

feasible, to purchase American-made equipment and products with funding under this program.

If applicants incur any costs prior to an award being made, they do so solely at their own risk of not being reimbursed by the Government. Notwithstanding any verbal or written assurance that may have been received, there is no obligation on the part of Commerce to cover pre-award costs.

If an application is selected for funding, Commerce has no obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with that award.

#### Classification

This program has been determined to be not significant for the purposes of E.O. 12866.

Applications under this program are subject to E.O. 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

The program is listed in the "Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance" under No. 11.452, Unallied Industry Projects.

This program contains a collection-of-information requirement subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). The collection of this information has been approved by OMB (OMB control number 0648-0082). Public reporting burden for preparation of the claim application is estimated to be 10 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the documentation, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to NMFS (see ADDRESSES). Other requirements mentioned in the notice include Forms 424B and LLL, which are cleared under OMB Control Numbers 0348-0040 and 0348-0046, respectively.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the PRA unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Authority: Public Law 99-659 (16 U.S.C. 4107 *et seq.*); Public Law 102-396.

Dated: June 4, 1996.

Gary Matlock,

*Program Management Officer, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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BILLING CODE 3510-22-W

[I.D. 053096E]

#### Incidental Take of Marine Mammals; Bottlenose Dolphins and Spotted Dolphins

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

**ACTION:** Notice of issuance of letters of authorization.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) as amended, and implementing regulations, notification is hereby given that letters of authorization to take bottlenose and spotted dolphins incidental to oil and gas structure removal activities were issued on May 31, 1996, to Chevron U.S.A., 935 Gravier Street, New Orleans, LA 70112, and Samedan Oil Corporation, 350 Glenborough, Houston, TX 77067.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The letters of authorization are effective from May 31, 1996 through May 30, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** The applications and letters are available for review in the following offices: Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 and the Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive N, St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kenneth R. Hollingshead, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 713-2055 or Charles Oravetz, Southeast Region (813) 570-5312.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) directs NMFS to allow, on request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region, if certain findings are made and regulations are issued. Under the MMPA, the term "taking" means to harass, hunt, capture or kill or to attempt to harass, hunt, capture or kill marine mammals.

Permission may be granted for periods up to 5 years if the Secretary of Commerce finds, after notification and opportunity for public comment, that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) of marine mammals and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for subsistence uses. In addition, NMFS must prescribe regulations that include permissible methods of taking and other means effecting the least practicable adverse impact on the species and its habitat, and on the availability of the

species for subsistence uses, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds and areas of similar significance. The regulations must include requirements pertaining to the monitoring and reporting of such taking. Regulations governing the taking of bottlenose and spotted dolphins incidental to oil and gas structure removal activities in the Gulf of Mexico were published on October 12, 1995 (60 FR 53139) and remain in effect until November 13, 2000.

#### Summary of Request

NMFS received requests for letters of authorization on May 8, 1996, from Chevron U.S.A., and on May 17, 1996, from Samedan Oil Corporation. These letters request a take by harassment of a small number of bottlenose and spotted dolphins incidental to the above mentioned activity. Issuance of these letters of authorization is based on a finding that the total takings will have a negligible impact on the bottlenose and spotted dolphin stocks of the Gulf of Mexico.

Dated: June 4, 1996.

Patricia A. Montanio,

*Acting Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 96-14592 Filed 6-7-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

[I.D. 052496B]

#### Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee; Public Meetings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of meetings of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC) from July 17 to July 19, 1996.

**DATES:** The meetings are scheduled as follows:

1. July 17, 1996, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
2. July 18, 1996, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
3. July 19, 1996, 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Silver Spring Holiday Inn, 8777 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD. Requests for special accommodations may be directed to MAFAC, Office of Management Information, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Richard Wheeler, Executive Secretary; telephone: (301) 713-2252.