

Bureau Drive; MS 2000; Gaithersburg, MD 20899.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Karen Waltermire via email at NCCoE@nist.gov; or telephone 301-975-4500. For additional information on NCCoE governance, business processes, and operational structure, visit the NCCoE Web site, at <http://csrc.nist.gov/nccoe>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NCCoE, hosted by NIST, is a public-private collaboration for accelerating the widespread adoption of integrated cybersecurity tools and technologies. The NCCoE's mission is to bring together experts from industry, government, and academia under one roof to develop practical, interoperable cybersecurity approaches that address the real world needs of complex Information Technology (IT) systems. By accelerating dissemination and use of these integrated tools and technologies for protecting IT assets, the NCCoE strives to enhance trust in U.S. IT communications, data, and storage systems, lower risk for companies and individuals in the use of IT systems, and encourage development of innovative, job-creating cybersecurity products and services.

As part of the NCCoE initiative, NIST/ITL intends to enter into partnerships, called "National Cybersecurity Excellence Partnerships" (NCEPs), with U.S. companies to collaborate on an ongoing basis in the NCCoE. Collaboration agreements will be based upon the statutory technology transfer authorities available to NIST, including the Federal Technology Transfer Act, 15 U.S.C. 3710a. NIST/ITL intends that NCEP collaborators will co-locate with ITL at the NCCoE at 9600 Gudelsky Drive Rockville, MD 20850 and will contribute to the development of the intellectual and physical infrastructure needed to support collaborative efforts among NIST and many sources of security capabilities, including users and vendors of products and services, on holistic approaches to resolve cybersecurity challenges.

Approaches to resolving cybersecurity challenges will be addressed at the NCCoE through individual "use cases," a standard tool used by software engineers to define specific function requirements of a system from the point of view of a user trying to accomplish a specific task. The "use cases" developed by NCCoE will incorporate the IT security needs of specific communities or sectors. Examples of candidate sectors include health care, finance and utilities. The cybersecurity challenges that will be the subject of the "use cases" will be selected by NIST

through workshops with input from broad groups of stakeholders, as well as public feedback provided via collaborative internet participation. Collaborative participation may be accessed via links from <http://nccoe.nist.gov/>. Opportunities to participate in individual "use cases" will be announced in the **Federal Register** and will be open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis. NIST/ITL envisions that the NCCoE will be capable of supporting multiple simultaneous "use cases" in various stages. NCEP collaborators will neither be obligated to participate in a given "use case," nor will they be guaranteed participation in a given "use case," but they will be given priority for participation in each "use case" only for their resources that are already onsite at the NCCoE and for components that are interoperable with those onsite resources, within the process defined for that "use case" as announced in the **Federal Register**.

NCEP collaborators selected to participate in a given "use case" may contribute, but will not be required to contribute, resources in addition to those contributed through their NCEP agreement. However, priority participation in a "use case" will be granted only for resources relevant to the "use case" that are already onsite in the NCCoE and components that are interoperable with those onsite resources. Through their collaboration agreements with NIST/ITL, NCEP collaborators will agree that resources contributed to the NCCoE initiative will be available to all "use case" participants, as determined by NIST. Through individual "use case" consortium agreements, all "use case" participants, including NIST, NCEP collaborators and others, will agree that successful solutions to a NCCoE "use case" will be thoroughly documented and shared publicly, in order to encourage the rapid adoption of comprehensive cybersecurity templates and approaches that support automated and trustworthy e-government and e-commerce.

Each NCEP will be between NIST and a U.S. company. It is anticipated that NCEP agreements will be established for a three-year period, with renewal subject to the requirements and interests of the collaborator and NIST/ITL.

Interested U.S. companies are invited to submit a letter of interest that contains sufficient information for NIST/ITL to objectively determine whether the proposed collaboration is feasible, relevant to the NCCoE mission to foster the rapid adoption and broad deployment of integrated cybersecurity

tools and techniques that enhance consumer confidence in U.S. information systems, and has potential to advance the state of cybersecurity practice. Companies whose proposed collaborations are determined by NIST/ITL to meet all three criteria will be invited to enter into negotiations for a cooperative research and development agreement (CRADA) with NIST/ITL. Companies whose letters of interest contain insufficient information for NIST/ITL to make a determination as to whether the proposed collaboration meets all three criteria, and companies whose proposed collaboration is determined by NIST/ITL not to meet all three criteria, will be notified in writing by NIST/ITL.

Dated: October 12, 2012.

Willie E. May,

Associate Director for Laboratory Programs.

[FR Doc. 2012-25826 Filed 10-18-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Prospective Grant of Exclusive Patent License

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of prospective grant of exclusive patent license.

SUMMARY: This is a notice in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209(e) and 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i) that the National Institute of Standards and Technology ("NIST"), U.S. Department of Commerce, is contemplating the grant of an exclusive license in the United States of America, its territories, possessions and commonwealths, to NIST's interest in the invention embodied in U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 61,623/957 titled "Highly Selective Gallium Nitride Nanowire/Titanium Dioxide-Nanocluster Hybrid Sensors for Detection of Benzene and Related Environmental Pollutants," NIST Docket No. 11-019 to the University of Maryland, having a place of business at 0133 Cole Student Activities Building, College Park MD 20742-1001. The grant of the license would be for all fields of use.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Terry Lynch, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Technology Partnerships Office, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2200, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, (301) 975-2691, terry.lynch@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The prospective exclusive license will be

royalty bearing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within fifteen days from the date of this published Notice, NIST receives written evidence and argument which establish that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7.

U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 61,623/957 is co-owned by the U.S. government, as represented by the Secretary of Commerce, George Mason University, and the University of Maryland. This invention is a chemical sensor architecture that combines the sensitive transduction capability of semiconducting nanostructures together with the enhanced catalytic efficiency of metal and metal-oxide nanoclusters. Nanowire-nanocluster hybrid chemical sensors are realized by functionalizing gallium nitride (GaN) nanowires (NWs) with titanium dioxide (TiO₂) nanoclusters for selectively sensing benzene and other related aromatic compounds. The Hybrid sensor devices are made by fabricating two-terminal devices using individual GaN NWs followed by the deposition of TiO₂ nanoclusters using RF magnetron sputtering. The sensor fabrication process employed standard microfabrication techniques.

Dated: October 12, 2012.

Willie E. May,

Associate Director for Laboratory Programs.

[FR Doc. 2012-25827 Filed 10-18-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC279

Endangered and Threatened Species; Recovery Plan South-Central California Coast Steelhead Distinct Population Segment

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

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the availability for public review of the Public Review Draft Recovery Plan (Plan) for the South-Central California Coast (SCCCS) (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) Distinct Population (DPS). NMFS is soliciting review and comment from the public and all interested parties on the

Plan, and will consider all substantive comments received during the review period before submitting the Plan for final approval. In addition, public meetings will be held as opportunities for learning more about and providing comments on the Public Review Draft Plan (see Public Meetings paragraph).

DATES: Comments must be received no later than 5 p.m. Pacific daylight time on December 18, 2012.

ADDRESSES: NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter N/A in the required fields, if you wish to remain anonymous). You may submit attachments to electronic comments in Microsoft Word, Excel, or Adobe PDF file formats only. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Via email:*

SCCCS.Recovery@noaa.gov (No files larger than 5MB can be accepted)

- *Via U.S. Mail:* Penny Ruvelas, National Marine Fisheries Service, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802. ATTN: Penny Ruvelas/SCCC Steelhead Public Review Draft Recovery Plan Comments.

- *Hand delivered:* National Marine Fisheries Service, 501 West Ocean Blvd. Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802 ATTN: Protected Resources Division/SCCC Steelhead Public Review Draft Recovery Plan Comments. Business hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- *Via fax:* 562-980-4027. Please include the following on the cover page of the fax: "ATTN: Penny Ruvelas/SCCC Steelhead Public Review Draft Recovery Plan Comments."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mark H. Capelli, Recovery Coordinator, South-Central/Southern California, (805) 963-6478 or *mark.capelli@noaa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS is charged with the recovery of Pacific salmon and steelhead species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Recovery means that listed species and their ecosystems are restored, and their future secured, so that the protections of the ESA are no longer necessary. The ESA specifies that recovery plans must include: (1) A description of management actions necessary to achieve the plan's goals for the conservation and survival of the species; (2) objective, measurable criteria which, when met, would result in the species being removed from the list; and (3) estimates of time and costs required to achieve the plan's goal and the intermediate steps towards that goal. Section 4(f) of the ESA, as amended in 1988, requires that public notice and an

opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. NMFS is hereby soliciting relevant information on SCCC Steelhead DPS populations and their freshwater/marine habitats. In addition, NMFS is soliciting comment on the contents of the proposed recovery plan.

Persons wishing to review the Public Review Draft Plan can obtain an electronic copy (i.e., CD ROM) from Aimee Fairbanks by calling (562) 980-4013 or by emailing a request to *aimee.fairbanks@noaa.gov* with the subject line "CD ROM Request for SCCC Steelhead Public Review Draft Recovery Plan." Electronic copies of the Public Review Draft Plan are also available on line on the following NMFS Web site: <http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/recovery>.

Public Meetings

Public meetings are planned for Monday, October 29th at 2 p.m. at the Ludwick Community Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo CA 93401 and Tuesday, October 30th at 2 p.m. at the Monterey Public Library, Community Room, 625 Pacific Street, Monterey CA 93940.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: October 12, 2012.

Larissa Plants,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC251

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Fisheries; Notice That Vendor Will Provide Year 2013 Cage Tags

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

ACTION: Notice of vendor to provide fishing year 2013 cage tags.

SUMMARY: NMFS informs surfclam and ocean quahog individual transferable quota (ITQ) allocation holders that they will be required to purchase their fishing year 2013 (January 1, 2013–December 31, 2013) cage tags from the National Band and Tag Company. The intent of this notice is to promote efficient distribution of cage tags.

ADDRESSES: Written inquiries may be sent to: Regional Administrator,