

respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before August 5, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Laurel Bryant, Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, (301) 713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Respondents will be applicants for and holders of scientific research and enhancement permits, commercial and educational photography permits, public display permits for captures and first-time imports, and General Authorizations for Level-B scientific research projects. The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and the Endangered Species Act prohibit the taking, import, and export of marine mammals with certain exceptions. Applicants wanting a permit or authorization to take, import, or export must provide certain information to be used as a basis for determining whether a permit or authorization should be issued. Permit holders and authorized researchers under the General Authorization are required to report periodically on activities conducted, species taken, and to update information as necessary on any marine mammals held captive for purposes of maintaining the marine mammal inventory as required under the 1994 Amendments to the MMPA.

II. Method of Collection

The collection of information will be in the form of applications, annual and final reports, and notifications to the Office Director regarding transports of marine mammals through submission of a Marine Mammal Transport Notification form, and updated information to the marine mammal inventory regarding births, deaths, location, and cause of death if

determined, through submission of a Marine Mammal Data Sheet.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0084.

Type of Review: Regular Submission.

Affected Public: The affected public will include Federal agencies and employees, Non-profit institutions, State or local governments; Businesses or other for-profits; and Small businesses or organizations. The majority of the affected public will be from the scientific research community, photographic journalists, and public display facilities seeking permission to capture from the wild or import a marine mammal into the U.S. which has not been previously held under a permit.

Estimated Number of Respondents:

The universe of respondents is estimated at 738 annually. This estimate involves applications and requests that include: 172 permit applications, Letters of Intent, and requests for amendments and changes; approximately 206 annual and final reports; and an estimated 350 notifications of transport; marine mammal data sheets and notifications of rehabilitated stranded marine mammals.

Estimated Time Per Response:

Permit applications for scientific research (SR), enhancement (EN), public display (PD), Letters of Intent under the General Authorization (GA), and major amendments to permits are estimated at 29 hours each.

Applications for photography permits are estimated at 10 hours each.

Minor amendments and requests for changes under the GA are estimated at 3 hours each.

Annual reports for scientific research, enhancement or projects under the General Authorization are estimated at 12 hours each, and 2 hours for annual recordkeeping needs.

Public display annual reports are estimated at 9 hours each with 2 hours for annual recordkeeping.

Photography annual reports have been estimated at 3 hours each, and 2 hours for recordkeeping.

Notifications of Transports and submission of Marine Mammal Data Sheets have been estimated at one-half hour each.

Notification of release or other disposition of rehabilitated marine mammals is estimated at 1 hour per report and 2 hours for recordkeeping.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: The total annual burden of hours is estimated at 6,925 hours per year.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: The total annual cost is estimated at \$352 per year to cover the mailing of submissions.

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, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

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

Dated: May 30, 1996.

Linda Engelmeier,
Acting Departmental Forms Clearance
Officer, Office of Management and
Organization.

[FR Doc. 96-14147 Filed 6-5-96; 8:45 a.m.]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

[I.D. 053096B]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Notice of receipt of application for an incidental take permit (P609).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries has applied in due form for a permit for the incidental take of listed sea turtles.

DATES: Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application must be received on or before July 8, 1996.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review by appointment in the following offices:

Office of Protected Resources, F/PR8, NMFS, 1315 East-West Hwy., Room 13307, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401); and

Director, Southeast Region, NMFS, NOAA, 9721 Executive Center Drive, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813-893-3141).

Written comments, or requests for a public hearing on this application should be submitted to the Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Application (P609) requests a five-year permit under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-227). The applicant requests authorization for the incidental take of sea turtles by shrimp trawling activities in North Carolina in a restricted area up to 1 nm offshore from Rich's Inlet (34°17.6'N) to Brown's Inlet (34°35.7'N). This permit would replace the NMFS 1992-1995 temporary rules which allowed shrimp trawlers to use shorter tow times in lieu of towing turtle excluder devices (TEDs), due to the heavy concentration of algae in this restricted area which clogs the TEDs and renders them inoperable. The exemption period would be from April 1 through November 30 from 1996-2000. Tow times, measured from the time the trawl doors enter the water until the time they are removed from the water, would be limited to 55 minutes between April 1 and October 30, and 75 minutes for the month of November. The applicants would consult with NMFS if the following lethal take occurred in any one year that was directly attributable to tow-time exemption tows: one Kemp's ridley, hawksbill, green, or leatherback turtle, or two loggerhead turtles. There are approximately 45 shrimp trawlers utilizing the restricted area. Tow times will be monitored from shore, and the applicants plan to have 5% observer coverage in the restricted area for at least the first year of the permit. In addition, the applicant has proclamation power over this fishery, and may impose further restrictions as appropriate.

Those individuals requesting a hearing should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular application would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in this application summary are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Dated: May 30, 1996.

Margaret Lorenz,
*Acting Chief, Endangered Species Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 96-14166 Filed 6-5-96; 8:45 am]

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[I.D. 051396I]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Notice of receipt of application for a scientific research permit (P611).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Drs. Frank A. Chapman and Wallis H. Clark from the University of Florida have applied in due form for a permit to take listed shortnose sturgeon for the purpose of scientific research.

DATES: Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application must be received on or before July 8, 1996.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review by appointment in the following offices:

Office of Protected Resources, F/PR8, NMFS, 1315 East-West Hwy., Room 13307, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401); and

Director, Southeast Region, NMFS, NOAA, 9721 Executive Center Drive, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813-893-3141).

Written comments, or requests for a public hearing on this application should be submitted to the Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Application (P611) requests a permit under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-227). The applicant requests authorization to conduct research on 200 captive shortnose sturgeon: rearing, tagging, and taking tissue samples. The purpose of the research is to determine physical, chemical, and biological parameters necessary for optimal survival and growth of wild populations.

Those individuals requesting a hearing should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular application would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in this application summary are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Dated: May 30, 1996.

Margaret Lorenz,
*Acting Chief, Endangered Species Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.*

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[I.D. 052996A]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Issuance of modification 1 to permit 972 (P503R) and modification 1 to permit 973 (P211I).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has issued modifications to two permits that authorize takes of an Endangered Species Act-listed species for the purpose of scientific research/enhancement, subject to certain conditions set forth therein, to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game at Boise, Idaho (IDFG) and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife at Portland, Oregon (ODFW).

ADDRESSES: The applications and related documents are available for review in the following offices, by appointment:

Office of Protected Resources, F/PR8, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401); and

Environmental and Technical Services Division, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-4169 (503-230-5400).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The modifications to permits were issued under the authority of section 10 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) and the NMFS regulations governing ESA-listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-222).

Notice was published on April 1, 1996 (61 FR 14296) that an application had been filed by IDFG (P503R) for modification 1 to scientific research/enhancement permit 972. Modification 1 to permit 972 was issued to IDFG on May 24, 1996. Permit 972 authorizes IDFG takes of juvenile, ESA-listed, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated with the implementation of a captive rearing program. In 1995, under the authority of permit 972, IDFG captured no more than 25 percent of the ESA-listed juvenile fish from three upper Salmon River populations that are part of the Snake River salmon