

invites interested parties, including accreditors, testing laboratories and test equipment suppliers, to attend a meeting regarding the conformity assessment scheme proposed for the evaluation of Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6) products to be purchased by federal agencies. The purpose of the meeting is to announce details of the proposed testing program for IPv6 devices, and specifically, to identify potential accreditation bodies to participate in the program.

DATES: The workshop will be held on February 19, 2008, from 9 a.m. till 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The workshop will be held at National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, Building 101, Lecture Room B.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen Nightingale, 301 975 4171, usgv6-project@antd.nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In June 2005 the Office of Management and Budget initiated a policy to expedite adoption and deployment of IPv6 within the Federal Government (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/fy2005/m05-22.pdf>). As part of this policy, NIST was directed to develop a standard to address IPv6 compliance for the Federal Government. In response, NIST has developed NIST SP 500-267 "A Profile for IPv6 in the U.S. Government" that provides such a standard and outlines the basic parameters for a compliance testing program. (see: <http://www.antd.nist.gov/usgv6/>.)

The USG IPv6 Testing Program will require that products document claims of compliance to the profile through a Supplier's Declaration of Conformity (SDOC) in accordance with ISO/IEC 17050. Such declarations will be traceable to specific test results from laboratories accredited to the specific requirements of the IPv6 Test Program, including full compliance with ISO/IEC 17025—*General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories*. Laboratory accreditation will be provided by bodies operating in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011—*General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies*.

The scope of laboratory accreditation includes test methods for computer network protocol conformance and interoperability testing based on open public test suites. The detailed set of test methods and validation procedures are still under development. One purpose of this meeting is to discuss the general plans for the development and

execution of the test program and to identify parties interested in collaborating in the further development of its details.

Provisional Agenda

1. The USG IPv6 profile, its components and timing constraints.
2. Accreditor qualification.
3. Test method validation.
4. Suppliers Declaration of Conformity.
5. Discussion.

All intending participants must register in advance, to gain access to the campus. Due to space limitations, there is a limit of 60 participants in this workshop. Precedence will be given to the first two representatives of each accreditation body and IPv6 testing laboratory. Please register early and designate your primary representative, in case there is a further need, due to a high response rate, to limit participation to one representative per organization to ensure that all interested parties can participate. Access to the NIST campus and the room cannot be guaranteed for unregistered participants.

Dated: January 31, 2008.

Richard F. Kayser,

Acting Deputy Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XF09

Endangered and Threatened Species: Program Review for Section 7 Counterpart Regulations National Fire Plan Activities

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

ACTION: Notice; availability of report.

SUMMARY: The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) announces the availability of a joint report on the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management's use of the counterpart regulations for projects that support the National Fire Plan.

ADDRESSES: The report and related documents are available for review upon written request or on-line from the NMFS website: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/>. You may also send an e-mail request to NMFS.nationalfireplan@noaa.gov, or a written request to: Endangered Species

Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13660, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-1401; fax (301)427-2523.

Specify whether you wish to receive a hard copy by U.S. mail or an electronic copy by e-mail.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann Garrett, Endangered Species Division at (301)713-1401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Alternative Consultation Agreements NMFS and the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) have with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Forest Service (FS), conducted a review of the determinations that BLM and FS made under the joint counterpart regulations for Endangered Species Act (ESA) section 7 consultation. The counterpart regulations, codified in 50 CFR part 402 subpart C, provide an optional alternative to the standard section 7 consultation process described in subparts A and B, and were developed specifically for agency projects that authorize, fund, or carry out actions that support the National Fire Plan. The National Fire Plan, part of the President's 2002 Healthy Forests Initiative, is an interagency strategy for reducing the risk of catastrophic wildland fires and resorting fire-adapted ecosystems. The intent of the counterpart regulations is to eliminate the need to conduct informal consultation and obtain written concurrence from the FWS and NMFS for those National Fire Plan actions that the FS or BLM determines are "not likely to adversely affect (NLAA)" any listed species or designated critical habitat.

According to the counterpart regulations for National Fire Plan activities, the FS or BLM may make NLAA determinations for fire plan projects after entering into an Alternative Consultation Agreement with FWS and NMFS, and upon implementing the provisions of the ACA. Each ACA outlines the procedures and roles of the agencies and specific requirements for reporting, training and execution of self-certification, and conducting periodic program monitoring of the use of the counterpart regulations. With the publication of this Notice of Availability, NMFS and FWS are announcing the completion of the first review of the FS's and BLM's use of the counterpart regulations and the availability of the report describing the results of the program review and recommendations for improving their decisions made pursuant to this authority. The results of the first review

are available on-line from the NMFS website: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/>.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: February 1, 2008.

Angela Somma,

Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E8-2278 Filed 2-6-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XF47

Endangered Species; File No. 1595

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application for modification

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Mr. Michael M. Hastings, University of Maine, 5717 Corbett Hall, Orono, Maine 04469, has requested a modification to scientific research Permit No. 1595-01.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before March 10, 2008.

ADDRESSES: The modification request 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)427-2521; and Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978)281-9300; fax (978)281-9394.

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)427-2521, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period.

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing e-mail comments is

NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: File No. 1595.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brandy Belmas or Malcolm Mohead, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject modification to Permit No. 1595-01, issued on May 1, 2007 (72 FR 19469) 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. 1595-01 authorizes the permit holder to: capture, anesthetize, measure, weigh, sex (borescope), Carlin and PIT tag, recover and release up to 70 sub-adult and adult shortnose sturgeon annually. Up to 30 sub-adult and adult shortnose sturgeon, annually, would be fitted (or implanted) with an external (or internal) transmitter, in addition to the previously mentioned procedures. This permit also authorizes the annual lethal take of up to 50 shortnose sturgeon eggs, up to 30 of which may be transported to the lab for genetic sampling. Up to 2 incidental mortalities of shortnose sturgeon each year is also currently authorized.

The permit holder is now requesting authorization to: (1) increase the total annual take of shortnose sturgeon from 100 fish to 200 fish; (2) expand netting efforts to include currently restricted areas (i.e., within 0.5 miles of the confluence of the Penobscot River with Cove Brook, and the Kenduskeag River); (3) add D-net sampling as a method of sturgeon egg collection; (4) add non-lethal blood sampling as a procedure (which would be conducted on up to 30 fish of which the capture and handling is already authorized); and (5) add and remove personnel authorized to conduct research activities. The purpose of the proposed modification is to better assess the distribution, movements, abundance and spawning of shortnose sturgeon in the Penobscot River, Maine. This modification would be valid through the expiration date of the original permit, March 31, 2012.

Dated: February 1, 2008.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. E8-2277 Filed 2-6-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XE83

Incidental Take of Marine Mammals; Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Missile Launch Operations from San Nicolas Island, CA

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

ACTION: Notice of issuance of a letter of authorization.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), as amended, notification is hereby given that a letter of authorization (LOA) to take three species of marine mammals incidental to missile launch operations from San Nicolas Island, CA (SNI) has been issued to the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWC-WD), Point Mugu, CA.

DATES: This authorization is effective from February 3, 2008, through October 2, 2008.

ADDRESSES: The application, LOA, and Navy monitoring report are available for review in the Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 or by contacting one of the individuals mentioned below (See **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Howard Goldstein or Ken Hollingshead, NMFS, (301) 713-2289 ext. 172.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) directs NMFS to allow, on request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing), if certain findings are made by NMFS and regulations are issued. Under the MMPA, the term "taking" means to harass, hunt, capture or kill marine mammals.

Authorization may be granted for periods up to five years if NMFS finds, after notification and opportunity for public comment, that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) of marine mammals and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for certain subsistence uses. In addition, NMFS must prescribe regulations that include permissible methods of taking and other means of