DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Office of the Secretary

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; DOC National Environmental Policy Act Environmental Questionnaire and Checklist

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Office of Administrative Services, Commerce.

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.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before May 17, 2010.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Genevieve Walker, NEPA Coordinator, Office of the Secretary, Room 1036, 1400 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dhynek@doc.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Department of Commerce (DOC) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Questionnaire and Checklist (EQC) was developed to assist DOC in complying with NEPA by facilitating the collection of data concerning potential environmental impacts, streamlining the collection of that data, and maintaining consistency in quality and quantity of information received.

The EQC address a diverse range of potential environmental issues covered under Federal environmental laws and regulations, and will allow DOC reviewers to rapidly review infrastructure projects, facilitate in evaluating the potential environmental impacts of a project, and help in determining the proper level of documentation (Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment, or Environmental Impact Statement) necessary to comply with NEPA.

II. Method of Collection

The form can be submitted via the Internet or paper format.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0690–0028.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations; Not-for-profit institutions; Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200.

Estimated Time per Response: 2 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 400.

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: March 11, 2010.

Gwelnar Banks,
Manager Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

BILLING CODE 3510–NW–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XS00

Endangered and Threatened Species; Recovery Plans; Recovery Plan for the Kemp’s Ridley Sea Turtle

AGENCIES: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce; Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: We, NMFS and USFWS, announce the availability for public review of the draft Bi-National Recovery Plan (Plan) for the Kemp’s Ridley Sea Turtle (Lepidochelys kempi). The Kemp’s Ridley Recovery Plan is a bi-national plan developed by the NMFS and USFWS and the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources, Mexico. We are soliciting review and comment on the Plan from the public and all interested parties, including state and local governments. We will consider all substantive comments received during the review period before submitting the Plan for final approval.

DATES: Comments on the draft Plan must be received by close of business on May 17, 2010.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Genevieve Walker, NEPA Coordinator, Office of the Secretary, Room 1036, 1400 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dhynek@doc.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Availability of the Draft Recovery Plan

Interested persons may obtain the Plan for review on the Internet at http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/recovery/kempsridley/ or by contacting Therese Conant or Tom Shearer [see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT].

Background

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (15 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) requires that NMFS and USFWS develop and implement recovery plans for the conservation and survival of threatened and endangered species under their jurisdiction, unless it is determined that such plans would not promote the conservation of the species. This Plan discusses the natural history, current status, and the known and potential threats to the Kemp’s ridley. The Plan lays out a recovery strategy to address