

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION****Notice of Permit Applications Received Under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978**

**AGENCY:** National Science Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of Permit Applications Received under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978, Public Law 95-541.

**SUMMARY:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is required to publish a notice of permit applications received to conduct activities regulated under the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978. NSF has published regulations under the Antarctic Conservation Act at Title 45 Part 670 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This is the required notice of permit applications received.

**DATES:** Interested parties are invited to submit written data, comments, or views with respect to this permit application by December 27, 2016. This application may be inspected by interested parties at the Permit Office, address below.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Permit Office, Room 755, Division of Polar Programs, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nature McGinn, ACA Permit Officer, at the above address or [ACApermits@nsf.gov](mailto:ACApermits@nsf.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-541), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

Application Details:

**Permit Application: 2017-029****1. Applicant**

John Durban, Ph.D., Marine Mammal and Turtle Division, NOAA NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center, 8901 La Jolla Shores Dr. La Jolla, CA 92037.

**Activity for Which Permit Is Requested**

Take; Import into USA. The applicant's study of the health of whales, as a means to assess the health of Antarctic marine ecosystems, calls for

the use of aerial photogrammetry to collect data on whale morphometrics and condition. The applicant proposes to use unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), particularly small, radio-controlled hexacopters, for aerial photogrammetry, and to use handheld cameras for photo-identification. The hexacopters will be flown greater than 100 ft above the whales for identification and assessment purposes. The applicant also proposes to sample the exhaled blow (breath) of commonly encountered larger whales by briefly descending the hexacopter to as low as 6 ft above the whale and flying through the blow plume. The breath samples will be analyzed for microorganisms as an indicator of the whales' respiratory health. In previous studies, the applicant has noted no behavioral disturbances from the overflight of whales by hexacopters for photo- or breath-sampling. In addition to the photogrammetry and sampling via UAS, the study entails collecting tissue samples the size of a pencil eraser to be used for genetic investigations, for stable isotope analyses to describe diet and nutritional status, and for a comparison of the skin microbiome to respiratory samples. The tissue samples will also be used for steroid hormone analysis to infer pregnancy, as well as physiological and nutritional stress. The applicant's study includes the following whale species (both sexes) and number of takes per annum: Killer whales (photogrammetry, n = 5000; biopsy, n = 475); humpback whales (photogrammetry, n = 2000; breath sample, n = 100; biopsy, n = 235); Antarctic minke whales (photogrammetry, n = 1000; breath sample, n = 500; biopsy, n = 170); common minke whales (photogrammetry, n = 1000; breath sample, n = 500; biopsy, n = 170); Arnoux's beaked whales (photogrammetry, n = 500; biopsy, n = 55); southern bottlenose whales (photogrammetry, n = 200; biopsy, n = 85); and sperm whales (photogrammetry, n = 2000; biopsy, n = 90). Additionally, samples of dead marine mammals encountered by the applicant may be salvaged for chemical analysis or genetic determination of species (whales, n = 500 per annum; seals, n = 500). All samples will be imported into the USA for analysis and ultimate disposition at the Southwest Fisheries Science Center.

**Location**

Antarctic Peninsula region; southern Ross Sea;

**Dates**

January 1, 2017–May 31, 2021.

**Nadene G. Kennedy,**

*Polar Coordination Specialist, Division of Polar Programs.*

[FR Doc. 2016-28283 Filed 11-23-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7555-01-P**

**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD****Sunshine Act Meeting**

**TIME AND DATE:** 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, December 6, 2016.

**PLACE:** NTSB Conference Center, 429 L'Enfant Plaza SW., Washington, DC 20594.

**STATUS:** The one item is open to the public.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:**

8620A Railroad Accident Report: *Collision of Two Union Pacific Railroad Freight Trains in Hoxie, Arkansas, August 17, 2014.*

**NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:** Telephone: (202) 314-6100.

The press and public may enter the NTSB Conference Center one hour prior to the meeting for set up and seating.

Individuals requesting specific accommodations should contact Rochelle Hall at (202) 314-6305 or by email at [Rochelle.Hall@ntsb.gov](mailto:Rochelle.Hall@ntsb.gov) by Wednesday, November 30, 2016.

The public may view the meeting via a live or archived webcast by accessing a link under "News & Events" on the NTSB home page at [www.nts.gov](http://www.nts.gov).

Schedule updates, including weather-related cancellations, are also available at [www.nts.gov](http://www.nts.gov).

*For More Information Contact:* Candi Bing at (202) 314-6403 or by email at [bingc@ntsb.gov](mailto:bingc@ntsb.gov).

*For Media Information Contact:* Terry Williams at (202) 314-6100 or by email at [terry.williams@ntsb.gov](mailto:terry.williams@ntsb.gov).

Dated: Tuesday, November 22, 2016.

**Candi R. Bing,**

*Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2016-28540 Filed 11-22-16; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 7533-01-P**

**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD****Investigative Hearing**

On July 30, 2016 at 7:42 a.m. central daylight time, a Kubicek BB85Z hot air balloon, operated by Heart of Texas Balloons, registration N2469L, impacted electrical transmission lines and crashed into a pasture near Lockhart,

TX. The pilot and 15 passengers were fatally injured by impact and fire. The balloon was destroyed. Witness and weather observation information indicated low clouds and fog in the general area. The flight was a commercial sightseeing tour flight, operated under the provisions of 14 CFR part 91.

The investigative hearing is being held to discuss the circumstances of the accident flight and safety issues regarding commercial balloon tour operations. Areas that will be discussed include operations of large passenger carrying balloons, balloon pilot training and decision-making, weather factors relevant to accident, FAA regulation and oversight of commercial balloons, tour operator best practices, and medical factors and certification requirements relevant to the accident.

Parties to the hearing include the Federal Aviation Administration, the Balloon Federation of America, and Kubicek Balloons.

#### Order of Proceedings

1. Opening Statement by the Chairman of the Board of Inquiry
2. Introduction of the Board of Inquiry and Technical Panel
3. Introduction of the Parties to the Hearing
4. Introduction of Exhibits by Hearing Officer
5. Overview of the incident and the investigation by Investigator-In-Charge
6. Calling of Witnesses by Hearing Officer
7. Closing Statement by the Chairman of the Board of Inquiry

Additional information can be found on the Web at: <http://www.nts.gov/news/events/Pages/2016-balloon-inv-hearing.aspx>.

The accident docket is DCA16MA204. The Investigative Hearing will be held in the NTSB Board Room and Conference Center, located at 429 L'Enfant Plaza E. SW., Washington, DC, on Friday, December 9, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. The public can view the hearing in person or by live Webcast at [www.nts.gov](http://www.nts.gov). Webcast archives are generally available by the end of the next day following the hearing, and Webcasts are archived for a period of 3 months from after the date of the event.

Individuals requesting specific accommodations should contact Ms. Rochelle McCallister at (202) 314-6305 or by email at [Rochelle.McCallister@nts.gov](mailto:Rochelle.McCallister@nts.gov) by Wednesday, November 30, 2016.

NTSB Media Contact: Mr. Eric Weiss—[eric.weiss@nts.gov](mailto:eric.weiss@nts.gov).

NTSB Investigative Hearing Officer:  
Mr. William English—[bill.english@nts.gov](mailto:bill.english@nts.gov)

Dated: November 21, 2016.

**Candi R. Bing,**

*Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2016-28382 Filed 11-23-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7533-01-P**

## NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

### Regular Board of Directors Meeting; Sunshine Act

**TIME AND DATE:** 12:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 6, 2016.

**PLACE:** NeighborWorks America—Gramlich Boardroom, 999 North Capitol Street NE., Washington DC 20002.

**STATUS:** Open (with the exception of Executive Session).

**CONTACT PERSON:** Jeffrey Bryson, EVP & General Counsel/Secretary, (202) 760-4101; [jbryson@nw.org](mailto:jbryson@nw.org).

#### AGENDA:

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Executive Session: Report from CEO
- IV. Gift Acceptance Policy
- V. CounselorMax (CMS)
- VI. LIFT
- VII. Future Issues, Management Program Background and Updates
- VIII. Adjournment

The General Counsel of the Corporation has certified that in his opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(2) permit closure of the following portion(s) of this meeting:

- Report from CEO

**Jeffrey T. Bryson,**

*EVP & General Counsel/Corporate Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2016-28595 Filed 11-22-16; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 7570-02-P**

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-170; NRC-2012-0272]

### Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact; issuance.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering renewal of Facility Operating License No. R-84, held by the Armed Forces

Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI or the licensee) for the continued operation of its Training, Research, Isotope Production, General Atomics (GA) (TRIGA) research reactor. The NRC is issuing an environmental assessment (EA) and finding of no significant impact (FONSI) associated with the renewal of the license.

**DATES:** The EA and FONSI are available as of November 25, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2012-0272 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information regarding this document. You may obtain publicly available information related to this document using any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Web site:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2012-0272. Address questions about NRC dockets to Carol Gallagher; telephone: 301-415-3463; email: [Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov](mailto:Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov). For technical questions, contact the individual listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.

- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly-available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select "ADAMS Public Documents" and then select "Begin Web-based ADAMS Search." For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by email to [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov). For the convenience of the reader, the ADAMS accession numbers are provided in a table in the "Availability of Documents" section of this document.

- *NRC's PDR:* You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC's PDR, Room O1-F21, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cindy K. Montgomery, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Rockville, MD 20852; telephone: 301-415-3398; email: [Cindy.Montgomery@nrc.gov](mailto:Cindy.Montgomery@nrc.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. Introduction

The NRC is considering issuance of a renewed Facility Operating License No. R-84, held by AFRRI, which would authorize continued operation of the AFRRI TRIGA research reactor, located in Bethesda, Montgomery County, Maryland. As required by section 51.21 of title 10 of the *Code of Federal*