

Level D and with services being provided by the future Portland, Oregon Weather Forecast Office (WFO); and  
 (2) Lexington, Kentucky WSO which will be automated at FAA Weather Observation Service Level C and with services being provided by the future Louisville, Kentucky and Cincinnati, Ohio WFOs.

In accordance with Pub. L. 102-567, the public will have 60-days in which to comment on these proposed automation and closure certifications.

**DATES:** Comments are requested by March 10, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Requests for copies of the proposed automation and closure packages should be sent to Tom Beaver, Room 11426, 1325 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, telephone 301-713-0300. All comments should be sent to Tom Beaver at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tom Beaver at 301-713-0300.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with section 706 of Pub. L. 102-567, the Secretary of Commerce must certify that these automations and closures will not result in any degradation of service to the affected areas of responsibility and must publish the proposed automation and closure certifications in the FR. The documentation supporting each proposed certification includes the following:

(1) a draft memorandum by the meteorologist(s)-in-charge recommending the certification, the final of which will be endorsed by the Regional Director and the Assistant Administrator of the NWS if appropriate, after consideration of public comments and completion of consultation with the Modernization Transition Committee (the Committee);

(2) a description of local weather characteristics and weather-related concerns which affect the weather services provided within the service area;

(3) a comparison of the services provided within the service area and the services to be provided after such action;

(4) a description of any recent or expected modernization of NWS operation which will enhance services in the service area;

(5) an identification of any area within the affected service area which would not receive coverage (at an elevation of 10,000 feet) by the next generation weather radar network;

(6) evidence, based upon operational demonstration of modernized NWS operations, which was considered in reaching the conclusion that no

degradation in service will result from such action including the ASOS Commissioning Report; series of three letters between NWS and FAA confirming that weather services will continue in full compliance with applicable flight aviation rules after ASOS commissioning; Surface Aviation Observation Transition Checklist documenting transfer of augmentation and backup responsibility from NWS to FAA; successful resolution of ASOS user confirmation of services complaints; and an in-place supplementary data program at the responsible WFO(s);

(7) warning and forecast verification statistics for pre-modernized and modernized services which were utilized in determining that services have not been degraded;

(8) an Air Safety Appraisal for offices which are located on an airport; and

(9) a letter appointing the liaison officer.

These proposed certifications do not include any report of the Committee which could be submitted in accordance with sections 706(b)(6) and 707(c) of Pub. L. 102-567. In December 1995 the Committee decided that, in general, they would forego the optional consultation on proposed certifications. Instead, the Committee would just review certifications after the public comment period had closed so their consultation would be with the benefit of public comments that had been submitted.

This notice does not include the complete certification packages because they are too voluminous to publish. Copies of the certification packages and supporting documentation can be obtained through the contact listed above.

Once all public comments have been received and considered, the NWS will complete consultation with the Committee and determine whether to proceed with the final certification. At the June 25, 1997 MTC meeting, the Committee stated that its endorsement of certifications is "subject to the following qualifications:

(1) The number of trained staff in each modernized field office meets staffing requirements as established by the modernization criteria and documented in the National Implementation Plan and the Human Resources Plan (WBS 1100). Delays in training or failure to fill required positions will increase the risk of degradation of service;

(2) The availability of operational systems in each modernized field office meets requirements as established by the modernization criteria and documented in the System

Commissioning and Support Function Demonstration Plans; and

(3) The operational and administrative infrastructures and technical development needed to support the modernized field offices be maintained as required by the modernization plan." These qualifications have been met for the above proposed certifications. If a decision to certify is made, the Secretary of Commerce must publish the final certifications in the FR and transmit the certifications to the appropriate Congressional committees prior to automating and closing these offices.

Dated: January 5, 1998.

**Robert S. Winokur,**

*Acting Assistant Administrator for Weather Services.*

[FR Doc. 98-499 Filed 1-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-12-M

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 120297A]

#### Marine Mammals; Permit No. 873 (P772#63)

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

**ACTION:** Issuance of amendment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that on December 18, 1997, permit No. 873 issued to the Southwest Fisheries Science Center, NMFS, P.O. Box 271, La Jolla, CA 92038-0271, was amended.

**ADDRESSES:** The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS,

1315 East-West Highway, Suite 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802, (562/980-4016).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The amendment has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the provisions of § 216.39 of 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.*), and the provisions of § 222.25 of the

regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR 222.23).

Permit no. 873 authorizes the permit holder to biopsy several species of cetaceans off the Pacific, Southern, and Indian Oceans, as well as U.S. territorial waters of the Pacific and Southern Oceans and the Gulf of Mexico; and to import biopsy tissues collected outside of U.S. waters. The permit has been amended to extend the expiration date from December 31, 1997 to February 28, 1998. This is a time extension only and involves no increase in the number of animals authorized to be taken under the permit.

Issuance of this permit as required by the ESA was based on a finding that such permit: (1) was applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which is the subject of this permit; and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: December 19, 1997.

**Ann D. Terbush,**

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

[FR Doc. 98-492 Filed 1-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

**CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY  
COMMISSION**

**Sunshine Act Meeting**

**TIME AND DATE:** Wednesday, January 14, 1998, 10:00 a.m.

**LOCATION:** Room 420, East West Towers, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland.

**STATUS:** Open to the Public.

**MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED:**

**Bunk Beds**

The Commission will consider options for Commission action to address entrapment hazards associated with bunk beds.

For a recorded message containing the latest agenda information, call (301) 504-0709.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR ADDITIONAL**

**INFORMATION:** Sadye E. Dunn, Office of the Secretary, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20207 (301) 504-0800.

Dated: January 6, 1998.

**Sadye E. Dunn,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 98-695 Filed 1-7-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6355-01-M

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Department of the Army**

**Notice of Availability for the  
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)  
on the Disposal and Reuse of the  
Former Fitzsimons Army Medical  
Center, Now U.S. Army Garrison-  
Fitzsimons (USAG-F), Aurora,  
Colorado**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The proposed action evaluated by this EIS is the disposal of USAG-F, Aurora, Colorado, in accordance with the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990, Pub. L. 101-510. The EIS addresses the environmental consequences of the disposal and subsequent reuse of the 577-acre installation except for a 21.8 acre enclave for the McWhethy Army Reserve Center.

The EIS analyzes three disposal alternatives: (1) the no action alternative, which entails maintaining the property in caretaker status after closure; (2) the encumbered disposal alternative, which entails transferring the property to future owners with Army-imposed limitations, or encumbrances, on the future use of the property; and (3) the unencumbered disposal alternative, which entails transferring the property to future owners with few or no Army-imposed limitations, or encumbrances, on the future use of the property. The impacts of reuse are evaluated in terms of land use intensities. The Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority developed the reuse alternatives based on their Reuse Plan. The resource areas evaluated for potential impacts by the proposed action (disposal) and the secondary action (reuse) include: land use; climate; air quality; noise; geology, soils, and topography; water resources; infrastructure; regulated substances; biological resources and ecosystems; cultural resources; sociological environment; quality of life; installation agreements, and permits and regulatory authorizations.

**COPIES:** Copies of the EIS will be available for review at the Aurora Central Public Library, Aurora, CO and USAG-F, Aurora, CO.

**DATES:** A final decision on the FEIS will be made after a 30-day waiting period, which commences with the publication of the Environmental Protection Agency's NOA in the **Federal Register**. The action will be documented with a Record of Decision.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the EIS can be obtained by writing to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District Office, ATTN: Mr. Gene Sturm, 215 North 17th Street, Omaha, NE 68102-4978, or by facsimile at (402) 221-4886. Written comments and suggestions should also be sent to this address.

Dated: December 19, 1997.

**Raymond J. Fatz,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army,  
Environment, Safety and Occupational  
Health) OASA (I,L&E).*

[FR Doc. 98-083 Filed 1-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Department of the Army**

**Committee Meeting Notice**

**AGENCY:** School of the Americas, Training and Doctrine Command.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with Section 10 (a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), announcement is made of the following committee meeting:

*Name of Committee:* School of the Americas (SOA) Subcommittee of the Army Education Advisory Committee.

*Dates of Meeting:* 27 and 28 January 1998.

*Place:* School of the Americas, Building 35, Fort Benning, Georgia.

*Time:* 0900-1700 on 27 January, 0900-1600 on 28 January 1998.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** School of the Americas, Attention: TMD, MAJ Clemente, Room 333, Building 35, Fort Benning, GA 31905.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Proposed Agenda:* Presentation by the Commanding General, Training and Doctrine Command on the Subcommittee's report of the previous meeting and issues requested from that meeting.

1. Purpose of Meeting: This is the fourth SOA Subcommittee meeting. The subcommittee will receive a report from the Commander Training and Doctrine Command, and briefings they requested as a result of the third subcommittee meeting.

2. Meeting of Advisory Committee is open to the public. Due to space limitations, attendance may be limited to those persons who have notified the Committee Management Office in writing at least 5 days prior to the meeting date of their intent to attend.

3. Any member of the public may file a written statement with the committee