whether the information will have practical utility:

- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Agency: DOL–OWCP–DCMWC.
Type of Review: Extension.
Title of Collection: Report of Changes that May Affect Your Black Lung Benefits.
Form: Report of Changes that May Affect Your Black Lung Benefits, CM–929, CM–929P.
OMB Control Number: 1240–0028.
Affected Public: Individuals and Not-for-profit institutions.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 12,000.
Frequency: Annually.
Total Estimated Annual Responses: 12,000.
Estimated Average Time per Response: 5–80 minutes.
Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,810 hours.
Total Estimated Annual Other Cost Burden: $0.00.

Anjanette Suggs, Agency Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2020–25874 Filed 11–23–20; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4510–CK–P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.
ACTION: Notice of permit applications received.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act in the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

DATES: Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by December 24, 2020. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

ADDRESS: Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Office of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nature McGinn, ACA Permit Officer, at the above address, 703–292–8030, or ACApermits@nsf.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95–541, 45 CFR 671), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas a requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

Application Details

Permit Application: 2021–006

1. Applicant: Ari S. Friedlaender, Institute for Marine Sciences, UC Santa Cruz, 115 McAllister Way, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Activity for Which Permit is Requested: Waste Management. The applicant would conduct research around the Antarctic Peninsula to determine the ecological role of baleen whales. Sensor tags would be used to collect data on the underwater movement and behavior of the whales. Over time, the applicant would be able to determine how changes in the whales’ behavior correspond to changes in sea ice, krill, and other critical aspects of the Antarctic marine ecosystem that are at risk from rapidly changing climates. The applicant would collect skin and blubber biopsy samples to gain a better understanding of the identity, population structure, and health of the whales. The applicant would operate unoccupied/remotely piloted aircraft systems (UAS, RPAS) to collect photographs of individual whales for health assessment purposes. The applicant would collaborate with Antarctic tour operators that would provide platforms to the applicant’s research team in order to gather data during time periods that are undersampled. The applicant is seeking a waste permit to cover any accidental releases that may occur if the biopsy darts, tags, and/or remotely piloted aircraft are lost. The research teams would be comprised of experienced researchers and UAS/RPAS pilots. By employing personnel such as this, the applicant would minimize the risk of...
generating waste and losing any equipment due to human error. The applicant would also conduct activities under conditions (weather, sea state, etc.) allowing the applicant and team to maintain visual contact with instrumentation and equipment as well as aid in retrieval as needed.

Multi-sensor, suction cup tags would be attached to whales. When they are shed, they float and are retrieved using radio telemetry tracking tools. While tag failure is rare, a lost tag would constitute waste in the form of 300 grams of syntactic foam, 100 grams of electronics and 20 grams of silicon suction cups. Biopsy sampling is done with a crossbow firing a floating dart, made of aluminum and carbon fiber, that bounces off the whale’s body after extracting a tiny plug of tissue. The biopsy bolt tips are a 40 mm stainless steel barrel and the bolts also contain a 5x2cm foam float that is used to aid in dart retrieval. The bolts are highly visible and remain at the surface for retrieval. An observer would maintain visual contact with the bolt until retrieval. The successful retrieval rate is very high (only 3 bolts lost in over 500 sampling events). The UAS/RPAS would be operated by experienced pilots according to protocols designed to ensure safe operations and to minimize the risk of loss. The commercial, off-the-shelf aircraft are powered by lithium polymer batteries and do not require any fuels. Loss of aircraft would result in a minor amount of plastic and metal waste from the frame and camera as well as non-toxic (no lead or cadmium) lithium polymer batteries.

Location: Antarctic Peninsula region.

Dates of Permitted Activities: December 25, 2020–November 30, 2024.

Erika N. Davis,
Program Specialist, Office of Polar Programs.

ACTION: Confirmatory order; issuance.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing an Order confirming commitments agreed upon during an Alternate Dispute Resolution mediation session with the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI). The NRC determined that an apparent violation of NRC regulations, occurred as identified during an investigation completed on February 27, 2020, by the NRC’s Office of Investigations. The Order is effective on the date of issuance.

DATES: The Confirmatory Order became effective on November 19, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Please refer to Docket ID NRC–2020–0258 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- Federal Rulemaking website: Go to https://www.regulations.gov and search for Docket ID NRC–2020–0258. Address questions about Docket IDs in Regulations.gov to Jennifer Borges; telephone: 301–287–9127; email: Jennifer.Borges@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section of this document.

- NRC’s Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS): You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html. To begin the search, select “Begin Web-based ADAMS Search.” For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC’s Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1–800–397–4209, 301–415–4737, or by email to pdr.resource@nrc.gov. Order EA–20–056, issued to AFRRI on November 19, 2020, is available in ADAMS under Accession No. ML20303A211.

- Attention: The PDR, where you may examine and order copies of public documents is currently closed. You may submit your request to the PDR via email at PDR.Resource@nrc.gov or call 1–800–397–4209 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (EST), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The text of the Order is attached.


For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

George A. Wilson,
Director, Office of Enforcement.

Attached—Confirmatory Order

United States of America

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

In the Matter of Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute, Bethesda, Maryland

Docket No.: 05000170; License No.: R–84; EA–20–056

Confirmatory Order Modifying License Effective Upon Issuance

I

Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI or Licensee) is the holder of License No. R–84, issued by the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC or Commission) pursuant to Part 50 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR). The license authorizes the operation of AFRRI Research Reactor (facility) in accordance with conditions specified therein. The facility is located on the Licensee’s site in Bethesda, Maryland.

This Confirmatory Order (CO) is the result of an agreement reached during an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mediation session conducted on September 18, 2020, to address an apparent violation.

II

On February 27, 2020, the NRC’s Office of Investigations (OI), issued a report (1–2019–003) related to AFRRI. Based on the evidence developed during its investigation, the NRC identified an apparent violation of 10 CFR 50.7, “Employee protection.” The NRC determined that AFRRI placed an AFRRI employee on a 2-day suspension without pay on May 14, 2018, in part, for engaging in protected activity. By letter dated June 6, 2020, the NRC noticed AFRRI of the results of the investigation with an opportunity to (1) attend a pre-decisional enforcement conference or (2) participate in an ADR mediation session in an effort to resolve this concern.

In response to the NRC’s offer, AFRRI requested the use of the NRC’s ADR process to attempt to resolve this issue with the NRC. On September 18, 2020, the NRC and AFRRI conducted an ADR session mediated by a professional mediator, arranged through Cornell University’s Scheinman Institute on Conflict Resolution. The ADR process is one in which a neutral mediator, with no decision-making authority, assists the parties in reaching an agreement to resolve any differences regarding the