

other stocks, basing a density estimate on a population estimate taken only once per year may not provide a realistic evaluation of the use of the habitat. Although Laidre et al. (2011) provided a total carrying capacity estimate of 1,854 sea otters for this stock, this is not a good representation of the number of otters the habitat in Washington is capable of supporting. In addition, the rate at which the Washington sea otter population is increasing (*i.e.*, average rate of 9 percent per year 1989 to 2016) indicates the stock has not reached its carrying capacity. Without an updated estimate of carrying capacity, the status of the Washington sea otter stock relative to OSP cannot be determined at this time; however, because the population is increasing at such a significant rate, it is unlikely to be at OSP.

Thus, the Service has retained the recovery factor of 0.1 in the revised SAR. As new information becomes available, the Service may reevaluate our recovery factor in future revisions.

Comment 6: Table 1 should reflect the most recent data available. In addition, the specific references to the Makah Tribe should be removed and all Tribal information be referred to as “treaty tribal fisheries.”

Response: The SAR covers the time period of 2011–2015/2016, which includes data available at the time the SAR was revised. As indicated in response to *Comment 1*, the process for review and revision of a SAR can take a considerable amount of time even before making it available for public comment. If the Service were to update the SAR to include data outside the time period provided in the draft revised SAR, the changes would be significant enough to require republication of a new draft revised SAR and, thus, the process would begin again. This could perpetually delay finalization of the SAR. Instead, the next revision of the SAR will include the more recent data.

Per section 117(a)(4) of the MMPA, the Service is required to describe the commercial fisheries that interact with the stock. The Northern Washington Marine Set Gillnet Fishery is a commercial fishery that reported sea otter takes during the time period included in the SAR and, therefore, must be included in Table 1. We have changed reference to the fishery being a “Makah fishery” to a “Tribal fishery” and have removed line 1 referencing Areas 4/4A from the table as there was no active fishery in these areas during the time period of this SAR.

Comment 7: Speculation about the possibility that sea otters could be trapped in crab fishing pots should be

removed from the SAR. There is no direct evidence of mortality in Washington, and any mortalities would have been documented in social media. Circumstantial evidence indicates that, if any mortality is occurring, it is very minor and is not impacting the population.

Response: As discussed in the SAR, the data we relied upon was not based on experimental efforts. There is direct evidence of sea otters in California and Alaska being trapped and drowned in crab pot gear that is identical to gear used within the range of the sea otter in Washington, and we cannot be sure that all otters that become trapped and subsequently die will be reported via social media. The assumption that the population would not be growing at its current rate if it was experiencing mortality in the crab fishery is not necessarily accurate. While it appears that the population is growing at 20 percent in the southern portion of the range, the population as a whole is growing at 9 percent. A significant number of pups continues to be documented in the northern portion of the range, and it is more likely that the growth in the south is being supplemented by births in the northern portion. Finally, both the PSRG and Commission have recommended that we include the information regarding the unknowns in the SAR.

Comment 8: The section on “Harvest by Northwest treaty Indian Tribes” does not belong in the SAR and should be removed as it does not follow NMFS guidelines.

Response: As stated in our response to *Comment 5*, the NMFS guidelines have not been adopted and are not binding on the Service. Section 117 of the MMPA provides the essential elements that should be addressed in a SAR; however, the Service is not precluded from including other items as it sees fit. As this stock is subject to potential harvest by Tribes that the Service does not consider exempt under MMPA, the Service believes it is necessary to include this statement in our document.

Comment 9: The mortality rate information in the SAR does not reflect the best available science and is inconsistent with the SAR guidelines developed by NMFS. In particular, the SAR does not provide a conclusion on whether the total fishery mortality and serious injury rate is approaching a zero mortality and serious injury rate.

Response: Section 117(a)(3) requires that the Service provide an estimate of all human-caused mortality and serious injury. While our data are limited due to lack of observer coverage and uncertainties, we have based our

estimate on the best data available, including beach-cast carcasses that represent other sources of human-caused mortality. We clearly indicate that the minimum level of all human-caused mortality and serious injury is at least one sea otter per year and may be higher. Although the known human-caused mortality and serious injury is less than PBR, we are unable to definitively state that the total mortality and serious injury of sea otters due to human-caused mortalities and serious injuries is insignificant and approaching a zero mortality and serious injury rate because of the lack of observer data for commercial fisheries that may interact with sea otters.

Authority

The authority for this action is the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*)

Dated: April 3, 2019.

Margaret E. Everson,

Principal Deputy Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Exercising the Authority of the Director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS-NCR-WHWO-SSB-NPS0027381; PPNCWHHOP0, PPMVSIE1Z.I00000 (199); OMB Control Number 1024-0277]

Agency Information Collection Activities; National Park Service President's Park National Christmas Tree Music Program Application

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.
ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the National Park Service (NPS) are proposing to renew an information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before June 21, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments on this information collection request (ICR) by mail to Phadrea Ponds, acting NPS Information Collection Clearance Officer, 1201 Oakridge Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80525, by email at phadrea_ponds@nps.gov, or by telephone at 970-267-7231. Please reference OMB Control Number 1024-0277 in the subject line of your comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about

this ICR, contact Katie Wilmes, National Park Service, 1100 Ohio Drive SW, Rm. 344, Washington, DC 20242; or via email: Katie_Wilmes@nps.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

We are soliciting comments on the proposed Information Collection Request (ICR) that is described below. We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is the collection necessary to the proper functions of the NPS; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the NPS enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the NPS minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may

be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: The National Park Service (NPS) Organic Act of 1916 (Organic Act) (54 U.S.C. 100101 *et seq.*) gives the NPS broad authority to regulate the use of the park areas under its jurisdiction. Consistent with the Organic Act, as well as the Constitution's Establishment Clause which mandates government neutrality and allows the placement of holiday secular and religious displays, the National Christmas Tree Music Program's holiday musical entertainment may include both holiday secular and religious music. To ensure that any proposed music selection is consistent with the Establishment Clause, and presented in a prudent and objective manner as a traditional part of the culture and heritage of this annual holiday event, it must be approved in advance by the NPS.

The NPS National Christmas Tree Music Program at President's Park is intended to provide musical entertainment for park visitors during December on the Ellipse, where in celebration of the holiday season, visitors can observe the National Christmas Tree, visit assorted yuletide displays, and attend musical presentations. Each year, park officials accept applications from musical groups who wish to participate in the annual National Christmas Tree Program. The NPS utilizes Form 10-942, "National Christmas Tree Music Program Application" to accept applications from the public for participation in the program. Park officials utilize the

following information from applicants in order to select, plan, schedule, and contact performers for the National Christmas Tree Program:

- Contact name, phone number, and email.
- Group name and location (city, state).
- Preferred performance dates and times.
- Music selections/song list.
- Equipment needs.
- Number of performers.
- Type of group (choir, etc.).
- Acknowledgement of the musical entertainment policy.

Title of Collection: National Park Service President's Park National Christmas Tree Music Program Application.

OMB Control Number: 1024-0277.

Form Number: NPS Form 10-942, "National Christmas Tree Music Program Application".

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: Local, national, and international bands, choirs, or dance groups.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 75 (2 individuals and 73 private sector).

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 75 (2 individuals and 73 private sector).

Estimated Completion Time per Response: 15 minutes.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 19.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost: None.

Activity	Estimated number of response	Estimated completion time per response (min)	Estimated total annual burden (hours)
NPS Form 10-942 "National Christmas Tree Music Program Application"	75	15	19

An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Dated: April 16, 2019.
Kevin Schmitt,
Deputy Associate Director Information Resources, National Park Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS-WASO-NRNHL-DTS#-27612; PPWOCRADIO, PCU00RP14.R50000]

National Register of Historic Places; Notification of Pending Nominations and Related Actions

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Park Service is soliciting comments on the significance