

changes in vitamin A and E status in relation to various life history stages in captive Steller sea lions.

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: July 3, 2002.

Trevor R. Spradlin,

Acting Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 02-17462 Filed 7-10-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 062402A]

Endangered Species; File No. 1356

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Inwater Research Group, Inc., 4160 NE Hyline Drive, Jensen Beach, Florida 34957, has been issued a permit to take green, loggerhead, Kemp's ridley and hawksbill turtles for purposes of scientific research.

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

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)713-0376 and Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432; phone (727)570-5301; fax (727)570-5320.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lillian Becker or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 3, 2002, notice was published in the *Federal Register* (67 FR 308) that a request for a scientific research permit to take green, loggerhead, Kemp's ridley

and hawksbill turtles had been submitted by the above-named organization. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

The permit allows the take of green, loggerhead, Kemp's ridley and hawksbill turtles to study the demographic composition and genetic origin of sea turtles within the Key West National Wildlife Refuge, Florida.

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: July 5, 2002.

Eugene T. Nitta,

Acting Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 02-17464 Filed 7-10-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Availability for Non-Exclusive, Exclusive, or Partially Exclusive Licensing of U.S. Patent Application Concerning Browser for an Accident and Incident Registry

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with 37 CFR 404.6 and 404.7, announcement is made of the availability for licensing of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/082,132 entitled "Browser for an Accident and Incident Registry," filed February 26, 2002. Foreign rights are also available (PCT/US02/05649). The United States Government, as represented by the Secretary of the Army has rights in this invention.

ADDRESSES: Commander, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, ATTN: Command Judge Advocate, MCMR-JA, 504 Scott Street, Fort Detrick, Frederick, MD 21702-5012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For patent issues, Ms. Elizabeth Arwine, Patent Attorney, (301) 619-7808. For licensing issues, Dr. Paul Mele, Office of Research & Technology Assessment, (301) 619-6664, both at telefax (301) 619-5034.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This invention relates to a system and method for accessing information and data relating to medical information, and more particularly to a laser accident registry. The system includes a data structure that allows for easy access of the information while maintaining a smaller overall sized database.

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-17472 Filed 7-10-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Intent To Hold An Environmental Scoping Meeting To Solicit Citizen Input Into a Study of an Environmental Dredging Project on the Mahoning River in Ohio

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pittsburgh District (District), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will conduct a public environmental scoping meeting to solicit input for alternatives for a proposed environmental dredging project on the Mahoning River in Ohio currently under study. Representatives of the Pittsburgh District will provide an overview presentation on the proposed environmental dredging project and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. The public is invited to provide comments or ask questions relevant to the project.

Date of Meeting: July 31, 2002 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Place: Holiday Inn, Youngstown Metroplex, 1620 Motor Inn Drive, Girard, OH 44420-2422.

ADDRESSES: Submit questions or comments regarding the environmental dredging project to Mr. Carmen Rozzi, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mahoning Environmental Dredging Project, 1000 Liberty Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186, telephone (412) 395-7227 or e-mail: Irp.mahdredge@usace.army.mil.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions or comments regarding this notice can be directed to Ms. Deborah Duda, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1000 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA, 15222-4186, Telephone (412) 395-7213, e-mail: Irp.mahdredge@usace.army.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The District is evaluating alternative

strategies for the environmental restoration of 31 miles of the Mahoning River through environmental dredging. The project is being undertaken pursuant to the authority of section 312 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1990 (Pub. L. 101-640), as amended by Section 205 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-303). Section 312 provides for the removal of contaminated sediments (dredging) within navigable waters for the purpose of ecosystem restoration and identifies the Mahoning River, Ohio and Pennsylvania, as one of five rivers in the nation given top priority for removal and remediation of contaminated sediments. The District will receive input from local, State and Federal agencies during an agency scoping meeting scheduled for earlier the day of the public environmental scoping meeting, and will use that input to evaluate alternatives and select a recommended alternative for implementation. The District will assess the environmental impacts of the recommended alternative and prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA). If, in the course of preparing the EA, significant impacts to the environment are identified, the District will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). If no significant impacts are identified, the EA will be finalized and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be prepared.

1. *Proposed Action:* The Mahoning Environmental Dredging Project is designed to restore the ecosystem of the Mahoning River by removing contaminated sediment throughout a 31-mile stretch of the river (from Warren, Ohio to the Ohio-Pennsylvania border). The scoping process will solicit alternative methods of removing and disposing of contaminated sediment from the riverbed and riverbank in the most effective method.

2. *Reasonable Alternatives:* The District will evaluate a Future Without Project (No Action) Alternative and Future With Project Alternatives. The exact nature and extent of the projects in the Future With Project Alternatives will be determined as part of scoping during the NEPA process. To facilitate scoping of the environmental effects of the project, the public may initially base comments upon a combination of possible actions that result in the removal of contaminated sediments from the riverbed and riverbank. As the NEPA process continues, the District will refine the analysis and evaluation of possible plans for implementation.

The primary issues to be analyzed in depth during the NEPA process will be

the environmental impacts of proposed actions on the Mahoning River and cumulative impacts of these proposed Federal actions in conjunction with reasonably foreseeable future actions by others. The impacts analysis will include biological resources, cultural resources and socioeconomic effects, air quality, noise impacts, and recreation resources.

These agency and public meetings will serve as the initial scoping effort for this action. In addition to the public notice, a notice will be mailed to all addresses on the Mahoning Environmental Dredging mailing list. Coordination throughout the project will be maintained with the appropriate local, State, and Federal agencies. The need for additional public meetings will be determined as the study progresses. Interested parties are encouraged to provide oral comments relevant to issues to be addressed in the NEPA process at the public forums. Otherwise, the District requests written comments or requests for information be directed to the following study contact: Mr. Carmen Rozzi (*see ADDRESSES* above).

John N. Goga,
Chief, Planning Branch.

[FR Doc. 02-17470 Filed 7-10-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-85-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Army Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Joint Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Report for Sacramento River East Levee and Natomas Cross Canal Levee Modifications as a Feature of the American River (Common Features), CA Project

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The action being taken is preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Report (SEIS/EIR) to address potential improvements to the existing flood control systems. The American River (Common Features) project is located in Sacramento and Sutter Counties. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is currently completing slurry wall work on approximately 20 miles of levee along the lower American River. In 1996 and 1999, Congress authorized modification of 12 miles of Sacramento River east levees and 5 miles of Natomas Cross

Canal north and south levees in the Natomas basin area. Since that time engineering studies have shown that an additional 6 miles of levee improvements along the Sacramento River east levee are required for a total of about 18 miles from the mouth of the Natomas Cross Canal to Natomas Main Drain.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the proposed action and SEIS/EIR should be addressed to Liz Holland at (916) 557-6763 or by mail to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN CESPCK-PD-R, 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2922.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Proposed Action

The Corps, in partnership with the State of California, Reclamation Board and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency are conducting a study on modifying the levees in the Natomas Basin area, which will be documented in the SEIS/EIR. The study focuses on ways to improve flood protection to portions of the City and County of Sacramento and Sutter County lying within the Natomas Basin.

2. Alternatives

The SEIS/EIR will address an array of flood control improvement alternatives. Alternatives analyzed during the investigation will include a combination of one or more flood protection measures. These measures include levee raising, seepage berms, seepage wells, and slurry walls.

3. Scoping Process

a. The project study plan provides for a series of public scoping meetings to present information to the public and to receive comments from the public. The Corps has initiated a process to involve concerned individuals, and local, State, and Federal agencies.

b. Significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the SEIS/EIR include: Adverse effects on vegetation and wildlife resources; special-status species; esthetics; cultural resources; recreation; land use; fisheries; water quality; air quality; transportation and socioeconomic; and cumulative effects of related projects in the study area.

c. The Corps will consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to provide a Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report as an appendix to the SEIS/EIR.

d. A 30-day public review period will be provided for individuals and agencies to review and comment on the draft SEIS/EIR. All interested parties are