

facsimile to (301) 713-0376, or by email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Please include the File No. in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division at the address listed above. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tammy Adams or Amy Sloan, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment to Permit No. 14330-01 is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (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 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

Permit No. 14330, issued on August 17, 2009 (74 FR 44822), authorized the permit holder to conduct activities to fulfill their Biosampling, Disentanglement, and Island Sentinel program responsibilities as established under the co-management agreement between NMFS and the Aleut Communities. The activities would result in incidental disturbance of northern fur seals (*Callorhinus ursinus*) on St. Paul Island, Alaska, during (1) disentanglement events, (2) the collection of biological samples from dead stranded and subsistence hunted marine mammals, and (3) haulout and rookery observations, monitoring, and remote camera maintenance. Samples may be exported to researchers studying the decline of northern fur seals. Steller sea lions (*Eumetopias jubatus*) and harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*) may be disturbed during the course of these activities. The permit also allowed research-related mortality of northern fur seals.

The permit was amended upon request of the permit holder on March 29, 2011 (76 FR 329), to include authorization for harassment of additional Steller sea lions and harbor seals on St. Paul, St. George, Otter, and Walrus Islands, and Sea Lion Rock, all of the Pribilof Island group in the Bering Sea. The amendment was to annually harass the following during collection of scat samples to be used for characterizing the diet of marine mammals in the region: 100 adult female Steller sea lions, 500 adult male

Steller sea lions, 1400 juvenile male Steller sea lions, 100 male and female Steller sea lion pups, 100 adult female harbor seals, 100 adult male harbor seals, 100 male and female juvenile harbor seals, and 100 male and female harbor seal pups. The amendment is valid for the duration of the permit, which expires on August 31, 2014.

The permit holder is requesting a second amendment to: (1) Add new habitat use studies; (2) increase numbers of animals taken by incidental disturbance; (3) consolidate existing takes of certain age and sex categories and for studies with similar types of incidental disturbance; and (4) extend the permit for one year. The amendment would add harassment takes of 6,450 non-pup northern fur seals and 1,600 northern fur seal pups annually.

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 activities proposed are consistent with the Preferred Alternative in the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for Steller Sea Lion and Northern Fur Seal Research (NMFS 2007), and that issuance of the permit amendment would not have a significant adverse impact on the human environment.

As established under the Preferred Alternative, NMFS proposes to authorize annual cumulative research-related mortality (under this permit in combination with any others for research on Steller sea lions) of up to 15 percent of the Potential Biological Removal levels for each stock. These annual allowances would include observed and unobserved mortalities, and be calculated based on the nature of the research. The numbers of research-related mortalities permitted for this amendment may be higher or lower than those requested by the applicant, based on NMFS calculations using the methods outlined in the PEIS.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: July 12, 2013.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. 2013-17151 Filed 7-16-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC541

Marine Mammals; File No. 17411

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a permit has been issued to Dr. Jennifer Burns, University of Alaska Anchorage, Biology Department, Anchorage, AK, to conduct research on marine mammals.

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

Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)427-8401; fax (301)713-0376; and Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tammy Adams or Amy Sloan, (301)427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 8, 2013, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (78 FR 14984) that a request for a permit to conduct research on Weddell seals (*Leptonychotes weddellii*) had been submitted by the above-named applicant. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The permit allows: capture of adult female Weddell seals of known-age and known-reproductive history in the Erebus Bay, Antarctica region for health assessments during reproductive and molt periods each year, to include blood samples, muscle/blubber/skin biopsies, morphometric measurements, and attachment of VHF/TDR/GPS tags; recapture of animals to retrieve instruments and collect additional measurements or samples; ground surveys of the population for molt status and demographic models; incidental harassment of crabeater seals (*Lobodon carcinophagus*) during surveys; mortality of adult female Weddell seals and dependent pups; and import of samples for analysis. The permit is valid through June 1, 2018.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Dated: July 12, 2013.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. 2013-17152 Filed 7-16-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO-C-2013-0036]

Extension of Comment Period for Request of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for Public Comments: Voluntary Best Practices Study

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO”) is extending until August 21, 2013, the period for public comment regarding the processes, data metrics, and methodologies that could be used to assess the effectiveness of cooperative agreements and other voluntary initiatives to reduce intellectual property infringement that occurs on-line—such as copyright piracy and trademark counterfeiting. The USPTO is extending the public comment period to

ensure stakeholders have adequate time to submit complete responses.

DATES: To be ensured of consideration written comments should be received on or before August 21, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be submitted electronically via <http://www.regulations.gov>, docket number PTO-C-2013-0036. Submissions should contain the term “Voluntary Best Practices Study.” The [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) Web site is a Federal E-Government Web site that allows the public to find, review and submit comments on documents that have published in the **Federal Register** and that are open for comment. Submissions filed via the [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) Web site will be available to the public for review and inspection. For this reason, please do not include in your comments information of a confidential nature, such as sensitive personal information or proprietary business information.

If you are unable to provide submissions to [regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), you may contact the Office of Chief Economist by telephone at (571) 272-6900, or by email at saurabh.vishnubhakat@uspto.gov, to arrange for an alternate method of transmission.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Saurabh Vishnubhakat, Expert Advisor, Office of Chief Economist, by telephone at (571) 272-6900, or by email at saurabh.vishnubhakat@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 20, 2013, the USPTO published a request for comments on the processes, data metrics, and methodologies that could be used to assess the effectiveness of cooperative agreements and other voluntary initiatives to reduce intellectual property infringement that occurs on-line—such as copyright

piracy and trademark counterfeiting. The USPTO is now extending the period for submission of public comments until August 21, 2013.

Dated: July 12, 2013.

Teresa Stanek Rea,

Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Acting Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2013-17166 Filed 7-16-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal Nos. 13-39]

36(b)(1) Arms Sales Notification

AGENCY: Department of Defense, Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense is publishing the unclassified text of a section 36(b)(1) arms sales notification. This is published to fulfill the requirements of section 155 of Public Law 104-164 dated July 21, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. B. English, DSCA/DBO/CFM, (703) 601-3740.

The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittals 13-39 with attached transmittal and policy justification.

Dated: July 12, 2013.

Aaron Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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