

The applicant is requesting to harass the species of cetaceans listed below in the North Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea during the course of research on the impact of noise on marine mammals. The research will involve a variety of potential takes by harassment including: close approach for tagging; attachment of tags; focal follows; and playbacks of sound. In addition, the applicant requests authorization to import to the U.S. and export to foreign countries skin samples collected during the course of suction-cup tag retrieval. Incidental harassment of all species of cetaceans may occur through vessel approach, photographic identification and behavioral research. The research will be carried out over a five-year period.

The following species may be taken by harassment during the course of the research: Minke whale (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), Sei whale (*Balaenoptera borealis*), Blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*), Finback whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*), Humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), Common dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*), Short-finned pilot whale (*Globicephala macrorhynchus*), Long-finned pilot whale (*Globicephala melas*), Risso's dolphin (*Grampus griseus*), Killer whale (*Orcinus orca*), False killer whale (*Pseudorca crassidens*), Striped dolphin (*Stenella coeruleoalba*), Rough-toothed dolphin (*Steno bredanensis*), Bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), Pygmy sperm whale (*Kogia breviceps*), Dwarf sperm whale (*Kogia simus*), Sperm whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*), Bottlenose whale (*Hyperoodon ampullatus*), Blainville's beaked whale (*Mesoplodon densirostris*), Gervais' beaked whale (*Mesoplodon europaeus*), Sowerby's beaked whale (*Mesoplodon bidens*), True's beaked whales (*Mesoplodon mirus*), and Cuvier's beaked whale (*Ziphius cavirostris*).

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), NMFS is preparing an environmental assessment which will be available from the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, at the address listed above.

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 26, 2000.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 00-16536 Filed 6-29-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**National Telecommunications and
Information Administration**

[Docket No. 000623194-0194-01]

RIN 0660-XX09

**Notice, Request for Comments on
Ultrawideband Systems Test Plan**

AGENCY: National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice, request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Institute for Telecommunication Sciences (ITS) and the Office of Spectrum Management (OSM) of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) invite interested parties to review and comment on a proposed test plan for developing accurate, repeatable, and practical methods for characterizing the very narrow pulses (and pulse trains) of ultrawideband (UWB) systems and collecting the information to estimate or measure the potential for UWB systems to interfere with existing (narrowband, channelized, band-limited, and wideband) radio communications or sensing systems. This test plan covers the effects of UWB signals on selected Federal radio receivers, but does not include effects on Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers.¹

The UWB test plan will be posted on the NTIA homepage at: <www.ntia.doc.gov/osmhome/uwbtestplan>. Interested parties may also obtain a copy of the test plan from ITS or OSM.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit comments on the test plan no later than July 17, 2000.

SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS: The Department invites the public to submit comments on the UWB test plan in paper or electronic form. Comments may be mailed to Paul Roosa, Office of Spectrum Management, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Room 4099 HCHB, 1401 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20230. Paper submissions should include a diskette in ASCII, WordPerfect (please specify version) or Microsoft Word (please specify version) format. Diskettes should be labeled with the name and organizational affiliation of the filer, and the name and version of the word

¹ NTIA is preparing a separate test plan to measure the effects of UWB signals on GPS receivers. NTIA intends to post that UWB-GPS test plan on the NTIA homepage in late-July and will seek public comment at that time.

processing program used to create the document.

In the alternative, comments may be submitted electronically to the following electronic mail address: <uwbtestplan@ntia.doc.gov>. Comments submitted via electronic mail should also be submitted in one or more of the formats specified above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. William Kissick, Institute for Telecommunication Sciences, telephone: (303) 497-7482; or electronic mail: <billk@its.bldrdoc.gov>; or Paul Roosa, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, telephone: (202) 482-1559; or electronic mail: <proosa@ntia.doc.gov>. Media enquiries should be directed to the Office of Public Affairs, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, at (202) 482-7002.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Recent advances in microcircuit and other technologies have resulted in the development of pulsed radar and communications systems with very narrow pulse widths and very wide bandwidths. These ultrawideband (UWB) systems have instantaneous bandwidths of at least 25 percent of the center frequency of the device. UWB systems can perform a number of useful telecommunication functions that make them very appealing for both the commercial and government applications. These systems have very wide information bandwidths, are capable of accurately locating nearby objects, and can use processing technology with UWB pulses to "see through objects" and communicate using multiple propagation paths. The bandwidths of UWB devices, however, are so wide that, although their output powers in many cases are low enough to be authorized under the unlicensed device regulations of the NTIA and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), some of the systems emit signals in bands in which such transmissions are not permitted because of potential harmful effects on critical radiocommunication services.

The NTIA and the FCC have developed spectrum management procedures for unlicensed devices (conventional electronic devices with narrow bandwidths), but these procedures do not currently address UWB devices, which were unknown when these procedures were adopted. Thus, NTIA and the FCC must work closely with each other, current users of the radio spectrum, and the UWB community to determine how UWB devices can operate without adversely impacting existing radio-

communication systems. The difficulty in measuring both the UWB signal characteristics and their effect on other devices exacerbates the difficulties of this coordination. The pulses are very narrow, often in the low nanosecond or picosecond range, requiring new measurement techniques and equipment to measure the signal characteristics accurately. Further, the interference effects of very narrow pulses with high repetition rates and aggregations of similar devices, such as could occur in some applications of UWB technology, are not well understood.

The NTIA has therefore undertaken this measurement program to develop information to help address the implementation and operation of UWB systems. The objectives of this test plan are to:

1. Develop measurement procedures that use commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) measurement equipment to accurately portray UWB emission characteristics;
2. Observe effects of UWB signals in the intermediate frequency (IF) sections of selected receivers, and determine the susceptibility of conventional radio receivers to UWB emissions;
3. Provide a basis for development of a one-on-one interference analysis procedure to determine the minimum needed separation distances or the maximum peak and average effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP) of UWB devices to ensure compatibility;
4. Perform a limited set of measurements to validate the one-on-one interference analysis (above) between UWB signals and selected Federal radio receivers, particularly radio navigation and safety-of-life systems; and
5. Investigate how multiple UWB emissions add together within a single receiver.

Kathy D. Smith,
Chief Counsel.

[FR Doc. 00-16576 Filed 6-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-60-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary; Meeting of the DoD Healthcare Quality Initiative Review Panel

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: An executive/administration meeting for DoD Healthcare Quality Initiatives Review Panel has been scheduled for July 6 & 7, 2000.

SUMMARY: This notice set forth the meeting of the DoD Healthcare Quality

Initiatives Review Panel. Notice of meeting is required under The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463).

DATES: July 6 & 7, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Sheraton Crystal City, 1800 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA 22202.

TIME: July 6th, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; July 7th, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information please contact Gia Edmonds at (703) 933-8325.

Dated: June 23, 2000.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 00-16578 Filed 6-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary; Defense Science Board

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of Advisory Committee Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Defense Science Board (DSB) Task Force on Unconventional Nuclear Warfare Defense will meet in closed session on July 10-11, 2000, at Strategic Analysis, Inc., 3601 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 500, Arlington, VA. This Task Force will determine the adequacy of DoD's ability to detect, identify, respond, and prevent unconventional nuclear attacks by terrorists or subnational entities, and the appropriate role(s) and capability of DoD to provide protection against unconventional nuclear attacks in support of homeland defense.

The mission of the Defense Science Board is to advise the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology & Logistics on scientific and technical matters as they affect the perceived needs of the Department of Defense. At these meetings, the Defense Science Board Task Force will review and evaluate the Department's ability to provide information

In accordance with Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, P.L. No. 92-463, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. II, (1994)), it has been determined that these Defense Science Board meetings, concern matters listed in 5 U.S.C. § 552b(c)(1) (1994), and that accordingly these meeting will be closed to the public.

Dated: June 22, 2000.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 00-16577 Filed 6-29-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-10-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Rehabilitation Services Administration

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Competitive Preference for Fiscal Year 2001 for the Rehabilitation Long-Term Training, and Rehabilitation Continuing Education Program.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services proposes adding competitive preference points to the competitions for the Rehabilitation Long-Term Training, and Rehabilitation Continuing Education Program for fiscal year 2001. This notice contains proposed language for adding competitive preference points. This notice does not invite applications.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 31, 2000.

ADDRESSES: All comments concerning the addition of competitive preference points should be addressed to Mary C. Lynch, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, room 3322, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2649.

Comments may also be sent through the Internet: mary_lynch@ed.gov

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Lynch. Telephone: (202) 205-8291.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8399. Internet: Mary-Lynch@ed.gov

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Invitation to Comment

We invite you to submit comments regarding this proposed notice. We invite you to assist us in complying with the specific requirements of Executive Order 12866 and its overall requirement of reducing regulatory burden that might result from this proposed notice. Please let us know of any further opportunities we should take to reduce potential costs or increase