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense is publishing the unclassified text of a section 36(b)(1) arms sales notification. This is published to fulfill the requirements of section 155 of Public Law 104-164 dated 21 July 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. B. English, DSCA/DBO/CFM, (703) 601-3740.

The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittals 08-60 with attached transmittal, policy justification, and Sensitivity of Technology.

Dated: August 5, 2008.

Patricia L. Toppings,

OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

BILLING CODE 5001-06-M



**DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY
2800 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2800**

AUG 01 2008

**In reply refer to:
USP005665-08**

**The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6501**

Dear Madam Speaker:

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 08-60, concerning the Department of the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to Italy for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$330 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a press statement to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey A. Wieringa".

**Jeffrey A. Wieringa
Vice Admiral, USN
Director**

Enclosures:

- 1. Transmittal**
- 2. Policy Justification**
- 3. Sensitivity of Technology**

Same ltr to:

House

**Committee on Foreign Affairs
Committee on Armed Services
Committee on Appropriations**

Senate

**Committee on Foreign Relations
Committee on Armed Services
Committee on Appropriations**

Transmittal No. 08-60

**Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer
Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1)
of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended**

- (i) **Prospective Purchaser:** Italy
- (ii) **Total Estimated Value:**
- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Major Defense Equipment* | \$ 50 million |
| Other | <u>\$ 280 million</u> |
| TOTAL | \$ 330 million |
- (iii) **Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:** 4 MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV), 3 Mobile Ground Control Stations, five years of maintenance support, engineering support, test equipment, ground support, operational flight test support, communications equipment, technical assistance, personnel training/equipment, spare and repair parts, and other related elements of logistics support.
- (iv) **Military Department:** Air Force (SAG)
- (v) **Prior Related Cases, if any:** none
- (vi) **Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid:** none
- (vii) **Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold:** See Annex attached
- (viii) **Date Report Delivered to Congress:** AUG 01 2008

* as defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION**Italy – (4) MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Aircraft**

The Government of Italy has requested a possible sale of 4 MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV), 3 Mobile Ground Control Stations, five years of maintenance support, engineering support, test equipment, ground support, operational flight test support, communications equipment, technical assistance, personnel training/equipment, spare and repair parts, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$330 million.

Italy is a major political and economic power in NATO and the Atlantic and a key democratic partner of the United States in ensuring peace and stability around the world.

Italy requests these capabilities to provide for the defense of deployed troops, regional security, and interoperability with the United States. This program will increase Italy's ability to contribute to future NATO, coalition, and anti-terrorism operations that the U.S. may undertake. By acquiring this capability, Italy will be able to provide the same level of protection for its own forces as those of the United States.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not affect the basic military balance in the region. Italy will have no difficulty absorbing these aircraft into its armed forces.

The principal contractors will be:

General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc.	San Diego, California
Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems	El Segundo, California
General Atomics Lynx Systems	San Diego, California

There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Italy.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

Transmittal No. 08-60**Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer
Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1)
of the Arms Export Control Act****Annex
Item No. vii****(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:**

1. **The MQ-9 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle is Unclassified.** The highest level of classified information required for training, operation, and maintenance is Secret. The MQ-9 is a long-endurance, high-altitude, remotely operated aircraft that can be used for surveillance, military reconnaissance, and targeting missions. Real-time missions are flown under the control of a pilot in a Ground Control Station (GCS). A data link is maintained that uplinks control commands and downlinks video with telemetry data. The data link can be a C-Band Line-of-Sight (LOS) communication or Ku-Band Over-the-Horizon Satellite Communication (SATCOM). Autonomous missions are preprogrammed by pilots in the GCS and are flown under the control of an onboard suite of redundant computers and sensors. Payload imagery and data are downlinked to a GCS. A pilot initiates autonomous missions once the aircraft is airborne and lands the aircraft when the mission is completed. Pilots can change preprogrammed mission parameters as often as required. The aircraft can also be handed off to other strategically placed ground- or sea-based Ground Control Stations. The MQ-9 is designed to carry 800 pounds of internal payload with maximum fuel and can carry multiple mission payloads aloft. The MQ-9 will be configured for the following payloads: Electro-Optical/Infrared (EO/IR), Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), Electronic Support Measures (ESM), Signals Intelligence (SIGINT), laser designators, and various weapons packages. The MQ-9 systems will include the following components:

a. **The Ground Control Station (GCS) can be either fixed or mobile.** The fixed GCS is enclosed in a customer-specified shelter. It incorporates workstations that allow operators to control and monitor the aircraft, as well as record and exploit downlinked payload data. The mobile GCS allows operators to perform the same functions and is contained on a mobile trailer. Workstations in either GCS can be tailored to meet customer requirements. The GCS, technical data, and documents are Unclassified.

b. The General Atomics AN/DPY-1 Synthetic Aperture Radar/Ground Moving Target Indicator (SAR/GMTI) system provides all-weather surveillance, tracking and targeting for military and commercial customers from manned and unmanned vehicles. The AN/DPY-1 operates in the Ku band, using an offset-fed dish antenna mounted on a three-axis stabilized gimbal. It has a large field of regard: 5-60 degrees in depression, $\pm$ (45-135) degrees in squint in SAR mode, and $\pm$ (0-175) degrees in squint in GMTI mode. The AN/DPY-1 has 0.3 to 3 meter resolution in stripmap mode and can image up to a 10-km wide swath (at 3 meter resolution). Swaths from multiple passes are combined for wide-area surveillance. The AN/DPY-1 SAR/GMTI radar system and technical data/documents are Unclassified.

c. The Raytheon Multi-Spectral Targeting System (MTS-B) is a multi-use infrared (IR), electro-optical (EO), and laser detecting ranging-tracking set, developed and produced for use by the U. S. Air Force in Predator B. This advanced EO and IR system provides long-range surveillance, high altitude, target acquisition, tracking, range finding, and laser designation for the HELLFIRE missile and for all tri-service and NATO laser-guided munitions.

2. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

[FR Doc. E8-18636 Filed 8-14-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-C

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal Nos. 08-59]

36(b)(1) Arms Sales Notification

AGENCY: Department of Defense, Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense is publishing the unclassified text of a section 36(b)(1) arms sales notification. This is published to fulfill the requirements of section 155 of Public Law 104-164 dated 21 July 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. B. English, DSCA/DBO/CFM, (703) 601-3740. The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of

Representatives, Transmittals 08-59 with attached transmittal, policy justification, and Sensitivity of Technology.

Dated: August 5, 2008.

Patricia L. Toppings,

*OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Defense.*

BILLING CODE 5001-06-M