

products with funding provided under this program.

11.801 Native American Business Development Center (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance)

Dated: March 23, 1998.

Juanita E. Berry,

Federal Register Liaison Officer, Minority Business Development Agency.

Courtland Cox,

Acting Director, Minority Business Development Agency.

[FR Doc. 98-8082 Filed 3-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-21-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Billfish Tagging Report

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before May 26, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Dave Holts, Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC), 8604 La Jolla Shores Drive, P.O. Box 271, La Jolla, California 92038-0271; (619) 546-7186.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Anglers report tagging date, location, species, name, etc. for billfish they have tagged and released. Minor revisions have been made to the NOAA 88-162 to reflect better reporting.

II. Method of Collection

The SWFSC provides tagging supplies to individuals electing to tag and release the billfish they catch. The "Billfish Tagging Report" is the primary

mechanism by which these cooperating anglers and commercial fishers return the tagging and release information concerning the billfish they have tagged. Responses are not required for any legal or administrative purpose. Interested individuals cooperating in the Program do so on a strictly voluntary basis.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0009.

Form Number: NOAA 88-162.

Type of Review: Regular Submission.

Affected Public: Individuals,

businesses or other for-profit (billfish anglers and commercial fishers).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 1,250.

Estimated Time Per Response: 5 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden

Hours: 104.2.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: 0 (no capital expenditures are required).

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: March 23, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98-8014 Filed 3-26-98; 8:45 a.m.]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 032398C]

Marine Mammals

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Alaska SeaLife Center, P.O. Box 1239, Seward, AK 99664, has been issued a permit to import Steller sea lions (*Eumetopias jubatus*) and harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*) and obtain other harbor seals from U.S. facilities 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 and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907/ 586-7221).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sara Shapiro or Ruth Johnson, 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 27, 1998, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 3880) that a request for a scientific research permit to import Steller sea lions and harbor seals had been submitted by the above-named organization. The requested permit has been issued 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 fish and wildlife (50 CFR parts 217-227).

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: March 23, 1998.

Art Jeffers,

Acting Chief, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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