Therefore, NMFS has determined that the total taking of affected species or stocks would not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of such species or stocks for taking for subsistence purposes.

National Environmental Policy Act
To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) 216–6A, NMFS must review our proposed action (i.e., the issuance of an IHA) with respect to potential impacts on the human environment.

This action is consistent with categories of activities identified in Categorical Exclusion B4 (IHAs with no anticipated serious injury or mortality) of the Companion Manual for NOAA Administrative Order 216–6A, which do not individually or cumulatively have the potential for significant impacts on the quality of the human environment and for which we have not identified any extraordinary circumstances that would preclude this categorical exclusion. Accordingly, NMFS has determined that the issuance of the IHA qualifies to be categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Endangered Species Act (ESA)
No incidental take of ESA-listed species is authorized or expected to result from this activity. Therefore, NMFS has determined that formal consultation under section 7 of the ESA is not required for this action.

Authorization
As a result of these determinations, NMFS has issued an IHA to Point Blue for the potential harassment of small numbers of marine mammals incidental to seabird research activities in central California, provided the previously mentioned mitigation, monitoring and reporting requirements are incorporated.

Dated: June 29, 2018.
Donna S. Wieting,
Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

II. Method of Collection
Customers will respond to the surveys electronically, as hosted on USPTO websites.

III. Data
OMB Number: 0651—New.

IC Instruments and Forms: The individual instruments in this collection, as well as their associated forms, are listed in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Review</th>
<th>Affected Public</th>
<th>Estimated Number of Respondents</th>
<th>Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours</th>
<th>Estimated Total Annual Respondent (Hourly) Cost Burden</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New</td>
<td>Individuals and households; businesses or other for-profits; and not-for-profit institutions</td>
<td>100,000 responses per year</td>
<td>13,333.33 hours</td>
<td>$2,716,133.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The USPTO expects that attorneys, paralegals and pro se applicants will complete these applications. The professional hourly rate for attorneys is $438, and the hourly rates for paralegals and pro se applicants are $145 and $28.14, respectively. The combination of these respondent types brings the average respondent rate to $203.71. The sources for these rates are the 2017 Report of the Economic Survey of the American Intellectual Property Association (AIPLA), the 2016 National Utilization and Compensation Survey Report of the National Association of the Legal Assistants (NALA), and the mean rate for office and administrative
support workers as found in the May 2017 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (occupation code 43–1011). Using this blended hourly rate, the USPTO estimates that the total respondent cost burden for this collection is $2,716,133.33 per year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IC No.</th>
<th>Information collection item</th>
<th>Estimated time for response (minutes)</th>
<th>Estimated annual responses</th>
<th>Estimated annual burden hours</th>
<th>Rate (S/hr)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Surveys</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>13,333.33</td>
<td>$203.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (Three-Year Period)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>(300,000)</td>
<td>$2,716,133.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Estimated Total Annual (Non-hour) Respondent Cost Burden: $0. There are no capital start-up, maintenance, postage, or recordkeeping costs associated with this information collection.

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, e.g., the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

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

Marcie Lovett,
Director, Records and Information Governance Division, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2018–14383 Filed 7–3–18; 8:45 am]