DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

Travel and Tourism Trade Mission to Taiwan, Japan, and Korea

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service is amending notice for the Travel and Tourism Trade Mission to Taiwan, Japan and Korea, scheduled for March 10–14, 2014, published at 78 FR 34344, June 7, 2013, to identify the mission as an Executive-led Trade Mission.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The International Trade Administration will have a senior executive lead the Travel and Tourism Trade Mission to Taiwan, Japan and Korea, March 10–14, 2014, published at 78 FR 34344, June 7, 2013. As previously published, the notice did not specify that a senior executive will be leading the mission.

Amendments

For these reasons, the Mission Description of the Notice of the Travel and Tourism Trade Mission to Taiwan, Japan, and Korea is amended to read as follows:
The United States Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service, is organizing an Executive-led Trade Mission to Taiwan, Japan, and Korea March 10–14, 2014. The purpose of the mission is to help U.S. firms in the travel and tourism industry find business partners and sell services in Taipei, Taiwan; Seoul, Korea; and Tokyo, Japan. The targeted sector for participation in this mission is travel and tourism, including U.S.-based travel and tourism suppliers, destination marketing organizations (i.e., convention and visitors bureaus), travel promotion organizations and other travel and tourism entities promoting and selling travel to the United States including trade associations.

Frank Spector,
Senior International Trade Specialist.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

U.S. Healthcare Trade Mission to Russia, October 21–25, 2013; Correction

AGENCY: International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; Cancellation.


Cancellation Notice

In the Federal Register of December 4, 2012, in 78 FR 32369 on page 32369, title, note a top of page, correct the subject heading of the notice to read: U.S. Healthcare Trade Mission to Russia has been Cancelled, Oct 21–25, 2013.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jessica Dulkaadir, Commercial Service Trade Missions Program, Tel: 202–482–2026, Fax: 202–482–9000, email: jessica.dulkaadir@trade.gov

Elanora Moye, Trade Program Assistant.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XC100

Marine Mammals; File No. 17115

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application for permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that James Lloyd-Smith, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of California, Los Angeles, 610 Charles E. Young Dr. South, Box 723905, Los Angeles, CA 90095–7239, has applied for an amendment to Scientific Research Permit No. 17115–00.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before August 14, 2013.

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 home page, https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov, and then selecting File No. 17115 from the list of available applications. These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 427–8401; fax (301) 713–0376; and Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802–4213; phone (562) 980–4001; fax (562) 980–4018.

Written comments on this application should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, at the address listed above. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile to (301) 713–0376, by email to NMFS.Per1Comments@noaa.gov. Please include File No. 17115 in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits and Conservation 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: Amy Sloan, (301) 427–8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment to Permit No. 17115–00 is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.), and the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216). Permit No. 17115–00, issued on September 24, 2012 (77 FR 63296), authorizes the permit holder to study the prevalence of leptospirosis in wild California sea lions (Zalophus californianus) in California. Up to 80 California sea lions may be taken annually on Ano Nuevo Island by capture (including restraint and anesthesia); marking and measuring; sampling (blood, urine, vibrissae); and release. A limited number of non-target sea lions may be captured and released without sampling. Up to 5,000 sea lions, 3,000 northern elephant seals (Mirounga angustirostris), and 60 harbor seals (Phoca vitulina) may be taken by incidental disturbance annually. Four
unintentional mortalities of California sea lions are authorized. The permit expires September 30, 2017.

The permit holder is requesting the permit be amended to expand the scope of the study and include authorization for capture, sampling, and release of California sea lions as described above at two additional sampling sites in California (160 animals at San Nicolas Island and 80 animals at Monterey Bay). A limited number of non-target sea lions may be captured and released without sampling. The permit holder also requests incidental disturbance at each of the new sites for the following species: California sea lions (6,000 on San Nicolas Island; and 3,000 in Monterey Bay); Northern elephant seals (2,000 on San Nicolas; and 100 in Monterey Bay); and Pacific harbor seals (100 on San Nicolas, and 50 in Monterey Bay). The permit holder proposes to disentangle and mark/sample a limited number of California sea lions encountered during the research activities. Permission to increase the number of mortalities of California sea lions from four to eight over the duration of the permit is requested. The applicant also requests to extend the maximum number of sampling years from four to five over the duration of the permit.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the Federal Register, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: July 9, 2013.

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

[FR Doc. 2013–16766 Filed 7–12–13; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XC486

Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; U.S. Marine Corps Training Exercises at Air Station Cherry Point


ACTION: Notice; issuance of incidental harassment authorization.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) regulation, we hereby give notification that we have issued an Incidental Harassment Authorization (Authorization) to take marine mammals incidental to various training exercises at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point Range Complex, North Carolina for a period of one year. The U.S. Marine Corps’ activities are military readiness activities pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), as amended by the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2004.

DATES: Effective June 17, 2013 through June 14, 2014.


The following associated document is also available at the same internet address: ‘‘The Marine Corps’ Environmental Assessment (EA) titled, ‘Environmental Assessment MCAS Cherry Point Operations,’’ for their federal action of supporting and conducting current and emerging training operations. Their EA evaluates the effects of the proposed training operations on the human environment including impacts to marine mammals and their 2009 Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the activities.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 101(a)(5)(D) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.) directs the Secretary of Commerce to authorize, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals of a species or population stock, by United States citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region if, after notice of a proposed authorization to the public for review and public comment: (1) We make certain findings; and (2) the taking is limited to harassment.

We shall grant authorization for the incidental taking of small numbers of marine mammals if we find that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s), and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for subsistence uses (where relevant). The authorization must set forth the permissible methods of taking; other means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact on the species or stock and its habitat; and requirements pertaining to the mitigation, monitoring and reporting of such taking. We have defined ‘‘negligible impact’’ in 50 CFR 216.103 as ‘‘... an impact resulting from the specified activity that cannot be reasonably expected to, and is not reasonably likely to, adversely affect the species or stock through effects on annual rates of recruitment or survival.’’

Section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA established an expedited process by which citizens of the United States can apply for an authorization to incidentally take small numbers of marine mammals by harassment. Section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA establishes a 45-day time limit for our review of an application followed by a 30-day public notice and comment period on any proposed authorizations for the incidental harassment of small numbers of marine mammals. Within 45 days of the close of the public comment period, we must either issue or deny the authorization and must publish a notice in the Federal Register within 30 days of our determination to issue or deny the authorization.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2004 (NDAA; Pub. L. 108–136) amended section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA by removing the small numbers and specified geographic region provisions; revising the definition of harassment as it applies to a military readiness activity; and explicitly requiring that our determination of ‘‘least practicable adverse impact’’ include consideration of: (1) Personnel safety; (2) the practicality of implementation; and (3) impact on the