

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: November 4, 2003.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

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

[FR Doc. 03-28380 Filed 11-12-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 110503E]

**Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Eastern Pacific Tuna Vessel Register Information**

**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 January 12, 2004.

**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 to Trisha Culver at 562-980-4239 or at [Trisha.Culver@noaa.gov](mailto:Trisha.Culver@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

Owners of vessels that fish for tuna in the eastern Pacific Ocean (bounded by the coast of the Americas, 40° N. lat., 40° S. lat., and 150° W. long.) were required to submit information about their fishing vessels in 2000 so that the United States could provide information for a vessel register being compiled under the terms of an Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) recommendation approved by the Department of State under the Tuna Conventions Act. The National Marine Fisheries Service used existing sources of information to obtain most of the information needed, but vessel owners were required to provide some information as well as a picture of the vessel with its registration number showing. The vessel register is needed to support uniform monitoring of compliance with IATTC conservation and management recommendations that are implemented by member governments, including the United States. Once the initial information was provided, the only reporting requirement was to report changes in vessel characteristics, ownership or other information on the form. It is estimated that no more than 30 vessel owners would be subject to this requirement in any year. In addition, it is estimated that 20 reports will be needed annually for new vessels to be placed on the register.

**II. Method of Collection**

Paper forms and pictures are submitted.

**III. Data**

*OMB Number:* 0648-0431.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 50.

*Estimated Time Per Response:* 1 hour for taking, developing, and mailing vessel picture. Other burden varies from 5-20 minutes depending on the existing data sets available from other sources for different fleets or fleet segments. The estimated average burden for reporting information changes or for reports for new vessels is 20 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 47.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$350.

**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: November 4, 2003.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

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

[FR Doc. 03-28382 Filed 11-12-03; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 102903D]

**Endangered Species; File No. 1245**

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

**ACTION:** Receipt of application for modification

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that J. David Whitaker, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 12559, Charleston, South Carolina 29422-2559, has requested a modification to scientific research Permit No. 1245.

**DATES:** Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before December 15, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** The modification request 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.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this request should be submitted to the Chief, Permits,

Conservation and Education 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 modification 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:** Jennifer Jefferies or Carrie Hubbard, (301) 713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject modification to Permit No. 1245, issued on May 19, 2000 (65 FR 36666) is requested under the authority of 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 and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

Permit No. 1245 authorizes the permit holder to capture, handle, flipper and PIT tag, blood and tissue sample, perform ultrasound and release 350 loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), 50 Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*), 10 green (*Chelonia mydas*), 5 hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and 3 leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) turtles along the South Carolina coastline. The permit holder is requesting authorization to satellite tag 9 loggerhead turtles and acoustic tag 24 loggerhead turtles. No more than 6 individuals will receive both tags. The purpose of the tags is to begin to determine feeding site fidelity and migratory patterns of juvenile loggerhead sea turtles along the South Carolina coastline. The permit holder is also requesting a one year extension of the permit, which would mean Permit No. 1245 would expire on October 31, 2005.

Dated: November 6, 2003.

**Tammy C. Adams,**

*Acting Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
[FR Doc. 03-28384 Filed 11-12-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Air Force

#### Acceptance of Group Application Under Pub. L. 95-202 and Department of Defense Directive (Dodd) 1000.20

Under the provisions of Section 401, Pub. L. 95-202 and DoD Directive 1000.20, the Department of Defense Civilian/Military Service Review Board has accepted an application on behalf of a group known as: "The U.S. Civilian Employees of CAT, Inc., Who Were Flight Crew Personnel (U.S. Pilots, Co-Pilots, Navigators, Flight Mechanics, and Air Freight Specialists) and Aviation Ground Support Personnel (U.S. Maintenance Supervisors, Operations Managers, and Flight Information Center Personnel) and Conducted Paramilitary Operations in Korea, French Indochina, Tibet and Indonesia From 1950 Through 1959; and U.S. Civilian Employees of Air America Who Were Flight Crew Personnel and Ground Support Personnel, as Described, and Conducted Paramilitary Operations in Laos from 1961 Through 1974, When the War in Laos Ended; and U.S. Civilian Employees of Air America Who Were Flight Crew Personnel and Ground Support Personnel, as Described, and Conducted Paramilitary Operations in Vietnam From 1964 Through 1975, When Saigon Was Evacuated and Air America Flight Operations Ceased."

Persons with information or documentation pertinent to the determination of whether the service of this group should be considered active military service to the Armed Forces of the United States are encouraged to submit such information or documentation within 60 days to the DoD Civilian/Military Service Review Board, 1535 Command Drive, EE-Wing, 3rd Floor, Andrews AFB, MD 20762-7002. Copies of documents or other materials submitted cannot be returned.

**Pamela D. Fitzgerald,**

*Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.*  
[FR Doc. 03-28331 Filed 11-12-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-05-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

#### The Release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the Announcement of a Public Hearing for the Relocation of Bogue Inlet Channel Between Emerald Isle and Hammocks Beach State Park, and the Placement of the Dredged Material onto Emerald Isle Beach, in Carteret County, NC

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

**ACTION:** Notice

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Corps of Engineers (COE), Wilmington District, Wilmington Regulatory Field Office has received a request for Department of the Army authorization, pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act and section 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act, from the Town of Emerald Isle for the relocation of Bogue Inlet Channel to protect residential homes and town infrastructures, and to place the dredged material on approximately 5.0 miles of beach for nourishment. The project is being proposed to move the main ebb channel in Bogue Inlet to a more central location between the west end of Bogue Banks and the east end of Bear Island (Hammocks Beach State Park). The main ebb channel through Bogue Inlet presently occupies a position juxtaposed to the west end of the Town of Emerald Isle and is causing severe erosion that threatens development in the subdivision known as The Pointe.

The relocation of the main ebb channel to a central location would restore the channel to a position it occupied in the late 1970s and eliminate the erosive impact of tidal currents on the east shoulder of the inlet. A portion of the material removed to relocate the main ebb channel would be used to close the existing channel with the balance of the material used to nourish the shoreline on the west end of the Town of Emerald Isle.

The channel through Bogue Inlet has been maintained by the COE for commercial and recreational boating interest since 1981. The COE is authorized to maintain the channel to a depth of 8 feet mean low water (mlw) over a width of 150 feet. Any changes in the location of the ebb tide delta channel would be consistent with this maintenance criteria.

**DATES:** The public hearing will be held at the Emerald Isle Parks and Recreation Community Center, at 7500 Emerald Isle Drive, in Emerald Isle, on December 8, 2003 at 6:30 p.m. Written comments on