DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XD748–X

Marine Mammals; File No. 19133

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Tim Gallagher, Alaska Area Manager, HDR, Inc., 2252 C Street, Suite 305, Anchorage, AK 99503–2632, has applied in due form for a permit to conduct research on spotted seals (Phoca largha), ringed seals (Pusa hispida), bearded seals (Erignathus barbatus), bowhead whales (Balaena mysticetus), and Beluga whales (Delphinapterus leucas).

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before April 20, 2015.

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. 19133 from the list of available applications.

These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the 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.

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) 773–0376, or by email to NMFS.PriComments@noaa.gov. Please include the File No. 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: Brendan Hurley or Courtney Smith, (301) 427–8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), and the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226).

The area encompassing the Colville River Delta (CRD) on Alaska’s North Slope is currently being assessed for potential oil and gas (O&G) exploration and development. HDR proposes to conduct semi-annual aerial surveys over the next 5 years to better characterize the occurrence and distribution of three ice seal species (spotted seals (Phoca largha), ringed seals (Pusa hispida), and bearded seals (Erignathus barbatus)), and provide a framework for understanding the potential impacts of O&G exploration and development on these animals in and around the CRD.

Surveys will occur four times annually (from a Cessna 180 high-mounted fixed-wing or a twin engine, low-mounted fixed-wing DA 42 Multi-Purpose Platform (MPP) aircraft (or similar fixed-wing aircraft)) at 1,000 feet, but researchers will drop to an altitude of 700 feet when seals are observed.

Annual estimated directed takes include up to 780 bearded seals, 780 ringed seals, 612 spotted seals, and up to 60 bowhead whales (Balaena mysticetus) and 150 Beluga whales (Delphinapterus leucas).

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 the application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.


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

[FR Doc. 2015–06431 Filed 3–19–15; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Proposed Revision of a Currently Approved Information Collection; Comment Request; Trademark Petitions


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies 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 19, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

• Email: InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include “0651–0061 Trademark Petitions” in the subject line of the message.

• Mail: Marcie Lovett, Records Management Division Director, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Catherine Gain, United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450; by telephone at 571–272–8946; or by email at catherine.cain@uspto.gov with “Paperwork” in the subject line.

Additional information about this collection is also available at http://www.reginfo.gov under “Information Collection Review.”

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The USPTO administers the Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.,
which provides for the registration of trademarks, service marks, collective trademarks and collective service marks, collective membership marks, and certification marks. Individuals and businesses that use or intend to use such marks in commerce may file an application to register their marks with the USPTO.

Individuals and businesses may also submit various communications to the USPTO, including letters of protest, requests to make special, responses to petition inquiry letters, petitions to make special, requests to restore a filing date, and requests for reinstatement. The USPTO uses the information described in this collection to process letters of protest, requests to make special, responses to petition inquiry letters, petitions to make special, requests to restore filing date, and requests for reinstatement. The information is used by the public for a variety of private business purposes related to establishing and enforcing trademark rights. Information relating to the registration of a trademark is made publicly available by the USPTO. The release of information in a letter of protest is controlled and may be available upon request only.

A letter of protest is an informal procedure whereby third parties who object to the registration of a mark in a pending application may bring to the attention of the USPTO evidence bearing on the registrability of the mark. A letter of protest must identify the application being protested and the proposed grounds for refusing registration and include relevant evidence to support the protest. A request to make special may be submitted where an applicant requests that initial examination of an application be advanced out of its regular order because the mark in the application was the subject of an inadvertently cancelled or expired previous registration.

A response to a petition inquiry letter is submitted by a petitioner who is responding to a notice of deficiency that the USPTO issued after receiving an incomplete Petition to the Director. A petition may be considered incomplete if, for example, it does not include the fee required by 37 CFR 2.6 or if it includes an unverified assertion that is not supported by evidence.

The USPTO generally examines applications in the order in which they are received. A petition to make special is a request by the applicant to advance the initial examination of an application out of its regular order.

A request to restore a filing date is submitted by an applicant who previously filed an application that was denied a filing date. The request must include evidence showing that the applicant is entitled to the earlier filing date.

If an applicant has proof that an application was inadvertently abandoned due to a USPTO error, an applicant may file a request to reinstate the application instead of a formal petition to revive. To support such a request, the applicant must include clear evidence of the USPTO error.

II. Method of Collection

Electronically, if applicants submit the information using the forms available through the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS).

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651–0061.
Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.
Affected Public: Individuals or households; business or other for-profit organizations; not-for-profit organizations.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,988 responses per year.
Estimated Time per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take approximately 35 minutes (0.58 hours) to 75 minutes (1.25 hours) to complete this information. This includes the time to gather the necessary information, create the documents, and submit the completed request to the USPTO.

The time per response, estimated annual responses, and estimated annual hour burden associated with each instrument in this information collection is shown in the table below.

Estimated Total Annual Hour Burden: 2,749.67 hours per year.

Estimated Total Annual Cost Burden: $1,069,620.33. The USPTO expects that an attorney will complete the instruments associated with this information collection is shown in the table below. The professional hourly rate for attorneys is $389. Using this hourly rate applied across the 2,749.67 respondent burden hours associated with this collection, the USPTO estimates $1,069,620.33 per year for the total hourly costs associated with respondents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IC No.</th>
<th>Information collection instrument</th>
<th>Estimated time for response (hours)</th>
<th>Estimated annual responses</th>
<th>Estimated annual burden hours</th>
<th>Rate ($/hr)</th>
<th>Total cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Letter of Protest (TEAS Global)</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1692</td>
<td>1,692.00</td>
<td>$389.00</td>
<td>$650,548.33</td>
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<td>Letter of Protest (Paper)</td>
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<td>423</td>
<td>528.75</td>
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<td>52.50</td>
<td>$389.00</td>
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<td>$389.00</td>
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<td>116.67</td>
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<td>6,418.50</td>
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<td>34.5</td>
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<td>2,988</td>
<td>2,749.67</td>
<td>1,069,620.33</td>
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</table>
Estimated Total Annual Cost Burden (Non-Hourly): $22,660.19. This collection has no capital startup, maintenance, or operating fees. This collection does have postage and filing fees.

**Postage Costs**

Applicants incur postage costs when submitting non-electronic information to the USPTO by mail through the United States Postal Service. The USPTO estimates that the vast majority—approximately 98%—of the paper forms are submitted to the USPTO via first-class mail, while the rest are submitted by hand delivery. Out of 541 paper forms, the USPTO estimates that 531 forms will be mailed, at a rate of 49 cents per ounce. Therefore, the USPTO estimates that the postage costs for the paper submissions in this collection will be $260.19.

**Filing Fees**

The only item in this information collection with a filing fee is the Petition to Make Special, with a filing fee of $100. The total estimated filing fee cost for this collection is $22,400.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IC No.</th>
<th>Information collection instrument</th>
<th>Responses (yr)</th>
<th>Filing fee ($)</th>
<th>Total non-hour cost burden (yr)</th>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>224</td>
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<td>22,400.00</td>
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</table>

Therefore, the USPTO estimates that the total annual (non-hour) cost burden for this collection, in the form of postage costs ($260.19) and filing fees ($22,400.00), is $22,660.19 per year.

**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, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (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, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they will also become a matter of public record.


Marcie Lovett, Records Management Division Director, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2015–06448 Filed 3–19–15; 8:45 am]