

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XC072]

## Marine Mammals; File No. 26314

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

**ACTION:** Notice; receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the St. George Traditional Council, P.O. Box 940, St. George Island, AK 99591 (Responsible Party: Mark Merculief) has applied in due form for a permit to conduct research on northern fur seals (*Callorhinus ursinus*), Steller sea lions (*Eumetopias jubatus*), and harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*).

**DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before July 18, 2022.

**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. 26314 from the list of available applications. These documents are also available upon written request via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov).

Written comments on this application should be submitted via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). Please include File No. 26314 in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sara Young or Shasta McClenahan, Ph.D., (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); 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); and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

The applicant proposes to conduct research on pinnipeds to fulfill the co-

management agreement between the St. George Traditional Council and NMFS for northern fur seals and Steller sea lions on St. George Island, Alaska. Take activities involve ground survey, aerial survey by an unmanned aircraft system, vessel survey, observation, and photography. Animals may also be harassed during disentanglement of northern fur seals covered under the applicant’s Marine Mammal Stranding Agreement. In addition, samples may be collected, imported, or exported from subsistence harvests or beach-cast pinnipeds, or opportunistically encountered unidentified cetacean and pinniped carcasses. Take numbers include up to 2,600 northern fur seals, 350 Steller sea lions, 260 harbor seals, and up to 100 each unidentified cetacean and pinniped carcasses. The permit would be valid for five years.

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.

Dated: June 14, 2022.

**Amy Sloan,**

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

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**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Developing, Testing, and Evaluating Methods for Transitioning the Brief Vulnerability Overview Tool (BVOT) to NWS Weather Forecasting Office Operations**

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection, request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

(PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before August 16, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to Adrienne Thomas, NOAA PRA Officer, at [Adrienne.thomas@noaa.gov](mailto:Adrienne.thomas@noaa.gov). Please reference OMB Control Number 0648–XXXX in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Nicole Kurkowski, R2O Team Lead, DOC/NOAA/NWS/OSTI, 1325 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, 301–427–9104, [nicole.kurkowski@noaa.gov](mailto:nicole.kurkowski@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****I. Abstract**

This is a request for a new collection of information. The data collection is sponsored by DOC/NOAA/National Weather Service (NWS)/Office of Science and Technology Integration (OSTI). Currently, NOAA lacks data and data collection instruments that can capture local, knowledge-based, weather-hazard vulnerability information from NWS Weather Forecasting Office (WFO) meteorologists and their County Warning Area (CWA)-based core partners (especially, their county-based emergency managers (EMs)). The CWA boundaries are the counties/zones for which each WFO is responsible for issuing forecasts and warnings. Without this vulnerability information, WFO-level meteorologists’ situational awareness of the greatest concerns of and risks to local communities often suffer. In addition, during situations where a WFO must rely on a back-up office due to a WFO being affected by severe weather conditions (e.g., having to shelter, losing power due to the impacts of a hurricane, tornado outbreak, etc.), back-up WFOs rarely have the situational awareness of the critical areas of concern to local core partners and, thus, are less able to communicate mission critical messaging to those core partners. Without this type