without prior notification and an opportunity for public comment. Notification will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER within 30 days subsequent to the action.

Subpart S—Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to U.S. Navy Mission Activities in the Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Division

§ 218.180 Specified activity and specified geographical area and effective dates.

(a) Regulations in this subpart apply only to the U.S. Navy for the taking of marine mammals that occurs in the area outlined in paragraph (b) of this section and that occur incidental to the activities described in paragraph (c) of this section.

(b) The taking of marine mammals by the Navy is only authorized if it occurs within the NSWC PCD Study Area, which includes St. Andrew Bay (SAB) and military warning areas (areas within the GOM subject to military operations) W–151 (includes Panama City Operating Area), W–155 (includes Pensacola Operating Area), and W–470, as described in Figures 2-1 and 2-2 of the Navy’s application for the Letter of Authorization (LOA). The NSWC PCD Study Area includes a Coastal Test Area, a Very Shallow Water Test Area, and Target and Operational Test Fields. The NSWC PCD Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) activities may be conducted anywhere within the existing military operating areas and SAB from the mean high water line (average high tide mark) out to 222 km (120 nm) offshore. The locations and environments include:

1. Test area control sites adjacent to NSWC PCD.
2. Wide coastal shelf 97 km (52 nm) distance offshore to 183 m (600 ft), including bays and harbors.

(c) The taking of marine mammals by the Navy is only authorized if it occurs incidental to the following activities within the designated amounts of use:

1. The use of the following high frequency active sonar (HFAS) and mid-frequency active sonar (MFAS) or similar sources for U.S. Navy mission activities in territorial waters in the amounts indicated below:
   i. AN/SQS–53/56 Kingfisher—up to 15 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 3 hours per year);
   ii. Sub-bottom profiler (2–9 kHz)—up to 105 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 21 hours per year);
   iii. REMUS SAS–LF (center frequency 15 kHz)—up to 60 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 12 hours per year);
   iv. REMUS Modem—up to 125 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 25 hours per year);
   v. Sub-bottom profiler (2–16 kHz)—up to 120 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 24 hours per year);
   vi. AN/SQQ–32—up to 150 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 30 hours per year);
   vii. REMUS–SAS–LF (center frequency 20 kHz)—up to 100 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 20 hours per year);
   viii. SAS–LF—up to 175 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 35 hours per year);
   ix. AN/WLD–1 RMS–ACL—up to 168 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 33.5 hours per year);
   x. BPAUV Sidescan (center frequency 75 kHz)—up to 125 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 25 hours per year);
   xi. TVSS—up to 75 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 15 hours per year);
   xii. F84Y—up to 75 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 15 hours per year);
   xiii. BPAUV Sidescan (center frequency 102.5 kHz)—up to 125 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 25 hours per year);
   xiv. REMUS–SAS–HF—up to 50 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 10 hours per year);
(2) The use of the following high frequency active sonar (HFAS) and mid-frequency active sonar (MFAS) or similar sources for U.S. Navy mission activities in non-territorial waters in the amounts indicated below:

(i) AN/SQS–53/56 Kingfisher—up to 5 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 1 hour per year);

(ii) Sub-bottom profiler (2–9 kHz)—up to 5 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 1 hour per year);

(iii) REMUS Modem—up to 60 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 12 hours per year);

(iv) Sub-bottom profiler (2–16 kHz)—up to 5 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 1 hour per year);

(v) AN/SQQ–32—up to 5 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 1 hour per year);

(vi) SAS–LF—up to 75 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 15 hours per year);

(vii) AN/WLD–1 RMS–ACL—up to 25 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 5 hours per year);

(viii) BPAUV Sidescan (center frequency 75 kHz)—up to 190 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 38 hours per year);

(ix) TVSS—up to 83 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 16.5 hours per year);

(x) F41Y—up to 75 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 15 hours per year);

(xii) SAS–HF—up to 75 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 15 hours per year);

(xiii) AN/AQS–20—up to 75 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 15 hours per year);

(xiv) BPAUV Sidescan (center frequency 120 kHz)—up to 125 hours over the course of 5 years (an average of 25 hours per year).

3) Ordnance operations for U.S. Navy mission activities in territorial waters in the amounts indicated below:

(i) Range 1 (0–10 lb)—up to 255 detonations over the course of 5 years (an average of 51 detonations per year);

(ii) Range 2 (11–75 lb)—up to 15 detonations over the course of 5 years (an average of 3 detonations per year); and

(iii) Line charges—up to 15 detonations over the course of 5 years (an average of 3 detonations per year).

4) Ordnance operations for U.S. Navy mission activities in non-territorial waters in the amounts indicated below:

(i) Range 3 (76–600 lb)—up to 80 detonations over the course of 5 years (an average of 16 detonations per year).

(ii) Reserved.

5) Projectile firing operations for U.S. Navy mission activities in non-territorial waters in the amounts indicated below:

(i) 5 in. Naval gunfire—up to 300 rounds over the course of 5 years (an average of 60 rounds per year);

(ii) 40 mm rounds—up to 2,400 rounds over the course of 5 years (an average of 480 rounds per year);

(iii) 30 mm rounds—up to 3,000 rounds over the course of 5 years (an average of 600 rounds per year);

(iv) 20 mm rounds—up to 14,835 rounds over the course of 5 years (an average of 2,967 rounds per year);

(v) 76 mm rounds—up to 1,200 rounds over the course of 5 years (an average of 240 rounds per year);

(vi) 25 mm rounds—up to 2,625 rounds over the course of 5 years (an average of 525 rounds per year); and

(vii) Small arms—up to 30,000 rounds over the course of 5 years (an average of 6,000 rounds per year).

(d) Regulations are effective January 21, 2010, through January 21, 2015.

§ 218.181 Permissible methods of taking.

(a) Under Letters of Authorization issued pursuant to §§ 216.106 and 218.186