

consultations with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service.

The TCMP is the culmination of several years of development by the State of Texas, interest groups, the general public, federal agencies, and in consultation with NOAA. The TCMP consists of numerous state policies on diverse coastal management issues which are prescribed by statute and other legal mechanisms and made enforceable under state law. The TCMP will improve the decision making process for determining appropriate coastal land and water uses in light of resource consideration and increase public awareness of coastal resources and processes. The TCMP will increase long term protection of the state's coastal resources, while providing for sustainable economic development.

NOAA approval of the TCMP makes the state eligible for federal financial assistance for program administration and enhancement under sections 306, 306A, 308 and 309 of the CZMA (16 U.S.C. §§ 1455, 1455a, 1456a, and 1456b). Texas has submitted an application for \$800,000 in FY 1996 Federal CZMA funds which are available to Texas. These funds will generally be used to assist the state administer the various state and local authorities included in the TCMP as well as be used to fund local management efforts to increase public access, restore damaged resources and manage coastal erosion.

NOAA approval of the TCMP also makes operational, as of the date of this Federal Register notice, the CZMA federal consistency requirement with respect to the TCMP (16 U.S.C. 1456; 15 CFR part 930). Therefore, as of today, direct federal activities occurring within or outside the Texas Coastal Zone that are reasonably likely to affect any land or water use or natural resources of the Texas Coastal Zone must be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the TCMP. In addition, activities within or outside the Texas Coastal Zone requiring a federal license or permit listed in the P/FEIS, and federal financial assistance to state agencies and local governments that are reasonably likely to affect any land or water use or natural resource of the Texas Coastal Zone must be consistent with the enforceable policies of the TCMP.

Chapter 4 and Appendix C1 of the P/FEIS identify the enforceable policies of the Texas program. Chapter 5 and Appendix C4 of the P/FEIS identify federally licensed or permitted activities subject to the federal consistency requirements. Chapter 5 and Appendix

C4 of the P/FEIS, as well as the CZMA regulations at 15 CFR part 930, provide specific procedures to be used in the Federal/State coordination process.

For further information please contact Bill O'Beirne at (301) 713-3109, ext. 160; or via fax at (301) 713-4367; or via the Internet at <bobeirne@coasts.nos.noaa.gov>.

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog 11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program Administration)

David L. Evans,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Service and Coastal Zone Management.

[FR Doc. 97-457 Filed 1-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-08-M

[I.D. 123096A]

Marine Mammals; Permit No. 738 (P77#51)

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

ACTION: Issuance of amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that permit no. 738, issued to The Southeast Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, Florida 33149, was amended to extend the expiration date until June 30, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130 Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the provisions of § 216.39 of 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 provisions of § 222.25 of the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR part 222).

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 26, 1996.

Ann D. Terbush,

Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 97-589 Filed 1-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary of Defense

Department of Defense Wage Committee; Notice of Closed Meetings

Pursuant to the provisions of section 10 of Public Law 92-463, the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given that closed meetings of the Department of Defense Wage Committee will be held on February 4, 1997; February 11, 1997; February 18, 1997; and February 25, 1997; at 10:00 a.m. in Room A105, The Nash Building, 1400 Key Boulevard, Rosslyn, Virginia.

Under the provisions of section 10(d) of Public Law 92-463, the Department of Defense has determined that the meetings meet the criteria to close meetings to the public because the matters to be considered are related to internal rules and practices of the Department of Defense and the detailed wage data to be considered were obtained from officials of private establishments with a guarantee that the date will be held in confidence.

However, members of the public who may wish to do so are invited to submit material in writing to the chairman concerning matters believed to be deserving of the Committee's attention.

Additional information concerning the meetings may be obtained by writing to the Chairman, Department of Defense Wage Committee, 4000 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-4000.

Dated: January 6, 1997.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 97-533 Filed 1-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

Department of the Air Force

Active Duty Service Determination for Civilian or Contractual Groups

On December 24, 1996, the Secretary of the Air Force determined that the service of the group known as "All U.S. Civilians of the American Field Service, who served Overseas Operationally

From April 6, 1917, to January 1918, and November 10, 1941, to August 1945" shall not be considered "active duty" under the provisions of Public Law 95-202 for the purposes of all laws administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Patsy J. Conner,

Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-648 Filed 1-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3910-01-M

Department of the Navy

Notice of Public Scoping Meetings for the Environmental Impact Statement for Developing Homeport Facilities for Three Nimitz-Class Aircraft Carriers in Support of the United States Pacific Fleet

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy announced its intent to prepare this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and open scoping in the Federal Register on December 3, 1996 and also mailed the announcement to interested parties. This notice is to announce the public scoping meetings.

The scope of the proposed actions is to: (1) determine the appropriate home port for two nuclear-powered aircraft carriers (CVNs) that will replace two conventionally-powered aircraft carriers (CVs) that are currently homeported at Naval Air Station (NAS) North Island in the Naval Complex San Diego, CA, and (2) reevaluate the current location of one CVN homeport at Naval Station (NAVSTA) Everett in order to increase efficiency of support infrastructure, maintenance, and repair capabilities, to reduce costs, and to enhance crew quality of life. Decisions for facilities development need to be made as soon as possible to accommodate planned arrival schedules of the CVNs to the Pacific Fleet (one as early as 2001) and to gain infrastructure benefits prior to upcoming ship maintenance periods (commencing in 1999).

There are three major U.S. areas of Navy concentration in the Pacific: San Diego, CA complex; Puget Sound, WA complex; and Pearl Harbor, HI complex. Naval Air Station (NAS) North Island in the San Diego Naval Complex and Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNS) Bremerton and NAVSTA Everett in the Pacific Northwest are currently designated as CVN home ports. All three locations will be considered as alternative locations for the proposed actions. Although not currently designated as a CVN home port, Pearl Harbor is capable of accommodating deep-draft ships and will also be evaluated as a potential home port.

The EIS will analyze the potential environmental effects of the proposed actions at the alternative locations discussed above, including any associated facilities development and dredging, and other reasonable alternatives identified during the public scoping process. Environmental issues to be addressed in the EIS include: geology, topography, and soils; dredging, hydrology, and water quality; pollution prevention; biology and natural resources; noise; air quality; land use; historic and archaeological resources; socioeconomic, schools, and housing; transportation/circulation/parking; public facilities and recreation; safety and environmental health; aesthetics; utilities; and environmental justice. Issue analysis will include an evaluation of the direct, indirect, short-term, and cumulative impacts associated with the proposed actions. No decision to implement the proposed actions will be made until the NEPA process is complete.

ADDRESSES: The Department of the Navy has initiated a scoping process for the purpose of determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying significant issues relative to these proposed actions. Public meetings to receive oral comments from the public will be held in the four primary areas of consideration (San Diego, CA; Bremerton, WA; Everett, WA; and Honolulu, HI). The dates and locations of these meetings are as follows: Bremerton, WA: February 3, 1996, 7:00 pm, Bremerton High School, 1500 13th Street, Bremerton, WA; Everett, WA: February 4, 1996, 7:00 pm, Snohomish County Administration/Courthouse Building, 3000 Rockefeller, Everett, WA; Pearl Harbor, HI: February 6, 1996, 7:00 pm, Farrington High School, 1564 North King Street, Honolulu, HI; Coronado, CA: February 11, 1996, 7:00 pm, Village Hall, Village Elementary School, 600 6th Street, Coronado, CA. These meetings will also be announced in local area newspapers. Navy representatives will be available at the scoping meetings to receive comments from the public regarding issues of concern. A brief presentation describing the proposed actions and the NEPA process will precede a request for public comments. It is important that federal, state, and local agencies, as well as interested organizations and individuals, take this opportunity to identify environmental concerns that they feel should be addressed during the preparation of the EIS. Oral comments will be limited to three minutes. Agencies and the public are invited and encouraged to provide written comments in addition to, or in

lieu of, oral comments at the public meetings. To be most helpful, scoping comments should clearly describe specific issues or topics that the commenter believes the EIS should address. Written comments or questions regarding the scoping process and/or the EIS should be postmarked no later than February 28, 1997 and sent to the following address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Dan Muslin (Code 03PL), Southwest Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 1220 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92132-5190; telephone (619) 532-3403.

Dated: January 7, 1997.

D.E. Koenig,

LCDR, JAGC, USN, Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-596 Filed 1-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810-FF-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Assessment Governing Board; Meeting

AGENCY: National Assessment Governing Board; ED.

ACTION: Notice of closed meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the Nominations Committee of the National Assessment Governing Board. This notice also describes the functions of the Board. Notice of this meeting is required under Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

DATES: February 11, 1997.

TIME: 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

LOCATION: The Brown Palace Hotel, 321 Seventeenth Street, Denver, Colorado.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Ann Wilmer, Operations Officer, National Assessment Governing Board, Suite 825, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Washington, DC 20002-4233, Telephone: (202) 357-6938.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Assessment Governing Board is established under section 412 of the National Education Statistics Act of 1994 (Title IV of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994), (Pub. L. 103-382).

The Board is established to formulate policy guidelines for the National Assessment of Educational Progress. The Board is responsible for selecting subject areas to be assessed, developing assessment objectives, identifying appropriate achievement goals for each grade and subject tested, and