

Organization and Priority Issues. The meeting will be open to the public and individuals wishing to join the meeting and receive call-in information may contact the Committee's Designated Federal Officer, Andrew Bennett, Office of Energy and Environmental Industries (OEI), International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce at (202) 482-5235; email: Andrew.Bennett@trade.gov.

A limited amount of time before the close of the meeting will be available for pertinent oral comments from members of the public joining the conference call. To accommodate as many speakers as possible, the time for public comments will be limited to two minutes per person. Individuals wishing to reserve additional speaking time during the meeting must contact Mr. Bennett and submit a brief statement of the general nature of the comments, as well as the name and address of the proposed participant by 5 p.m. EST on Friday, January 9, 2015. If the number of registrants requesting to make statements is greater than can be reasonably accommodated during the teleconference, the International Trade Administration may conduct a lottery to determine the speakers. Speakers are requested to submit a copy of their oral comments by email to Mr. Bennett for distribution to the participants in advance of the teleconference.

Any member of the public may submit pertinent written comments concerning the RE&EEAC's affairs at any time before or after the meeting. Comments may be submitted to the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Advisory Committee, c/o: Andrew Bennett, Office of Energy and Environmental Industries, U.S. Department of Commerce, Mail Stop: 4053, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230. To be considered during the teleconference, written comments must be received no later than 5 p.m. EST on Friday, January 9, 2015, to ensure transmission to the Committee prior to the teleconference. Comments received after that date will be distributed to the members but may not be considered on the teleconference.

Copies of RE&EEAC meeting minutes will be available within 30 days following the meeting.

Dated: December 19, 2014.

Edward A. O'Malley,
Director, Office of Energy and Environmental Industries.

[FR Doc. 2014-30251 Filed 12-23-14; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Permits for Incidental Taking of Endangered or Threatened Species

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 23, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at JJessup@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Heather Coll, (301) 427-8455 or Heather.Coll@NOAA.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This request is for an extension of a currently approved information collection.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et. seq.*) imposed prohibitions against the taking of endangered species. In 1982, Congress revised the ESA to allow permits authorizing the taking of endangered species incidental to otherwise lawful activities. The corresponding regulations (50 CFR part 222.222) established procedures for persons to apply for such a permit. In addition, the regulations set forth specific reporting requirements for such permit holders.

The regulations contain three sets of information collections: (1) Applications for incidental take permits, (2) applications for certificates of inclusion, and (3) reporting requirements for permits issued. Certificates of inclusion are only required if a general permit is issued to a representative of a group of potential permit applicants, rather than requiring

each entity to apply for and receive a permit.

The required information is used to evaluate the impacts of the proposed activity on endangered species, to make the determinations required by the ESA prior to issuing a permit, and to establish appropriate permit conditions.

When a species is listed as threatened, section 4(d) of the ESA requires the Secretary to issue whatever regulations are deemed necessary or advisable to provide for conservation of the species. In many cases those regulations reflect blanket application of the section 9 take prohibition. However, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) recognizes certain exceptions to that prohibition, including habitat restoration actions taken in accord with approved state watershed action plans. While watershed plans are prepared for other purposes in coordination with or fulfillment of various state programs, a watershed group wishing to take advantage of the exception for restoration activities (rather than obtaining a section 10 permit) would have to submit the plan for NMFS review.

II. Method of Collection

Currently, most information is collected on paper, but in some instances, there is electronic access and capability.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0230.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission (extension of a currently approved information collection).

Affected Public: Individuals or households, business or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions, and state, local, or tribal government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 13.

Estimated Time per Response: 80 hours for a permit application (including Habitat Conservation Plans), 40 minutes for transfer of an incidental take permit; 8 hours for a permit report, 30 minutes for a Certificate of Inclusion and 10 hours for a watershed plan.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 472.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$450 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

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: December 19, 2014.

Glenna Mickelson,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2014-30181 Filed 12-23-14; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XD673

Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee

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

ACTION: Notice of open public meetings.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC). The members will discuss and provide advice on issues outlined in the agenda below.

DATES: The meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2015, 3–4:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

ADDRESSES: Conference call. Public access is available at 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Any member of the public wishing to attend may contact Heidi Lovett, (301) 427–8004; email: heidi.lovett@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The MAFAC was established by the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), and, since 1971, advises the Secretary on all living marine resource matters that are the responsibility of the Department of Commerce. The charter and other information are located online at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ocs/mafac/>.

Matters To Be Considered

The Committee is convening to discuss and finalize recommendations on the candidates for the new Climate and Marine Resources Task Force and the Aquaculture Task Force for submission to the NOAA Fisheries Assistant Administrator. Other administrative matters may be considered. This agenda is subject to change.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Heidi Lovett, 301–427–8004 by January 2, 2015.

Dated: December 18, 2014.

Paul Doremus,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2014-30213 Filed 12-23-14; 8:45 am]

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COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies; Final Interagency Guidelines

AGENCY: Council on Environmental Quality.

ACTION: Notice of availability of final interagency Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies.

SUMMARY: Section 2031 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Water Resources Development Act), Public Law 110–114, directed the Secretary of the Army to revise the “Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies” (Principles and Guidelines), dated March 10, 1983, consistent with several considerations enumerated in the Water Resources Development Act. The revised Principles and Guidelines, now referenced as the Principles, Requirements and Guidelines (PR&G), consist of three key components: (1) The Principles and Requirements (formerly called Principles and Standards), setting out broad policy and principles that guide investments; (2) the Interagency Guidelines, providing guidance to Federal agencies for determining the applicability of the Principles and Guidelines and for developing agency

specific implementing procedures for formulating, evaluating, and comparing water resources projects, programs, activities and related actions; and (3) the Agency Specific Procedures, outlining agency-specific procedures for incorporating the Principles and Requirements into agency missions and programs.

This notice informs the public that the Interagency Guidelines, the second key component of the modernized PR&G, are finalized and available at www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/PandG. The draft Interagency Guidelines were published in the **Federal Register** with a request for comments on March 27, 2013. Subsequent to public review and comment period, the final version of the Interagency Guidelines was developed through a collaborative interagency process that promoted the open exchange of information and perspectives. The process has engaged the public through formal public review and workshops. The updated and modernized PR&G will improve Federal government decision making related to investment in water resource projects and, thus, improve how our country plans for infrastructure projects.

DATES: Effective June 15, 2015.

ADDRESSES: The Interagency Guidelines are available at www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/PandG.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alexis Segal, Council on Environmental Quality, at 202–395–5750.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 2031 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Pub. L. 110–114) directed the Secretary of the Army to revise the “Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies,” dated March 10, 1983, consistent with several considerations enumerated in the Water Resources Development Act. The revised Principles and Requirements will provide guidance for agencies to implement the Principles and Guidelines.

Additional information on the revision process is available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/PandG>.

Authority: Section 2031 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, Pub. L. 110–114, 121 Stat. 1041.