

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 091599D]

Marine Mammals; File No. 707-1531-00

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

ACTION: Receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Social Sciences, Hawaii Hall 105, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822, has applied in due form for a permit to take North Pacific humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) for purposes of scientific research.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before October 25, 1999.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular 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 by other electronic media.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeannie Drevenak, 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 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.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR 222-226).

The applicant is requesting authorization to harass up to 750 North Pacific humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) annually during the course of tracking and photographing/filming the animals for purposes of behavioral observation, individual identification, gender identification, size measurement, documentation of

group membership and affiliations, and recording of vocalizations. The research will be carried out over a five-year period in waters of the North Pacific Ocean, with primary emphasis on the whales' Hawaiian winter grounds.

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.

Documents may be reviewed in the following locations:

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

Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE, BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0070 (206/526-6426);

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (562/980-4027);

Protected Species Program Manager, Pacific Islands Area Office, NMFS, 2570 Dole Street, Room 106, Honolulu, HI 96822-2941 (808/973-2987); and

Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, 709 W. 9th Street, Federal Building, Room 461, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802 (907/586-7235).

Dated: September 15, 1999.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

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BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION****NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

[OMB Control No. 9000-0139]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request Entitled Federal Acquisition and Community Right-to-Know

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA),

and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for an extension to an existing OMB clearance (9000-0139).

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection requirement concerning Federal Acquisition and Community Right-to-Know. A request for public comments was published at 64 FR 38896, July 20, 1999. No comments were received.

DATES: Comments may be submitted on or before October 25, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of the collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden should be submitted to: FAR Desk Officer, OMB, Room 10102, NEOB, Washington, DC 20503, and a copy to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVRS), 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Linfield, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, GSA (202) 501-1757.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**A. Purpose**

FAR Subpart 23.9 and its associate solicitation provision and contract clause implement the requirements of E.O. 12969 of August 8, 1995 (60 FR 40989, August 10, 1995), "Federal Acquisition and Community Right-to-Know," and the Environmental Protection Agency's "Guidance Implementing E.O. 12969; Federal Acquisition Community Right-to-Know; Toxic Chemical Release Reporting" (60 FR 50738, September 29, 1995). The FAR coverage requires offerors in competitive acquisitions over \$100,000 (including options) to certify that they will comply with applicable toxic chemical release reporting requirements of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. 11001-11050) and the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13101-13109).

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data