

Estimated Number of Respondents: 661.

Estimated Time per Response: 5 minutes for returning a regular tag; and 20 minutes for returning an internal archival tag.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 88.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0.

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: April 1, 2009.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E9-7685 Filed 4-3-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XO42

Marine Mammals; File Nos. 14197 and 782-1812

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of applications.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Air Force, 30th Space Wing Civil Engineer Environmental Flight, Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA, has applied in due form for a permit to conduct research on marine mammals (File No. 14187); and NMFS National Marine Mammal Laboratory, Seattle, WA, has applied for a major amendment to Scientific Research Permit No. 782-1812 for research on marine mammals.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before May 6, 2009.

ADDRESSES: The applications and related documents are available for review by selecting "Records Open for Public Comment" from the *Features* box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species (APPS) home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov/index.cfm>, and then selecting File No. 14197 or 782-1812 from the list of available applications.

These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)427-2521; and

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on these applications should be mailed to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on the particular request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301)427-2521, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period.

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing e-mail comments is NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Include the File No. (14197 or 782-1812) in the subject line of the e-mail comment as a document identifier.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tammy Adams or Kate Swails, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit and major amendment are requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

File No. 14197. The proposed permit would authorize continued studies of the effects of noise from rocket and missile launches and subsequent launch-generated sonic booms on pinnipeds inhabiting Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB) and the northern Channel Islands (NCI). Continuing

research would examine effects from new launch vehicles, including the Delta IV. Target species are Pacific harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina richardii*), California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*), and northern elephant seals (*Mirounga angustirostris*). Anticipated research activities include capture with physical or chemical restraint, hearing tests, blood sampling, physiological measurements, and attachment of telemetry instruments. The applicant proposes to capture 50 harbor seals per year at VAFB, with incidental harassment of up to 600 harbor seals, 50 northern elephant seals, and 10 California sea lions annually. On the NCI, the applicant proposes to capture 450 harbor seals per year with incidental harassment of 2,700 animals annually, inclusive for the three targeted species. No mortalities are anticipated, but two incidental harbor seal deaths annually are requested at VAFB, as are two incidental deaths per species annually for the NCI. The permit is requested for a 5-year period.

File No. 782-1812. The proposed permit amendment would authorize an increase in the number of California sea lions that could be taken per year for the duration of the permit, which expires June 30, 2011. The location of the research would remain the California Channel Islands. The applicant is requesting changes in research protocols and objectives that require capture, marking, and sampling of additional animals, and would result in incidental harassment of additional animals. The permit would be amended to increase numbers of takes of California sea lions for (1) harassment incidental to live and dead pup censuses in the California Channel Islands; (2) capture of pups 4 to 11 months old for condition health studies; (3) evaluating various methods of chemical immobilization for adult males; (4) evaluating different handling and marking methods of pups; and (5) investigating the breeding system using molecular genetics and behavioral observations of adult males.

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 categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

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

Dated: March 31, 2009.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. E9-7708 Filed 4-6-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Defense Science Board

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of advisory committee meetings.

SUMMARY: The Defense Science Board task force on Joint Professional Military Education will meet in closed session.

DATES: April 28-29, 2009.

ADDRESSES: SAIC, 4001 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: CDR Kenneth Spurlock, Navy Military Assistant, Defense Science Board, 3140 Defense Pentagon, Room 3B888A, Washington, DC 20301-3140, via e-mail at Kenneth.spurlock@osd.mil, or via phone at (703) 571-0083.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The mission of the Defense Science Board is to advise the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology & Logistics on scientific and technical matters as they affect the perceived needs of the Department of Defense. At this meeting, the Board will discuss the identification of leader competencies—joint, service, and generic—to include parsing their inter-relationship; the current PME practices in the Services and joint communities; expansion of the JPME; service and joint community plans to modify JPME practices; how the Service and Joint PME programs support one another; advances in learning approaches and methods from academia, the private sector and other government agencies; the ability to administer JPME education in a more efficient and effective manner; and the ability to rapidly incorporate lessons learned from current operations into joint and Service JPME curricula.

In accordance with section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 2) and 41 CFR 102-3.155, the Department of Defense has determined that these Defense Science Board Quarterly meeting will be closed to the public. Specifically, the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), with the

coordination of the DoD Office of General Counsel, has determined in writing that all sessions of these meetings will be closed to the public because they will be concerned throughout with matters listed in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1) and (4).

Interested persons may submit a written statement for consideration by the Defense Science Board. Individuals submitting a written statement must submit their statement to the Designated Federal Official at the address detailed above, at any point, however, if a written statement is not received at least 10 calendar days prior to the meeting, which is the subject of this notice, then it may not be provided to or considered by the Defense Science Board. The Designated Federal Official will review all timely submissions with the Defense Science Board Chairperson, and ensure they are provided to members of the Defense Science Board before the meeting that is the subject of this notice.

Dated: March 31, 2009.

Patricia L. Toppings,

OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. E9-7595 Filed 4-3-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Defense Science Board

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of advisory committee meetings.

SUMMARY: The Defense Science Board task force on Joint Professional Military Education will meet in closed session.

DATES: June 10-11, 2009.

ADDRESSES: SAIC, 4001 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: CDR Kenneth Spurlock, Navy Military Assistant, Defense Science Board, 3140 Defense Pentagon, Room 3B888A, Washington, DC 20301-3140, via e-mail at Kenneth.spurlock@osd.mil, or via phone at (703) 571-0083.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The mission of the Defense Science Board is to advise the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology & Logistics on scientific and technical matters as they affect the perceived needs of the Department of Defense. At this meeting, the Board will discuss the identification of leader competencies—joint, service, and generic—to include parsing their inter-relationship; the current PME

practices in the Services and joint communities; expansion of the JPME; service and joint community plans to modify JPME practices; how the Service and Joint PME programs support one another; advances in learning approaches and methods from academia, the private sector and other government agencies; the ability to administer JPME education in a more efficient and effective manner; and the ability to rapidly incorporate lessons learned from current operations into joint and Service JPME curricula.

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Interested persons may submit a written statement for consideration by the Defense Science Board. Individuals submitting a written statement must submit their statement to the Designated Federal Official at the address detailed above, at any point, however, if a written statement is not received at least 10 calendar days prior to the meeting, which is the subject of this notice, then it may not be provided to or considered by the Defense Science Board. The Designated Federal Official will review all timely submissions with the Defense Science Board Chairperson, and ensure they are provided to members of the Defense Science Board before the meeting that is the subject of this notice.

Dated: March 31, 2009.

Patricia L. Toppings,

OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. E9-7596 Filed 4-3-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Defense Science Board

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of advisory committee meetings.