

required to respond to, nor shall any 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.

A solicitation for applications will also appear in the "Commerce Business Daily."

Dated: June 15, 1999.

Penelope D. Dalton,

*Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 99-15723 Filed 6-18-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 060899A]

Marine Mammals; File No. P466B

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

ACTION: Receipt of application for amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Scott D. Kraus, Ph.D., Edgerton Research Laboratory, New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston, MA 02110-3309, has requested an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 1014.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before July 21, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The amendment request 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);

Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930, (978/281-9250); and

Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813/570-5312).

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this request should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this

particular amendment request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301) 713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or other electronic media.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Ruth Johnson 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment to Permit No. 1014, issued on August 29, 1996 (61 FR 51688) is requested 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 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Permit No. 1014 authorizes the permit holder to: take up to 350 northern right whales (*Eubaleana glacialis*) by harassment during approach closer than 100 feet by vessel or less than 1000 ft. by aircraft. Of these 80 may be biopsy darted; 10 radio tagged, 15 satellite tagged, and 50 ultrasonically measured; collect tissue samples dead stranded animals and exported to Canada, South Africa, New Zealand, Australia and England; and export 100 samples taken legally in other countries.

The permit holder requests an amendment to: play sounds back to up to 100 right whales annually. Sounds projected will not exceed the sound pressure levels found in the normal oceanic environment. Additionally, up to 50 whales will be tagged with suction-cup acoustic recording tags to determine received sound levels from both playback experiments and controlled vessel approaches.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: June 10, 1999.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 99-15720 Filed 6-18-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. 980326078-9120-02]

Internet Usage Policy

AGENCY: Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) is publishing the final Internet usage policy to provide guidance to PTO employees regarding the use of the Internet for official PTO business. The policy covers communications with applicants via Internet electronic mail (e-mail), and using the Internet to search for information concerning patent applications and elements appearing in trademark applications. Guidelines for citing electronic information are provided in the attachment.

DATES: The Internet usage policy is effective June 21, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Magdalen Greenlief, by mail to her attention addressed to Box Comments—Patents, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231; by telephone at (703) 305-8813; by facsimile transmission to (703) 305-8825; or by electronic mail through the Internet to "magdalen.greenlief@uspto.gov".

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The PTO published a "Request for Comments on Proposed Internet Usage Policy" in the **Federal Register** on October 26, 1998 (63 FR 57101) and in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark Office on November 17, 1998 (1216 OG 74). The proposed policy is being adopted without change. The attached guidelines for citing electronic information have been revised.

Discussion of Public Comments

Sixteen comments were received by the PTO in response to the request for comments. All comments have been fully considered. The comments generally support (1) the use of Internet e-mail for communications between applicant and the PTO, and (2) the use of the Internet to perform searches provided the confidentiality of pending patent applications is not compromised.