

of the Director, NIGMS, and other business of the Council.

Place: National Institutes of Health, Natcher Building, Conference Rooms E1 & E2, 45 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892.

Contact Person: Ann A. Hagan, PhD, Associate Director for Extramural Activities, NIGMS, NIH, DHHS, 45 Center Drive, Room 2AN24H, MSC6200, Bethesda, MD 20892-6200, (301) 594-4499, hagana@nigms.nih.gov.

Any interested person may file written comments with the committee by forwarding the statement to the Contact Person listed on this notice. The statement should include the name, address, telephone number and when applicable, the business or professional affiliation of the interested person.

In the interest of security, NIH has instituted stringent procedures for entrance onto the NIH campus. All visitor vehicles, including taxicabs, hotel, and airport shuttles will be inspected before being allowed on campus. Visitors will be asked to show one form of identification (for example, a government-issued photo ID, driver's license, or passport) and to state the purpose of their visit.

Information is also available on the Institute's/Center's home page: http://www.nigms.nih.gov/about/advisory_council.html, where an agenda and any additional information for the meeting will be posted when available.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.375, Minority Biomedical Research Support; 93.821, Cell Biology and Biophysics Research; 93.859, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Biological Chemistry Research; 93.862, Genetics and Developmental Biology Research; 93.88, Minority Access to Research Careers; 93.96, Special Minority Initiatives, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: December 19, 2008.

Jennifer Spaeth,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. E8-30844 Filed 12-29-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

National Institute of General Medical Sciences; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material,

and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: National Institute of General Medical Sciences Special Emphasis Panel; Large Scale Collaborative Project Awards.

Date: January 14, 2009.

Time: 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Agenda: To review and evaluate grant applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, 45 Center Drive, Natcher Building, Room 3AN12, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Meredith D. Temple-O'Connor, PhD, Scientific Review Officer, Office of Scientific Review, National Institute of General Medical Sciences, National Institutes of Health, 45 Center Drive, Room 3AN12C, Bethesda, MD 20892, 301-594-2772, templeocm@mail.nih.gov.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.375, Minority Biomedical Research Support; 93.821, Cell Biology and Biophysics Research; 93.859, Pharmacology, Physiology, and Biological Chemistry Research; 93.862, Genetics and Developmental Biology Research; 93.88, Minority Access to Research Careers; 93.96, Special Minority Initiatives, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: December 22, 2008.

Jennifer Spaeth,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.

[FR Doc. E8-30847 Filed 12-29-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

[Docket No. DHS-2008-0200]

Homeland Security Advisory Council

AGENCY: The Office of Policy, DHS.

ACTION: Committee Management; Notice of Closed Federal Advisory Committee Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC) will meet on January 12, 2009 in Washington, DC. The meeting will be closed to the public.

DATE: The HSAC will meet on Monday, January 12, 2009 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. EST.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at DHS Headquarters at the Nebraska Avenue Complex, Washington, DC, 20528. Requests to have written material distributed to each member of the committee prior to the meeting should reach the contact person at the address below by January 6, 2009. Send written

material to Homeland Security Advisory Council, 245 Murray Lane, SW., Mailstop 0850, Washington DC, 20528. Comments must be identified by DHS-2008-0200 and may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *E-mail:* hsac@dhs.gov. Include the docket number in the subject line of the message.

- *Fax:* (202) 282-9207.

- *Mail:* Homeland Security Advisory Council, Department of Homeland Security, Mailstop 0850, 245 Murray Lane, SW., Washington, DC 20528.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the words "Department of Homeland Security" and the docket number for this action. Comments received will be posted without alteration at <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received by the HSAC, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Homeland Security Advisory Council, Washington, DC 20528, (202) 447-3135, HSAC@dhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of this meeting is given under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (Pub. L. 92-463). The HSAC provides independent advice to the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security to aid in the creation and implementation of critical and actionable policies and capabilities across the spectrum of homeland security operations. The HSAC periodically reports, as requested, to the Secretary, on such matters. The HSAC serves as the Secretary's primary advisory body with the goal of providing strategic, timely and actionable advice.

The HSAC will meet for the purpose of receiving briefings and updates from Secretary Chertoff on the current status of the DHS administration transition, a threat assessment and intelligence briefing focused on the transition period, and the upcoming National Special Security Event, the inauguration of President Elect Obama. The Secretary will also brief the members on successes, challenges and vulnerabilities affecting the Department's mission. The briefings will include information on sensitive homeland procedures and the capabilities of the Department of Homeland Security Components.

Basis for Closure: In accordance with Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory

Committee Act, it has been determined that this HSAC meeting concerns matters that “disclose investigative techniques and procedures” under 25 U.S.C. 552b(c)(7)(E) and are “likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action” within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B) and that, accordingly, the meeting will be closed to the public.

Discussion of ongoing investigations with Department of Homeland Security enforcement Components and outside law enforcement partners fall within the meaning of 5 U.S.C 552b(7)(E) insofar as they will “disclose investigative techniques and procedures.” Additionally, release of information presented during the briefings and the nature of the discussion could lead to premature disclosure of information on Department of Homeland Security actions that would be “likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action.”

Dated: December 19, 2008.
Stewart Baker,
Assistant Secretary, Office of Policy.
 [FR Doc. E8-30983 Filed 12-29-08; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4410-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R9-IA-2008-N0334; 96300-1671-0000-P5]

Issuance of Permits

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.
ACTION: Notice of issuance of permits for endangered species.

SUMMARY: The following permits were issued.

ADDRESSES: Documents and other information submitted with these applications are available for review, subject to the requirements of the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information

Act, by any party who submits a written request for a copy of such documents to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Room 212, Arlington, Virginia 22203; fax 703/358-2281.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Division of Management Authority, telephone 703/358-2104.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that on the dates below, as authorized by the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) the Fish and Wildlife Service issued the requested permits subject to certain conditions set forth therein. For each permit for an endangered species, the Service found that (1) The application was filed in good faith, (2) the granted permit would not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species, and (3) the granted permit would be consistent with the purposes and policy set forth in Section 2 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

| Permit No. | Applicant | Receipt of application Federal Register notice | Permit issuance date |
|--|----------------------------|--|----------------------|
| Endangered Species | | | |
| PRT's-182592, 182594 182595, 182596, 058658, 058659, 058660, 058662, 058663, 058664, 058665, 058666, 058667, 058668, 058669, 058681, 058683, 058685, and 058780. | Hawthorn Corporation | 73 FR 49698; August 22, 2008 | November 13, 2008. |
| 189849 | Los Angeles Zoo | 73 FR 61162; October 15, 2008 | December 1, 2008. |
| 192243 | Houston Zoo, Inc | 73 FR 56863; September 30, 2008 | November 20, 2008. |

Dated: December 5, 2008.
Lisa J. Lierheimer,
Senior Permit Biologist, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority.
 [FR Doc. E8-31011 Filed 12-29-08; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R9-FHC-2008-N0287; 80221-1113-0000-L5]

Marine Mammal Protection Act; Stock Assessment Report

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.
ACTION: Notice of availability of final 2008 revised marine mammal stock assessment report for the southern sea otter in California; response to comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972,

as amended (MMPA), and its implementing regulations, we, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), announce that we have revised our stock assessment report (SAR) for the southern sea otter (*Enhydra lutris nereis*) stock in California State, including incorporation of public comments. We now make our complete final 2008 revised SAR available to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the methods, data, and results of the stock assessment, contact Lilian Carswell by phone at (805) 612-2793 or by e-mail at Lilian_Carswell@fws.gov.

ADDRESSES: Send requests for printed copies of the SAR to: Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, 2493 Portola Road, Suite B, Ventura, CA 93003. You may also view or download it at http://www.fws.gov/ventura/speciesinfo/so_sea_otter/.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations in the Code of Federal Regulations at 50 CFR part 18, we regulate the taking, possession, transportation, purchasing, selling, offering for sale, exporting, and importing of marine mammals. One of the goals of the MMPA is to ensure that stocks of marine mammals occurring in waters under the jurisdiction of the United States do not experience a level of human-caused mortality and serious injury that is likely to cause the stock to be reduced below its *optimum sustainable population level* (OSP). OSP is defined as “the number of animals which will result in the maximum productivity of the population or the species, keeping in mind the carrying capacity of the habitat and the health of the ecosystem of which they form a constituent element.”

To help accomplish the goal of maintaining marine mammal stocks at their OSPs, section 117 of the MMPA