

**NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND
SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

48 CFR Part 1852

RIN 2700-AE08

**NASA Federal Acquisition Regulation
Supplement (NFS): Contractor
Whistleblower Protections; Technical
Amendments**

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and
Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document makes
amendments to the NASA FAR
Supplement (NFS) in order to make
editorial changes.

DATES: *Effective:* August 29, 2014.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An
interim rule was published in the
Federal Register on July 29, 2014 (79 FR
43956-43961), amending 48 CFR part
1852.

In order to correct certain elements in
48 CFR part 1852, this document makes
editorial changes to the NFS.

List of Subject in 48 CFR Part 1852

Government procurement.

Cynthia Boots,
Alternate Federal Register Liaison.

Therefore, NASA amends 48 CFR part
1852 as set forth below:

**PART 1852—SOLICITATION
PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT
CLAUSES**

■ 1. The authority citation for 48 CFR
part 1852 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 51 U.S.C. 20113(a) and 48 CFR
chapter 1.

1852.203-71 [Amended]

■ 2. Section 1852.203-71(a) is amended
by removing “1803.09” and replacing it
with “1803.9”.

1852.216-90 [Amended]

■ 3. Section 1852.216-90 is amended by
removing “As prescribed in 216.307-
70(g)” and replacing it with “As
prescribed in 1816.307-70(g)”.

[FR Doc. 2014-20612 Filed 8-28-14; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration**

50 CFR Part 622

**Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of
Mexico, and South Atlantic**

CFR Correction

■ In Title 50 of the Code of Federal
Regulations, Parts 600 to 659, revised as
of October 1, 2013, on page 389,
Appendix F to Part 622 is reinstated to
read as follows:

**Appendix F to Part 622—Specifications
for Sea Turtle Mitigation Gear and Sea
Turtle Handling and Release
Requirements**

A. Sea turtle mitigation gear.

1. *Long-handled line clipper or cutter.* Line
cutters are intended to cut high test
monofilament line as close as possible to the
hook, and assist in removing line from
entangled sea turtles to minimize any
remaining gear upon release. NMFS has
established minimum design standards for
the line cutters. The LaForce line cutter and
the Arceneaux line clipper are models that
meet these minimum design standards, and
may be purchased or fabricated from readily
available and low-cost materials. One long-
handled line clipper or cutter and a set of
replacement blades are required to be
onboard. The minimum design standards for
line cutters are as follows:

(a) *A protected and secured cutting blade.*
The cutting blade(s) must be capable of
cutting 2.0–2.1 mm (0.078 in.–0.083 in.)
monofilament line (400-lb test) or
polypropylene multistrand material, known
as braided or tarred mainline, and must be
maintained in working order. The cutting
blade must be curved, recessed, contained in
a holder, or otherwise designed to facilitate
its safe use so that direct contact between the
cutting surface and the sea turtle or the user
is prevented. The cutting instrument must be
securely attached to an extended reach
handle and be easily replaceable. One extra
set of replacement blades meeting these
standards must also be carried on board to
replace all cutting surfaces on the line cutter
or clipper.

(b) *An extended reach handle.* The line
cutter blade must be securely fastened to an
extended reach handle or pole with a
minimum length equal to, or greater than,
150 percent of the freeboard, or a minimum
of 6 ft (1.83 m), whichever is greater. It is
recommended, but not required, that the
handle break down into sections. There is no
restriction on the type of material used to
construct this handle as long as it is sturdy
and facilitates the secure attachment of the
cutting blade.

2. *Long-handled dehooker for internal
hooks.* A long-handled dehooking device is
intended to remove internal hooks from sea
turtles that cannot be boated. It should also
be used to engage a loose hook when a turtle
is entangled but not hooked, and line is being

removed. The design must shield the barb of
the hook and prevent it from re-engaging
during the removal process. One long-
handled device to remove internal hooks is
required onboard. The minimum design
standards are as follows:

(a) *Hook removal device.* The hook removal
device must be constructed of approximately
 $\frac{3}{16}$ -inch (4.76 mm) to $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch (7.94 mm) 316
L stainless steel or similar material and have
a dehooking end no larger than 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ -inches
(4.76 cm) outside diameter. The device must
securely engage and control the leader while
shielding the barb to prevent the hook from
re-engaging during removal. It may not have
any unprotected terminal points (including
blunt ones), as these could cause injury to the
esophagus during hook removal. The device
must be of a size appropriate to secure the
range of hook sizes and styles used in the
South Atlantic snapper-grouper fishery.

(b) *Extended reach handle.* The dehooking
end must be securely fastened to an extended
reach handle or pole with a minimum length
equal to or greater than 150 percent of the
freeboard, or a minimum of 6 ft (1.83 m),
whichever is greater. It is recommended, but
not required, that the handle break down into
sections. The handle must be sturdy and
strong enough to facilitate the secure
attachment of the hook removal device.

3. *Long-handled dehooker for external
hooks.* A long-handled dehooker is required
for use on externally-hooked sea turtles that
cannot be boated. The long-handled
dehooker for internal hooks described in
paragraph 2. of this Appendix F would meet
this requirement. The minimum design
standards are as follows:

(a) *Construction.* A long-handled dehooker
must be constructed of approximately $\frac{3}{16}$ -
inch (4.76 mm) to $\frac{5}{16}$ -inch (7.94 mm) 316 L
stainless steel rod and have a dehooking end
no larger than 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ -inches (4.76 cm) outside
diameter. The design should be such that a
fish hook can be rotated out, without pulling
it out at an angle. The dehooking end must
be blunt with all edges rounded. The device
must be of a size appropriate to secure the
range of hook sizes and styles used in the
South Atlantic snapper-grouper fishery.

(b) *Extended reach handle.* The handle
must be a minimum length equal to the
freeboard of the vessel or
6 ft (1.83 m), whichever is greater.

4. *Long-handled device to pull an
“inverted V”.* This tool is used to pull a “V”
in the fishing line when implementing the
“inverted V”; dehooking technique, as
described in the document entitled “Careful
Release Protocols for Sea Turtle Release With
Minimal Injury,” for disentangling and
dehooking entangled sea turtles. One long-
handled device to pull an “inverted V” is
required onboard. If a 6-ft (1.83 m) J-style
dehooker is used to comply with paragraph
4. of this Appendix F, it will also satisfy this
requirement. Minimum design standards are
as follows:

(a) *Hook end.* This device, such as a
standard boat hook, gaff, or long-handled J-
style dehooker, must be constructed of
stainless steel or aluminum. The semicircular
or “J” shaped end must be securely attached
to a handle. A sharp point, such as on a gaff
hook, is to be used only for holding the