

Federal computer systems. All sessions will be open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on June 4, 5 and 6, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland in the Administration Building, in Lecture Room A on June 4 and 5 and Lecture Room D on June 6.

AGENDA:

- Welcome and Overview
- Issues Update
- Federal Cryptographic Standards Update
- Computer Security Act of 1987—Overview and Perspectives
- Discussion and Recommendation Formulation
- Computer Security Training Guidelines
- Pending Business
- Public Participation
- Agenda Development for September Meeting
- Wrap-Up

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: The Board agenda will include a period of time, not to exceed thirty minutes, for oral comments and questions from the public. Each speaker will be limited to five minutes. Members of the public who are interested in speaking are asked to contact the Board Secretariat at the telephone number indicated below. In addition, written statements are invited and may be submitted to the Board at any time. Written statements should be directed to the Information Technology Laboratory, Building 820, Room 426, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-0001. It would be appreciated if fifteen copies of written material were submitted for distribution to the Board by June 9, 1997. Approximately 20 seats will be available for the public and media.

At its March, 1997 meeting, the Board agreed to examine issues involving the Computer Security Act of 1987 and whether to make recommendations to the Secretary of Commerce and the Director of NIST regarding the Act and improving the security and privacy of Federal systems. The Board is interested in hearing a wide variety of perspectives on the effectiveness of the Act, as input to its deliberations on what changes or modifications to recommend. The Board believes this to be appropriate given the advances in information technology over the past decade and the age of the Act. Public input regarding the Act is therefore particularly encouraged.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Edward Roback, Board Secretariat, Information Technology Laboratory,

National Institute of Standards and Technology, Building 820, Room 426, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-0001, telephone: (301) 975-3696.

Dated: May 8, 1997.

Elaine Buntin-Mines,

Acting Associate Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 043097B]

Small Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Lockheed Launch Vehicles at Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA

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

ACTION: Notice of receipt of application and proposed authorization for a small take exemption; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS has received a request from the U.S. Air Force for continuation of an authorization to take small numbers of harbor seals by harassment incidental to launches of Lockheed Martin launch vehicles (LMLVs) at Space Launch Complex 6 (SLC-6), Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA (Vandenberg). Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposal to continue to authorize the incidental take, by harassment, of small numbers of harbor seals in the vicinity of Vandenberg for a period of 1 year.

DATES: Comments and information must be received no later than June 16, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the application should be addressed to Michael Payne, Chief, Marine Mammal Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. A copy of the application and previous **Federal Register** notices on this action may be obtained by writing to this address or by telephoning the contact listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth Hollingshead, Office of Protected Resources at 301-713-2055.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) directs the Secretary of Commerce to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than

commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region if certain findings are made and regulations are issued.

Permission may be granted if NMFS finds that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s); will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for subsistence uses; and the permissible methods of taking and requirements pertaining to the monitoring and reporting of such taking are set forth.

Subsection 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA established an expedited process by which U.S. citizens can apply for an authorization to incidentally take small numbers of marine mammals by harassment for a period of up to one year. The MMPA defines "harassment" as:

***any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance which (a) has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild; or (b) has the potential to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering.

New subsection 101(a)(5)(D) establishes a 45-day time limit for NMFS review of an application followed by a 30-day public notice and comment period on any proposed authorizations for the incidental harassment of small numbers of marine mammals. Within 45 days of the close of the comment period, NMFS must either issue or deny issuance of the authorization.

Summary of Request

On March 21, 1997, NMFS received an application from the U.S. Air Force, Vandenberg, requesting continuation of an authorization for the harassment of small numbers of harbor seals incidental to launches of LMLVs at SLC-6, Vandenberg. These launches would place commercial payloads into low earth orbit using its family of vehicles (LMLV-1, LMLV-2 and LMLV-3). Because of the requirements for circumpolar trajectories of the LMLV and its payloads, the use of SLC-6 is the only feasible alternative within the United States. As a result of the noise associated with the launch itself and the resultant sonic boom, these noises have the potential to cause a startle response to those harbor seals that haul out on the coastline south and southwest of Vandenberg and may be detectable to marine mammals west of the Channel Islands. Launch noise would be

expected to occur over the coastal habitats in the vicinity of SLC-6 while low-level sonic booms could be heard west of the Channel Islands.

Description of Habitat and Marine Mammals Affected by LMLVs

The only marine mammal anticipated to be incidentally harassed by LMLV launches is the harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina*). A description of the Southern California Bight population of harbor seals was provided on May 10, 1995 (60 FR 24840), in conjunction with publication of the previous notice of application for this activity. Interested reviewers are encouraged to refer to that document for the appropriate discussion. This document is available from NMFS (see ADDRESSES).

Potential Effects of LMLV Launches on Marine Mammals

The effect on harbor seals would be disturbance by sound that is anticipated to result in a negligible short-term impact to small numbers of harbor seals that are hauled out at the time of LMLV launches. No impacts are anticipated to animals that are in the water at the time of launch. Detailed descriptions of the expected impact from rocket launches on harbor seals and other marine mammals have been provided in previous notices (60 FR 24840, May 10, 1995; 60 FR 38308, July 26, 1995; 60 FR 43120, August 18, 1995; 60 FR 52653, October 10, 1995; and 61 FR 10727, March 15, 1996) and are not repeated here. These documents are available from NMFS (see ADDRESSES).

Conclusions

Based upon information provided by the applicant, and previous reviews of the incidental take of harbor seals by this activity, NMFS believes that the short-term impact of the launching of LMLVs is expected to result at worst, in a temporary reduction in utilization of the haulout as seals leave the beach for the safety of the water. The launching is not expected to result in any reduction in the number of harbor seals, and they are expected to continue to occupy the same area. In addition, there will not be any impact on the habitat itself. Based upon studies conducted for previous space vehicle launches at Vandenberg, significant long-term impacts on harbor seals at Vandenberg are unlikely.

Proposed Authorization

NMFS proposes to issue an incidental harassment authorization for 1 year for launches of LMLVs at SLC-6 provided the monitoring and reporting requirements currently in effect (see 60 FR 24840, May 10, 1995) are continued.

NMFS has preliminarily determined that the proposed launches of LMLVs at SLC-6 would result in the harassment taking of only small numbers of harbor seals, will have a negligible impact on the harbor seal stock and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability for subsistence uses.

Information Solicited

NMFS requests interested persons to submit comments, information, and suggestions concerning this request (see ADDRESSES).

Dated: May 9, 1997.

Hilda Diaz-Soltero,

*Acting Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 050997B]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit 1034 (P770#72), permit 1035 (P45Y), permit 1036 (P45X), and modification 1 to permit 994 (P497D).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS has issued a permit to the Coastal Zone and Estuarine Studies Division, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, NMFS at Seattle, WA (CZESD); two permits to the Columbia River Research Laboratory, U.S. Geological Survey at Cook, WA (USGS); and a modification to a permit to the Idaho Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Moscow, ID (ICFWRU) that authorize takes of Endangered Species Act-listed species for the purpose of scientific research, subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

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

Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, 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 permits and modification to a permit

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 February 28, 1997 (62 FR 9178) that an application had been filed by CZESD (P770#72) for a scientific research permit. Permit 1034 was issued to CZESD on April 15, 1997. Permit 1034 authorizes CZESD takes of juvenile, threatened, naturally-produced and artificially-propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*); juvenile, threatened, Snake River fall chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*); and juvenile, endangered, Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) associated with two juvenile fish bypass studies at McNary Dam on the Columbia River. Study 1 is an evaluation of vertical barrier screens and outlet flow-control devices. Study 2 will establish design criteria for improved wet-separator efficiency and high-velocity flume development. Based on the results from these bypass studies, guidance devices and bypass system components can be redesigned, modified, or deployed using specific configurations to enhance juvenile fish passage at hydroelectric powerhouses. Permit 1034 is valid in 1997 only.

Notice was published on March 11, 1997 (62 FR 11158) that an application had been filed by USGS (P45Y) for a scientific research permit. Permit 1035 was issued to USGS on April 17, 1997. Permit 1035 authorizes USGS annual takes of juvenile, threatened, artificially-propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated with two studies designed to monitor juvenile fish health and passage efficiency at Ice Harbor Dam on the Snake River. For Study 1, ESA-listed juvenile fish will be tagged with radio transmitters and tracked electronically to measure the vertical and horizontal distribution of juvenile salmonids exposed to high levels of total dissolved gas in an effort to assess the risk of mortality from gas bubble disease. For Study 2, ESA-listed juvenile fish will be tagged with radio transmitters and tracked electronically to measure fish passage success at Ice Harbor Dam. CZESD is authorized to act as an agent of USGS under the permit in the conduct of Study 2. Permit 1035 expires on December 31, 1999.

Notice was published on March 11, 1997 (62 FR 11158) that an application had been filed by USGS (P45X) for a scientific research permit. Permit 1036 was issued to USGS on April 17, 1997. Permit 1036 authorizes USGS annual