

Dated: February 14, 2018.

Sarah Brabson,

NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2018-03366 Filed 2-16-18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XF592

Marine Mammals; File No. 21158-01

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a major amendment to Permit No. 21158 has been issued to Robert Garrott, Ph.D., Montana State University, 310 Lewis Hall, Bozeman, MT 59717.

ADDRESSES: The permit amendment and related documents are available for review 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sara Young or Carrie Hubbard, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 8, 2017, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (82 FR 51822) that a request for an amendment Permit No. 21158 to conduct research on Weddell seals had been submitted by the above-named applicant. The requested permit amendment has been issued 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).

The permit amendment authorizes an increase in takes of seal pups authorized to be flipper tagged from a total of 675 to a total take of 1,000 pups. This field season the research team has observed an abnormally high number of pups and current take numbers are not be adequate to meet the stated scientific goals of tagging all pups produced in the Erebus Bay colonies each year. This increase is only for the 2017-18 field season and not for the duration of the permit. At the end of the public comment period, we will assess all substantive comments received and if

warranted, further amend the permit in response to those comments.

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

Dated: February 14, 2018.

Julia Harrison,

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

[FR Doc. 2018-03392 Filed 2-16-18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Pacific Halibut Fisheries: Charter Permits.

OMB Control Number: 0648-0592.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular (revision and extension of a currently approved information collection).

Number of Respondents: 236.

Average Hours per Response: 2 hours for Application for Transfer of Charter Halibut Permit; 0.5 hours for Application for Military Charter Permit; 2 hours for Application for Transfer between IFQ and Guided Angler Fish (GAF); and 4 hours for Appeals if an Application for Transfer between IFQ and GAF is denied by NMFS.

Burden Hours: 559.

Needs and Uses: This request is for revision and extension of a currently approved information collection.

The Alaska Pacific Halibut Charter Program established Federal Charter Halibut Permits (CHPs) for operators in the charter halibut fishery in IPHC regulatory Areas 2C (Southeast Alaska) and 3A (Central Gulf of Alaska). Since February 1, 2011, all vessel operators in Areas 2C and 3A with charter anglers onboard catching and retaining Pacific halibut must have a valid CHP onboard during every charter vessel fishing trip. CHPs must be endorsed with the

appropriate regulatory area and number of anglers.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) implemented this program based on recommendations by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to meet allocation objectives in the charter halibut fishery. This program provides stability in the fishery by limiting the number of charter vessels that may participate in Areas 2C and 3A and decreasing the overall number of available CHPs over time. The program goals are to increase the value of the resource, limit boats to qualified active participants in the guided sport halibut sector, and enhance economic stability in rural coastal communities.

An appeal letter was inadvertently removed from this collection previously, now reinstated.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations; individuals and households.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

This information collection request may be viewed at reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395-5806.

Dated: February 14, 2018.

Sarah Brabson,

NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.

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BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION

[Docket No. CFPB-2018-0004]

Request for Information Regarding the Bureau's Supervision Program

AGENCY: Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

ACTION: Notice and request for information.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (Bureau) is seeking comments and information from interested parties to assist the Bureau in assessing the overall efficiency and effectiveness of its Supervision Program, and, consistent with the law, considering whether any changes to the program would be appropriate.

DATES: Comments must be received by May 21, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may submit responsive information and other comments, identified by Docket No. CFPB–2018–0004, by any of the following methods:

- **Electronic:** Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- **Email:** FederalRegisterComments@cfpb.gov. Include Docket No. CFPB–2018–0004 in the subject line of the message.

- **Mail:** Comment Intake, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20552.

- **Hand Delivery/Courier:** Comment Intake, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20552.

Instructions: The Bureau encourages the early submission of comments. All submissions must include the document title and docket number. Please note the number of the topic on which you are commenting at the top of each response (you do not need to address all topics). Because paper mail in the Washington, DC area and at the Bureau is subject to delay, commenters are encouraged to submit comments electronically. In general, comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, with exceptions including those noted below. In addition, comments will be available for public inspection and copying at 1700 G St NW, Washington, DC 20552, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. eastern standard time. You can make an appointment to inspect the documents by telephoning 202–435–7275.

Submissions in response to this request for information, including attachments and other supporting materials, will become part of the public record and subject to public disclosure. Proprietary information or sensitive personal information, such as account numbers or Social Security numbers, or names of other individuals should not be included.

Commenters should also refrain from submitting confidential supervisory information (CSI), as defined in 12 CFR 1070.2(i). If discussing interactions on an examination, commenters should speak in generalities, and should refrain from describing the content of supervisory communications or the results of specific exams. Commenters may wish to submit input anonymously or through a representative if associating their name with their public comment would disclose the fact that they have been examined by the Bureau or the results of a particular exam. The Bureau reserves the right to redact or refrain from publishing CSI consistent with 12 CFR 1070.41 *et seq.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general inquiries and submission process questions, please call Brian Shearer, Counsel, at (202) 435–7611.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Bureau has supervisory authority over insured depository institutions and credit unions with total assets over \$10 billion and their affiliates, as well as non-depository financial institutions, regardless of size, in certain specific markets including mortgage companies (originators, brokers, servicers, and offerors of loan modifications or foreclosure relief services), payday lenders and private education lenders. The Bureau also has supervisory authority over non-depository larger participants of other markets as the Bureau defines by rule. To date, this includes larger participants in the consumer reporting, debt collection, student loan servicing, international money transfer, and automobile finance markets. Additionally, the Bureau has authority over service providers of the above referenced supervised entities, and service providers to a substantial number of depository institutions and credit unions with total assets of \$10 billion or less. More detail regarding the Bureau's supervisory authority can be found principally at 12 U.S.C. 5514–5516 and 12 CFR parts 1090 and 1091.

The Bureau is, as described below, issuing this request for information seeking public comment on how best to achieve meaningful burden reduction or other improvement to the processes used by the Bureau to supervise for compliance with Federal consumer financial law (Supervision Program) while continuing to meet the Bureau's statutory and regulatory objectives and ensuring a fair and transparent process for supervised entities.

Overview of This Request for Information

The Bureau is using this request for information to seek public input regarding its Supervision Program. The Bureau's ability to supervise entities is an essential part of the Bureau's statutory mission of enforcing Federal consumer financial laws. The Bureau engages in supervisory activities in accordance with applicable law and in furtherance of its statutory mandate. The Bureau understands, however, that the Bureau's supervisory activities can impose burdens on entities. The Bureau encourages comments from all interested members of the public. The Bureau anticipates that the responding public may include supervised entities or companies supervised by other agencies, compliance professionals or

members of the bar who represent these entities, individual consumers, consumer advocates, regulators, and researchers, or members of academia.

Suggested Topics for Commenters

To allow the Bureau to evaluate suggestions more effectively, the Bureau requests that, where possible, comments include:

- Specific suggestions regarding any potential updates or modifications to the Bureau's Supervision Program, consistent with the Bureau's statutory objectives, and including, in as much detail as possible (though without disclosing CSI), potential updates or modifications, supporting data or other information on impacts and costs, or information concerning alignment with the processes of other agencies with similar authorities; and

- Specific identification of any aspects of the Bureau's Supervision Program that should not be modified, consistent with the Bureau's statutory objectives, and including supporting data or other information on impacts and costs, or information concerning alignment with the processes of other agencies with similar authorities.

The following list represents a preliminary attempt by the Bureau to identify elements of Bureau processes related to its Supervision Program that may be deserving of more immediate focus. This non-exhaustive list is meant to assist in the formulation of comments and is not intended to restrict the issues that may be addressed. In addressing these topics or others, the Bureau requests that commenters identify with specificity the Bureau regulations or practices at issue, providing legal citations where appropriate and available. Please feel free to comment on some or all of the topics below, but please be sure to indicate on which area you are commenting. As noted in the instructions above, please refrain from revealing CSI in your public comment.

The Bureau is seeking feedback on all aspects of its Supervision Program, including but not limited to:

1. The timing, frequency, and scope of supervisory exams.

2. The timing, method or process used by the Bureau to collect information and documents from a supervised entity prior to the commencement of an examination. Typically, the Bureau sends an examination Information Request (IR) to a supervised entity prior to the commencement of an examination. An IR is a list of information and documents that the supervised entity is asked to provide to the Bureau for off-site review or to make available when examiners are onsite at

the entity. An IR is typically sent to an entity at least 60 days prior to the onsite start of an examination.

3. The type and volume of information and documents requested in IRs.

4. The effectiveness and accessibility of the CFPB Supervision and Examination Manual (Exam Manual). The Exam Manual provides internal direction to supervisory staff, including summaries of statutes and regulations and specific examination procedures for use by examiners in conducting exams. It is published on the Bureau's website to promote transparency and assist the public in understanding how the Bureau oversees supervised entities.

5. The efficiency and effectiveness of onsite examination work. Typically, while onsite, examination teams may review documents and data, hold meetings with management, conduct interviews with staff, make observations, and conduct transaction testing.

6. The effectiveness of Supervision's communications when potential violations are identified, including the usefulness and content of the potential action and request for response (PARR) letter. A PARR letter provides an entity with notice of preliminary findings of conduct that may violate Federal consumer financial laws and advises the entity that the Bureau is considering taking supervisory action or a public enforcement action based on the potential violations identified in the letter. Supervision invites the entity to respond to the PARR letter within 14 days and to set forth in the response any reasons of fact, law or policy why the Bureau should not take action against the entity. The Bureau often permits extensions of the response time when requested.

7. The clarity, organization, and quality of communications that report the results of supervisory activities, including oral communications from examiners and Supervisory Letters and Examination Reports.

8. The clarity of matters requiring attention (MRA) and the reasonability of timing requirements to satisfy MRAs. An MRA is used to address violation(s) of Federal consumer financial law or compliance management weaknesses. MRAs often require a written response to the Bureau and will include a due date for completion.

9. The process for appealing supervisory findings.

10. The use of third parties contracted by supervised entities to conduct assessments specified in MRAs, or to assess the sufficiency of completion of an MRA.

11. The usefulness of *Supervisory Highlights* to share findings and promote transparency. The Bureau periodically publishes *Supervisory Highlights* to apprise the public about its examination program, including the concerns that it finds during the course of its work.

12. The manner and extent to which the Bureau can and should coordinate its supervisory activity with Federal and state supervisory agencies, including through use of simultaneous exams, where feasible and consistent with statutory directives.

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 5511(c).

Dated: February 12, 2018.

Mick Mulvaney,

Acting Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

[FR Doc. 2018-03358 Filed 2-16-18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

[Docket ID: USAF-2018-HQ-0001]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of the Air Force, DoD.

ACTION: 60-Day information collections notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the Deputy Chief of Staff (DCS), Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration (HQ USAF/A10), on behalf of the Secretary of the Air Force, the Department of Defense (DoD) Executive Agent for the DoD Foreign Clearance Program, announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: 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; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by April 23, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

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

- *Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Chief Management Officer, Directorate for Oversight and Compliance, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 08D09B, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

Any associated form(s) for this collection may be located within this same electronic docket and downloaded for review/testing. Follow the instructions at <http://www.regulations.gov> for submitting comments. Please submit comments on any given form identified by docket number, form number, and title.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to the Deputy Chief of Staff (DCS), Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration Executive Services Office (HQ USAF/A10E), ATTN: Ms. April Powell-Donnell, 1488 Air Force Pentagon, Washington, DC 20330-1488, at (703) 695-7467.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title; Associated Form; and OMB Number: Aircraft and Personnel Automated Clearance System (APACS); OMB Control Number 0701-XXXX.

Needs and Uses: The information collection requirement is necessary to obtain PII information which is used by in-country U.S. Embassy approvers to grant country travel clearances, Geographical Combatant Commands approvers to grant theater travel clearances and by the Office of Secretary of Defense for Policy approvers to grant special area travel clearances. Aircrew PII information is used for verification, identification and authentication of travelers for aircraft and personnel travel clearances, as required by DoDD 4500.54E, DoD Foreign Clearance Program.

Affected Public: DoD-sponsored contractors and DoD-sponsored foreign nationals.

Annual Burden Hours: 15,400.
Number of Respondents: 30,800.