

improvements to NOAA's data, products, and services for navigation safety, improved Federal emergency response, informed local and regional coastal planning, risk reduction strategies for resilient coastal communities; and (4) the use and application of NOAA's charting, geodetic and tide, current and water level information to support pre-storm preparation and post-storm response and recovery.

The HSRP will also hold focused breakout sessions with regional and local stakeholders to further discuss challenges and issues presented during the stakeholder panel presentations, and other issues not previously presented. The breakout sessions will be held on Wednesday, February 26, 2014, with three general themes: (1) Updated nautical charting and consistency in standards; (2) Integrated Ocean and Coastal Mapping, modeling and resiliency; and (3) integrating Federal emergency response efforts for coastal resiliency.

Members of the public (attending in person) are welcome to participate and register for these sessions by contacting NOAA's Northeast Navigation Manager, LCDR Brent Pounds at email: [Brent.Pounds@noaa.gov](mailto:Brent.Pounds@noaa.gov); or the HSRP Program Coordinator, Kathy Watson at email: [Kathy.Watson@noaa.gov](mailto:Kathy.Watson@noaa.gov) by February 19, 2014. Members of the public, who wish to participate in the breakout session virtually (via teleconference capability), should contact Ashley Chappell at email: [Ashley.Chappell@noaa.gov](mailto:Ashley.Chappell@noaa.gov) by February 19, 2014.

The breakout sessions provide the public with the opportunity to interact with HSRP members on concerns or issues with NOAA's navigation data, products, and services, and to present options or recommendations for improvement. The HSRP will consider input from these breakout sessions, and from the meeting presentations, to develop its recommendations for submission to the NOAA Acting Administrator for improving NOAA's navigation data, products, and services.

Dated: January 28, 2014.

**Christopher C. Cartwright,**

*Associate Assistant Administrator for Management and CFO/CAO, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

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**BILLING CODE 3510-JE-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XA425**

#### Endangered Species; File No. 15661

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

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of permit modification.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Division of Fish and Wildlife, (Arnold Palacios, Responsible Party) has been issued a modification to scientific research Permit No. 15661.

**ADDRESSES:** The modification 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 Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808) 944-2200; fax (808) 973-2941.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy Hapeman or Kristy Beard, (301)427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 25, 2013, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (78 FR 38013) that a modification of Permit No. 15661, issued January 24, 2012 (77 FR13097), had been requested by the above-named organization. The requested modification has been granted under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 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. 15661 authorizes the CNMI to characterize population structure, size class composition, foraging ecology, and migration patterns for green (*Chelonia mydas*) and hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) sea turtles in the Northern Mariana Islands. Researchers may count and hand capture sea turtles during vessel surveys. Captured sea turtles may be: Measured, weighed, flipper and passive integrated transponder tagged, temporarily marked, tissue sampled, photographed, and/or satellite tagged and tracked before release. Sea turtle carcasses and parts may be

opportunistically salvaged. The modification (-01) authorizes blood and scute sampling of a subset of captured sea turtles for analysis of environmental pollutants. The permit expires January 31, 2017.

Issuance of this modification, as required by the ESA was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of such endangered or threatened species, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: January 30, 2014.

**P. Michael Payne,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XD001**

#### Takes of Marine Mammals During Specified Activities; Confined Blasting Operations by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers During the Port of Miami Construction Project in Miami, Florida

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

**ACTION:** Notice; proposed Incidental Harassment Authorization; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS has received an application from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) for an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) to take small numbers of marine mammals, by Level B harassment, incidental to confined blasting operations in the Port of Miami in Miami, Florida. NMFS has reviewed the application, including all supporting documents, and determined that it is adequate and complete. Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on the its proposal to issue an IHA to ACOE to incidentally harass, by Level B harassment only, marine mammals during the specified activity.

**DATES:** Comments and information must be received no later than March 6, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on the application should be addressed to P. Michael Payne, Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine