Department of Commerce

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

Agency: International Trade Administration.

Title: Survey of Participating Companies in the United States-European Union and United States-Switzerland Safe Harbor Frameworks. OMB Control Number: None.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular submission (new information collection).

Burden Hours: 343.

Number of Respondents: 1,030.

Average Hours per Response: 20 minutes.

Needs and Uses: The Office of Technology and Electronic Commerce in the Manufacturing and Services Unit of the International Trade Administration (ITA) administers the U.S.-European Union (EU) and U.S.-Swiss Safe Harbor Frameworks (Frameworks). These Frameworks allow U.S. companies to meet the requirements of the European Union’s Data Protection Directive and the Swiss Federal Act on Data Protection, respectively. This is significant because the Frameworks ensure uninterrupted transfers of personal information worth billions of dollars in trade between the United States and the EU and Switzerland.

In line with the President’s National Export Initiative, ITA is interested in gathering information from U.S. companies that use the U.S.-EU and U.S.-Swiss Safe Harbor Frameworks to better evaluate the programs and how they support U.S. exports. The information will be obtained via a survey using the questions in 76 FR 8337.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit Organizations.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent’s Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: Wendy Liberante, (202) 395-3647.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, (202) 482-0266, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dhynek@doc.gov).

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Wendy Liberante, OMB Desk Officer, number (202) 395-5167, or via the Internet at Wendy_L_Liberante@omb.eop.gov.

Dated: June 3, 2011.

Gwennar Banks,
Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

For further information contact:
Malcolm Mohead or Colette Cairns, (301) 713–2289.

Supplementary Information: The subject permit is requested under the

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XA484

Endangered Species; Permit No. 16439


Action: Notice; receipt of application.

Summary: Notice is hereby given that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, 21 South Putt Corners Rd., New Paltz, NY 12561 [Responsible Party: Kathryn Hattala] has applied in due form to take shortnose sturgeon (Acipenser brevirostrum) for purposes of scientific research.

Dates: Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before July 11, 2011.

Addresses: The application and related documents are available for review by selecting “Records Open for Public Comment” from the Features box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species (APPS) home page, https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov/, and then selecting File No. 16439 from the list of available applications.

These documents are available 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) 713–0376; and

• Northeast Region, NMFS, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930; phone (978) 281–9328; fax (978) 281–9394.

Written comments on this application should be submitted to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division.

By e-mail to NMFS.PrtComments@noaa.gov (include the File No. in the subject line)

By facsimile to (301) 713–0376, or

At the address listed above.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division at the address listed above. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

For further information contact:
Malcolm Mohead or Colette Cairns, (301) 713–2289.

The applicant proposes a five-year scientific research permit characterizing the habitat use, population abundance, reproduction, juvenile recruitment, age and growth, temporal and spatial distribution, diet selectivity, and contaminant load of shortnose sturgeon captured from the Hudson River Estuary from New York Harbor to Troy Dam. Anchored and drift gill nets and travel nets would be used to capture up to 240 and 2,340 shortnose sturgeon in year one through three and year four and five, respectively. Other research activities would include: measuring, weighting; tagging unmarked individuals with passive integrated transponder tags, and dart tags; and genetic tissue sampling. A first subset of fish would be anesthetized and tagged with acoustic transmitters; a second subset would have fin rays sampled for ageing; and a third subset of fish would be gastrically lavaged for diet analysis, as well as have blood samples taken for contaminant testing. A total of nine unintended mortalities are requested over the life of the permit.

Dated: June 3, 2011.

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

[FR Doc. 2011–14333 Filed 6–6–11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XA436

Incidental Taking of Marine Mammals; Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to the Explosive Removal of Offshore Structures in the Gulf of Mexico

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of letters of authorization.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and implementing regulations, notification is hereby given that NMFS has issued one-year Letters of Authorization (LOA) to take marine mammals incidental to the explosive removal of offshore oil and gas structures (EROS) in the Gulf of Mexico.

DATES: These authorizations are effective from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, and September 3, 2011 through September 2, 2012.

ADDRESSES: The application and LOAs are available for review by writing to P. Michael Payne, Chief, Permits, Conservation, and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910–3235 or by telephoning the contact listed here (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT), or online at: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/permissions/incidental.htm. Documents cited in this notice may be viewed, by appointment, during regular business hours, at the aforementioned address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Howard Goldstein or Jolie Harrison, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 301–713–2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.) directs the Secretary of Commerce (who has delegated the authority to NMFS) to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by United States citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region, if certain findings are made and regulations are issued. Under the MMPA, the term “take” means to harass, hunt, capture, or kill or to attempt to harass, hunt, capture, or kill any marine mammal.

Authorization for incidental taking, in the form of annual LOAs, may be granted by NMFS for periods up to five years if NMFS finds, after notice 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 subsistence uses (where relevant). In addition, NMFS must prescribe regulations that include permissible methods of taking and other means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact on the species and its habitat (i.e., mitigation), and on the availability of the species for subsistence uses, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating rounds, and areas of similar significance. The regulations also must include requirements pertaining to the monitoring and reporting of such taking.

Regulations governing the taking of marine mammals incidental to EROS were published on June 19, 2008 (73 FR 34875), and remain in effect through July 19, 2013. For detailed information on this action, please refer to that Federal Register notice. The species that applicants may take in small numbers during EROS activities are bottlenose dolphins (Tursiops truncatus), Atlantic spotted dolphins (Stenella frontalis), pantropical spotted dolphins (Stenella attenuata), Clymene dolphins (Stenella clymene), striped dolphins (Stenella coeruleoalba), spinner dolphins (Stenella longirostris), rough-toothed dolphins (Steno bredanensis), Risso’s dolphins (Grampus griseus), melon-headed whales (Peponocephala electra), short-finned pilot whales (Globicephala macrorhynchus), and sperm whales (Physeter macrocephalus). NMFS received requests for LOAs from El Paso Exploration & Production Company, L.P. (El Paso) and EOG Resources, Inc. (EOG Resources) for activities covered by EROS regulations.

Reporting

NMFS regulations require timely receipt of reports for activities conducted under the previously issued LOA and a determination that the required mitigation, monitoring and reporting were undertaken. NMFS Galveston Laboratory’s Platform Removal Observer Program (PROP) has provided reports for El Paso and EOG Resources removal of offshore structures in 2010. NMFS PROP observers reported the following during El Paso and EOG Resources’ EROS operations in 2010 to 2011:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Structure</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Marine mammal sightings (individuals)</th>
<th>Biological impacts observed to marine mammals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>El Paso</td>
<td>Ship Shoal Area, Block 278, Platform A.</td>
<td>August 14 to 23, 2010</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Paso</td>
<td>West Cameron Area, Block 150, Platform F.</td>
<td>August 20 to 21, 2010</td>
<td>Bottlenose Dolphins (12)</td>
<td>None.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>