

assessment program. As part of this program, billfish anglers in the Pacific and Indian Oceans are asked to respond to a voluntary annual post card survey to list the number of days spent fishing for billfish, where they fished, and what they caught. This information is used to help determine changes in areas of local abundance of Pacific billfish and is useful in the management of billfish resources.

## II. Method of Collection

A paper form the size of a postcard is used.

## III. Data

*OMB Number:* 0648-0020.

*Form Number:* NOAA Form 88-10.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 750.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 5 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 63.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0.

## 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: December 6, 2002.

### Gwellnar Banks,

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 02-31449 Filed 12-12-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 120902E]

### Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Hurricane Forecast Economic Valuation Study

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**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 February 11, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [dHynek@doc.gov](mailto:dHynek@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed Dr. Rodney Weiher, U.S. Dept. of Commerce/NOAA/PSP, Room 6117, 14th and Constitution Ave NW, Washington DC, 20234. (or via Internet at [Rodney.F.Weiher@noaa.gov](mailto:Rodney.F.Weiher@noaa.gov)).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. Abstract

The purpose of this data collection is to provide information on the value of current and improved hurricane forecasts to specific segments of the U.S. population. The study will measure total economic values for current hurricane forecasts and improved hurricane forecasts. This effort is designed to provide information on the uses and values of hurricane forecasts in order to improve product design and delivery systems as well as information for managers on the value of undertaking programs to improve hurricane forecasting capabilities.

This effort will involve development of extensive knowledge about how hurricane forecasts are perceived, understanding the implications of alternative forecast improvement actions, designing original survey

instruments, interviewing of a large number of respondents (1200-1500), and conducting formal statistical analysis of the data. A regionally-oriented survey will be conducted using stated-preferences methods. Cognitive interviews will be used in survey development to examine individuals' understanding of hurricane forecasts and the words and meanings they may use to discuss hurricanes. The interviews will be used to examine the relative importance of hurricane forecast attributes, to assess the presentation of information on hurricane forecasts, and developing approaches for eliciting economic values for improvements in hurricane forecasting.

#### II. Method of Collection

Up to 96 one-on-one cognitive interviews will be conducted. In addition, one pretest of the full survey instrument will be tested for a response of up to 100 usable observations. The final survey instrument will be administered to a sample of up to 1500 people.

#### III. Data

*OMB Number:* None.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 1,696.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 2 hours for an interview; 45 minutes for a pretest; and 45 minutes for a final survey.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 1,392.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0.

#### 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: December 6, 2002.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 02-31450 Filed 12-12-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-12-S**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 112602C]

**Endangered Species; File No. 1377**

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

**ACTION:** Issuance of permit.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Ms. Tracey Mueller, Mote Marine Laboratory, Sea Turtle Conservation and Research Program, Sarasota, FL has been issued a permit to take threatened and endangered green turtles (*Chelonia mydas*), endangered hawksbill turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), endangered Kemp's ridley turtles (*Lepidochelys kempii*), and threatened loggerhead turtles (*Caretta caretta*) 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, 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:** Dr. Tammy Adams or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On April 19, 2002, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 19416) 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 individual. 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.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

The permit authorizes annual takes of 150 juvenile and subadult green turtles, 100 juvenile and sub-adult loggerhead, 150 juvenile and sub-adult Kemp's ridley, and 5 juvenile and sub-adult hawksbill turtles by capture, tagging, blood and tissue sampling for a five year population assessment of the juvenile sea turtles inhabiting Charlotte Harbor on the west coast of Florida. Up to 10 green, 10 Kemp's ridley, 10 loggerhead, and 5 hawksbill turtles will also be collected annually incidental to the Center for Shark Research gill netting for sharks in the areas of Pine Island Sound and the Gulf waters near Crystal River, FL. These turtles will be measured, flipper tagged and released. In the second through fifth years of the permit, up to 5 green and/or Kemp's ridley turtles will also have satellite tags attached.

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: December 4, 2002.

**Eugene T. Nitta,**

*Acting Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 02-31446 Filed 12-12-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 111802C]

**Marine Mammals; File No. 995-1608**

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

**ACTION:** Issuance of permit amendment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Mr. Thomas F. Norris, Science Applications International Corp., 3990 Old Town Avenue, Suite 105A, San Diego, California 92110 has been issued an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 995-1608.

**ADDRESSES:** The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

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;

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0700; phone (206)526-6150; fax (206)526-6426;

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018; and

Protected Species Coordinator, Pacific Area Office, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm. 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808)973-2935; fax (808)973-2941. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Tammy Adams or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On December 21, 2000, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 80420) that a request for a scientific research permit to take gray (*Eschrichtius robustus*), minke (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), Bryde's (*Balaenoptera edeni*), blue (*Balaenoptera musculus*), fin (*Balaenoptera physalus*), and humpback (*Megaptera novaengliae*) whales had been submitted by the above-named individual. Permit No. 995-1608 was issued on May 4, 2001 (66 FR 23884, May 10, 2001) for takes of gray, minke, and Bryde's whales by attachment of scientific instruments, photo-identification, behavioral observation, and incidental harassment.

Authorization to take endangered blue, fin and humpback whales was deferred pending receipt of additional information and consultation required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. The amendment to include takes of these endangered species has been granted 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 and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

The amended permit authorizes takes of up to 11 each of blue, fin, and humpback whales per year by attachment of scientific instruments, photo-identification, and behavioral observation and up to 20 whales of each species by harassment incidental to these activities.

Issuance of this amendment, 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