

resulted in abundance estimates ranging from 313 to 435, with no clear trend. Since 1999 the subsistence harvest of this stock has been significantly restricted as compared to previous years (down to 0–2 whales annually). However, the population has not shown any significant response as was expected following the restriction on the number of animals taken in the subsistence harvest.

This draft Plan delineates reasonable actions necessary to protect the depleted Cook Inlet beluga whales under the MMPA. The conservation strategy outlined in the Plan is meant to guide Federal and other actions toward the goal of recovering the Cook Inlet beluga whales.

The Plan provides a description of the biology and life history of the Cook Inlet stock of beluga whales, a description of the population trends in recent decades and their current depleted status under the MMPA, and management goals and objectives for recovery of the stock. The Plan also outlines known and possible factors that may be influencing the stock including natural factors such as stranding events, predation, disease and environmental change, and human-induced factors that may be, or have been in recent years, influencing trends in the abundance of this stock. These human-induced factors include the subsistence harvest, commercial fishing and its potential to influence prey availability, pollution in the inlet, vessel traffic, noise, oil and gas development and possible effects from research activities.

The Plan outlines a conservation strategy that addresses each of the natural and human-induced factors that may be influencing the recovery of the stock. It also outlines a monitoring strategy for future subsistence harvests and the development and use of beluga whale habitat in Cook Inlet, and a research plan as part of the monitoring and recovery strategy. The recommended conservation actions are developed for each known factor that may be influencing the stock, and linked to the applicable research recommendations.

Public and Agency Involvement: The goals and objectives of the draft Plan can be achieved only if a long-term commitment is made to support the respective actions recommended herein. The shared resources and cooperative involvement of federal, state, and local governments, industry, academia, non-governmental organizations, Alaska Natives, and other invested individuals will be required throughout the recovery period.

NMFS is soliciting comments on the draft Plan with this notice. Comments can be forwarded to [see **ADDRESSES**].

Dated: March 11, 2005.

Donna S. Wieting

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

[FR Doc. 05–5224 Filed 3–15–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Office of the Actuary; Notice of a Meeting

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of meeting; DoD Medicare-Eligible Retiree Health Care Board of Actuaries.

SUMMARY: A meeting of the Board has been scheduled to execute the provisions of Chapter 56, Title 10, United States Code (10 U.S.C. 1114 *et seq.*). The Board shall review DoD actuarial methods and assumptions to be used in the valuation of benefits under DoD retiree health care programs for Medicare-eligible beneficiaries. Persons desiring to: (1) Attend the DoD Medicare-Eligible Retiree Health Care Board of Actuaries meeting, or (2) make an oral presentation or submit a written statement for consideration at the meeting, must notify Bill Klunk at 703–696–7404 by May 10, 2005. Notice of this meeting is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

DATES: June 3, 2005, 1:30 p.m.–5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 270, Arlington, VA 22203.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bill Klunk, DoD Office of the Actuary, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 308, Arlington, VA 22203, (703) 696–7404.

Dated: March 10, 2005.

Jeannette Owings-Ballard,

*OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 05–5220 Filed 3–15–05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–06–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a Permit Application for the Proposed Timber Branch Subdivision Phase II, Near Covington, St. Tammany Parish, LA

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act in compliance with a judicial order. The Environmental Impact Statement is for a Department of the Army permit issued under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to install the infrastructure necessary to implement an approximately 82-acre residential development to provide single and multi-family residential lots in the vicinity of LA Hwy 1085 and Bricker Road, near Covington, Louisiana, some of the property containing regulated wetlands. The permit was subsequently enjoined by the United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana. Information obtained from preparation of this EIS will be utilized in the re-evaluation of the enjoined permit decision.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions concerning the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be addressed to Mr. Brian Breaux at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, OD–S, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160–0267, phone (504) 862–1938, fax number (504) 862–2117 or by E-mail at brian.w.breaux@mvn02.usace.army.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Proposed Action. The proposed action would include land-clearing, excavation, and deposition of fill material for site preparation and construction of drainage, utility and roadway infrastructure. Single-family and multi-family residential lots would then be offered for public sale. The approximately 82-acre project site grades through ridge and swale hardwood, mixed pine-hardwood/hardwood flats, pine flatwood, and pine savannah community types. Of the 82-acre development, 38.9 acres of pine flatwood/pine savannah wetlands would be directly affected by development.

2. *Alternatives.* Reasonable alternatives to consider include the avoidance and minimization of impacts and the "no action" alternative.

3. *Scoping.* Scoping is the process for determining the range of alternatives and issues to be addressed in the EIS. For this analysis, a public notice will be posted on the New Orleans District Web site, <http://www.mvn.usace.army.mil/ops/regulatory/publicnotices.asp>, requesting input on alternatives and issues to be evaluated. The public notice will also notify interested parties of any public scoping meetings that will be held in the local area. Notices will also be sent to local news media. All interested parties are invited to comment at this time.

4. *Significant Issues.* An Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact were completed on the subject proposal and a Section 404 permit issued. The permit decision was subsequently challenged through litigation, *O'Reilly, et al. v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*, U.S.D.C., E.D. of La., CA 04 0940. The decision of the court enjoined the permit and required preparation of an EIS. Specific issues identified in the decision include wildlife resources, substrate, wetlands, aquatic resources, mitigation, segmenting of project phases, and cumulative effects.

5. *Environmental Consultation and Review.* Federal, State and local agencies will be consulted. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will be consulted to assist in the documentation of existing conditions and assessment of effects of project alternatives through Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act consultation procedures. Consultation will be accomplished with the USFWS and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) concerning threatened and endangered species and their critical habitat. The NMFS will be consulted on the effects of this proposed action on Essential Fish Habitat. The draft EIS (DEIS) or a notice of its availability will be distributed to all interested agencies, organizations, and individuals.

6. *Estimated Date of Availability.* The DEIS is expected to be available not earlier than the spring of 2006.

Dated: March 4, 2005.

Stephen E. Jeselink,

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, Deputy District Engineer.

[FR Doc. 05-5123 Filed 3-15-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Availability of Government-Owned Inventions; Available for Licensing

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The following inventions are assigned to the U.S. Government as represented by the Secretary of the Navy and are available for licensing by the Department of the Navy.

U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 11/009847 entitled "Multiple Shock Event Sensing Device." U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 11/040,291 entitled "MEMS Inertial Delay Device." U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/826,791 entitled "Container, and Related Methods." U.S. Patent Application serial Number 11/040,300 entitled "MEMS Multi-Directional Shock Sensor." U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/040,292 entitled "Method and Device for Clearing Firebreaks and Controlling Fire." U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 11/010,701 entitled "Inhibition of Aluminum Oxidation Through the Vapor Deposition of a Passivation Layer and method Thereof."

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of the Patent Applications cited should be directed to the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Code CAB, 101 Strauss Avenue, Indian Head, MD 20640-5035.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. J. Scott Deiter, Head, Technology Transfer Office, Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head Division, Code CAB, 101 Strauss Avenue, Indian Head, MD 20640-5035, telephone 301-744-6111.

Dated: March 9, 2005.

I.C. Le Moyne Jr.,

Lieutenant, Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Navy, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 05-5151 Filed 3-15-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Availability of Government-Owned Invention; Available for Licensing

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The invention listed below is assigned to the United States Government, as represented by the Secretary of the Navy and is available

for licensing by the Department of the Navy. U.S. Patent No. 6,857,371: Two Payload Decoy Device.

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of the inventions cited should be directed to the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division, Code 054, Building 1, 300 Highway 361, Crane, IN 47522-5001, and must include the patent number.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Brian Bailey, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division, Code 054, Building 1, 300 Highway 361, Crane, IN 47522-5001, telephone (812) 854-1865. An application for license may be downloaded from http://www.crane.navy.mil/newscommunity/techtrans_CranePatents.asp.

(Authority: 35 U.S.C. 207, 37 CFR part 404.)

Dated: March 9, 2005.

I.C. Le Moyne Jr.,

Lieutenant, Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Navy, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 05-5152 Filed 3-15-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Intent To Grant Partially Exclusive License; Autoliv, Inc.

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy gives notice of its intent to grant Autoliv, Inc., a revocable, nonassignable, partially exclusive license, with exclusive field of use in airbag inflators, in the United States to practice the Government-Owned invention, U.S. Patent Number 6,562,160 B2 entitled "Airbag Propellant."

DATES: Anyone wishing to object to the grant of this license must file written objections along with supporting evidence, if any, not later than April 9, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Written objections are to be filed with Indian Head Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Code CAB, 101 Strauss Avenue, Indian Head, MD 20640-5035.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. J. Scott Deiter, Head, Technology Transfer Office, Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head Division, Code CAB, 101 Strauss Avenue, Indian Head, MD 20640-5035, telephone (301) 744-6111.