

shall record the marine mammal(s) as a “take” upon entering the Level B harassment zone. While the animal remains within the Level B harassment zone, that pile segment shall be completed without cessation, unless the animal approaches the 100-meter shutdown zone, at which point the MMO shall authorize the immediate shutdown of in-water pile driving before the marine mammal enters the 100-meter shutdown zone. Pile driving shall resume only once the animal has left the 100-meter shutdown zone on its own or has not been resighted for a period of 20 minutes.

(v) MMOs shall be placed on one of the vessels used for hydroacoustic monitoring, which will be stationed offshore.

(vi) The individuals shall scan the waters within each monitoring zone activity using binoculars (25x or equivalent), hand held binoculars (7x) and visual observation.

(vii) The waters shall be scanned 20 minutes prior to commencing pile driving at the beginning of each day, and prior to commencing pile driving after any stoppage of 20 minutes or greater. If marine mammals enter or are observed within the designated marine mammal buffer zone (the 100m radius) during or 20 minutes prior to impact pile driving, the monitors will notify the on-site construction manager to not begin until the animal has moved outside the designated radius.

(viii) The waters shall continue to be scanned for at least 20 minutes after pile driving has completed each day.

#### 5. Monitoring and Reporting

The holder of this Authorization is required to submit a draft report on all monitoring conducted under the IHA 90 calendar days after the completion of the marine mammal monitoring or 60 days prior to the issuance of a subsequent authorization, whichever comes first. A final report shall be prepared and submitted within thirty days following resolution of comments on the draft report from NMFS. This report must contain the informational elements described in the Monitoring Plan, at minimum (see attached), and shall also include:

##### (a) Acoustic Monitoring

(i) POA conduct acoustic monitoring for representative scenarios of pile driving activity, as described in the Monitoring Plan.

##### (b) Data Collection

(i) For all marine mammal and acoustic monitoring, information shall be recorded as described in the Monitoring Plan.

##### (c) Reporting Measures

(i) In the unanticipated event that the specified activity clearly causes the take of a marine mammal in a manner prohibited by the IHA, such as an injury (Level A harassment), serious injury or mortality (e.g., ship-strike, gear interaction, and/or entanglement), POA shall immediately cease the specified activities and immediately report the incident to the Chief of the Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, and the Alaska Regional Stranding Coordinators. The report would include the following information:

1. Time, date, and location (latitude/longitude) of the incident;
2. Name and type of vessel involved;
3. Vessel's speed during and leading up to the incident;
4. Description of the incident;
5. Status of all sound source use in the 24 hours preceding the incident;
6. Water depth;
7. Environmental conditions (e.g., wind speed and direction, Beaufort sea state, cloud cover, and visibility);
8. Description of all marine mammal observations in the 24 hours preceding the incident;
9. Species identification or description of the animal(s) involved;
10. Fate of the animal(s); and
11. Photographs or video footage of the animal(s) (if equipment is available).

(ii) Activities would not resume until NMFS is able to review the circumstances of the prohibited take. NMFS shall work with POA to determine what is necessary to minimize the likelihood of further prohibited take and ensure MMPA compliance. POA would not be able to resume their activities until notified by NMFS via letter, email, or telephone.

(iii) In the event that POA discovers an injured or dead marine mammal, and the lead MMO determines that the cause of the injury or death is unknown and the death is relatively recent (i.e., in less than a moderate state of decomposition as described in the next paragraph), POA shall immediately report the incident to the Chief of the Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, and the NMFS Alaska Stranding Hotline and/or by email to the Alaska Regional Stranding Coordinators. The report shall include the same information identified in the paragraph above. Activities would be able to continue while NMFS reviews the circumstances of the incident. NMFS would work with POA to determine whether modifications in the activities are appropriate.

(iv) In the event that POA discovers an injured or dead marine mammal, and the lead MMO determines that the

injury or death is not associated with or related to the activities authorized in the IHA (e.g., previously wounded animal, carcass with moderate to advanced decomposition, or scavenger damage), POA shall report the incident to the Chief of the Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, and the NMFS Alaska Stranding Hotline and/or by email to the Alaska Regional Stranding Coordinators, within 24 hours of the discovery. POA would provide photographs or video footage (if available) or other documentation of the stranded animal sighting to NMFS and the Marine Mammal Stranding Network.

6. This Authorization may be modified, suspended or withdrawn if the holder fails to abide by the conditions prescribed herein, or if NMFS determines the authorized taking is having more than a negligible impact on the species or stock of affected marine mammals.

#### Request for Public Comments

NMFS requests comment on our analysis, the draft authorization, and any other aspect of the Notice of Proposed IHA for POA's proposed Test Pile Program in Anchorage, Alaska. Please include with your comments any supporting data or literature citations to help inform our final decision on POA's request for an MMPA authorization.

Dated: December 11, 2015.

#### Perry Gayaldo,

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

[FR Doc. 2015-31620 Filed 12-15-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

#### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; “International Work Sharing”

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

*Agency:* United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

*Title:* International Work Sharing.  
*OMB Control Number:* 0651-0079.

*Form Number(s):*

- PTO/SB/437JP
- PTO/SB/437KR
- PTO/SB/CSP Survey 1

*Type of Request:* Regular.

*Number of Respondents:* 900.

*Average Hours per Response:* The USPTO estimates that it will take the

public between 5 minutes (.08 hours) and 3 hours, depending upon the complexity of the situation, to gather the necessary information, prepare for submission, and submit a single item in this collection.

*Burden Hours:* 1533.33.

*Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Needs and Uses:* This information collection is necessary so that applicants that file applications with the USPTO, Japan Patent Office, and Korean Intellectual Property Office may participate in the International Work Sharing Program. The Program enables its participants to engage in the exchange of IP documents between the patent offices of the United States, Japan, and Korea in order to facilitate efficient worldwide patent examinations.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; and not-for-profit institutions.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Nicholas A. Fraser, email: [Nicholas\\_A\\_Fraser@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov).

Once submitted, the request will be publicly available in electronic format through [reginfo.gov](http://reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Further information can be obtained by:

- Email: [InformationCollection@uspto.gov](mailto:InformationCollection@uspto.gov). Include "0651-0079 copy request" in the subject line of the message.
- Mail: Marcie Lovett, Records Management Division Director, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent on or before January 15, 2016 to Nicholas A. Fraser, OMB Desk Officer, via email to [Nicholas\\_A\\_Fraser@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov), or by fax to 202-395-5167, marked to the attention of Nicholas A. Fraser.

**Marcie Lovett,**

*Records Management Division Director, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2015-31585 Filed 12-15-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**United States Patent and Trademark Office**

**Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Patents External Quality Survey**

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

*Agency:* United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

*Title:* Patents External Quality Survey.

*OMB Control Number:* 0651-0057.

*Form Number(s):*

- No forms associated

*Type of Request:* Regular.

*Number of Respondents:* 3,100.

*Average Minutes per Response:* The USPTO estimates that it will take the public 10 minutes (.17 hours) to gather the necessary information, prepare for submission, and submit a single item in this collection.

*Burden Hours:* 516.67.

*Cost Burden:* \$0.

*Needs and Uses:* Individuals who work at firms that file more than six patent applications a year use the Patents External Quality Survey to provide their perceptions of examination quality to the USPTO. The USPTO uses the feedback gathered from the survey to assist them in targeting key areas for examination quality improvement and to identify important areas for examiner training.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; and not-for-profit institutions.

*Frequency:* Semi-annually.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Nicholas A. Fraser, email: [Nicholas\\_A\\_Fraser@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov). Once submitted, the request will be publicly available in electronic format through [reginfo.gov](http://reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Further information can be obtained by:

- Email: [InformationCollection@uspto.gov](mailto:InformationCollection@uspto.gov). Include "0651-0057 copy request" in the subject line of the message.
- Mail: Marcie Lovett, Records Management Division Director, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed

information collection should be sent on or before January 15, 2016 to Nicholas A. Fraser, OMB Desk Officer, via email to [Nicholas\\_A\\_Fraser@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Nicholas_A_Fraser@omb.eop.gov), or by fax to 202-395-5167, marked to the attention of Nicholas A. Fraser.

**Marcie Lovett,**

*Records Management Division Director, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2015-31586 Filed 12-15-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Department of the Army**

[Docket ID USA-2015-HQ-0037]

**Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by January 15, 2016.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Fred Licari, 571-372-0493.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title, Associated Form and OMB Number:* Army Sex Offender Information; Department of the Army Form 3975; OMB Control Number 0702-0128.

*Type of Request:* Reinstatement.

*Number of Respondents:* 550.

*Responses per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 550.

*Average Burden per Response:* 20 minutes.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 183.

*Needs and Uses:* The information collection requirement is necessary to obtain and record the sex offender registration information of those sex offenders who live, work or go to school on Army installations. Respondents are any convicted sex offender required to register pursuant to any DoD, Army, State government, law, regulation, or policy where they are employed, reside, or are a student. The information collected is used by Army law enforcement to ensure the sex offender is compliant with any court order restrictions.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit; individuals or households.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Required to obtain or retain benefits.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Ms. Jasmeet Sehra.