

annual operational audit; and 2 hours for notification of the demise of a system or a decision to discontinue system operations.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 1,533

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$2,777 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.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Departmental Lead PRA Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.*

[FR Doc. 2019-21991 Filed 10-8-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-HR-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**Marine Mammals and Endangered Species**

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

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of permits and permit amendments.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that permits or permit amendments have been issued to the following entities

under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as applicable.

**ADDRESSES:** The permits and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the 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.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sara Young (Permit No. 21006-01), Amy Hapeman (Permit No. 21163), and Erin Markin (Permit Nos. 22822, 22988, and 22991), Shasta McClenahan (Permit No. 22884); at (301) 427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notices were published in the **Federal Register** on the dates listed below that requests for a permit or permit amendment had been submitted by the below-named applicants. To locate the **Federal Register** notice that announced our receipt of the application and a complete description of the research, go to [www.federalregister.gov](http://www.federalregister.gov) and search on the permit number provided in the table below.

Permit No.	RIN	Applicant	Previous <b>Federal Register</b> notice	Permit or amendment issuance date
21006-01 .....	0648-XF530 .....	Linnea Pearson, California Polytechnic State University, 1 Grand Ave, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407.	84 FR 31306; July 1, 2019	September 12, 2019.
21163 .....	0648-XR004 .....	Marine Ecology and Telemetry Research, 2468 Camp McKenzie Trl NW, Seabeck WA 98380 (Responsible Party: Greg Schorr).	84 FR 30093; June 26, 2019.	September 23, 2019.
22822 .....	0648-XR019 .....	Pamela Plotkin, Ph.D., Texas A&M University, 797 Lamar Street, 4115 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843.	84 FR 33239; July 12, 2019	September 26, 2019.
22884 .....	0648-XR022 .....	Mark Baumgartner, Ph.D., Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, MS No. 33, Biology Department, Woods Hole, MA 02543.	84 FR 43793; August 22, 2019.	September 26, 2019.
22988 .....	0648-XR019 .....	Lawrence Wood, Ph.D., LDWood BioConsulting, Inc., 425 Kennedy Street, Jupiter, FL 33468.	84 FR 33239; July 12, 2019	September 26, 2019.
22991 .....	0648-XR019 .....	NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office 1845 Wasp Boulevard, Building 176, Honolulu, HI 96818 (Responsible Party: Michael Tosatto).	84 FR 33239; July 12, 2019	September 26, 2019.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activities proposed are categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

As required by the ESA, as applicable, issuance of these permit was based on a finding that such permits: (1) Were applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of such endangered species; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in Section 2 of the ESA.

**Authority:** The requested permits have been issued under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), 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 parts 222-226), as applicable.

Dated: October 3, 2019.

**Julia Marie Harrison,**

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

[FR Doc. 2019-21999 Filed 10-8-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**

**Ocean Exploration Advisory Board (OEAB)**

**AGENCY:** Office of Ocean Exploration and Research (OER), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda for a meeting of the Ocean Exploration Advisory Board (OEAB). OEAB

members will discuss and provide advice on Federal ocean exploration programs, with a particular emphasis on the topics identified in the section on *Matters to Be Considered*.

**DATES:** The announced meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 3, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST and Wednesday, December 4, 2019 from 9:00 to 5:00 p.m. EST.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at: Consortium for Ocean Leadership, 1201 New York Avenue NW, Suite 420, Washington, DC 20005.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. David McKinnie, Designated Federal Officer, Ocean Exploration Advisory Board, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115, (206) 526-6950.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NOAA established the OEAB under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and legislation that gives the agency statutory authority to operate an ocean exploration program and to coordinate a national program of ocean exploration. The OEAB advises NOAA leadership on strategic planning, exploration priorities, competitive ocean exploration grant programs and other matters as the NOAA Administrator requests.

OEAB members represent government agencies, the private sector, academic institutions, and not-for-profit institutions involved in all facets of ocean exploration—from advanced technology to citizen exploration.

In addition to advising NOAA leadership, NOAA expects the OEAB to help to define and develop a national program of ocean exploration—a network of stakeholders and partnerships advancing national priorities for ocean exploration.

*Matters to be Considered:* The OEAB will discuss the following topics: (1) The Ocean Science and Technology Summit; (2) the NOAA fleet plan; (3) OER updates, including the OER program review, the OER annual review, and the Ocean Exploration Fiscal Year 2019 Funding Opportunity projects; (4) an update on the U.S. critical minerals strategy; and (5) other matters as described in the agenda. The agenda and other meeting materials are available on the OEAB website at <http://oeb.noaa.gov>.

*Status:* The meeting will be open to the public with a 15-minute public comment period on Wednesday, December 4, 2019 from 11:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. EST (please check the final agenda on the OEAB website to confirm the time). The public may listen to the

meeting and provide comments during the public comment period via teleconference. Dial-in information may be found on the meeting agenda on the OEAB website.

The OEAB expects that public statements at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously submitted verbal or written statements. In general, each individual or group making a verbal presentation will be limited to three minutes. The Designated Federal Officer must receive written comments by November 26, 2019, to provide sufficient time for OEAB review. Written comments received after November 26, 2019, will be distributed to the OEAB but may not be reviewed prior to the meeting date. Seats will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

*Special Accommodations:* These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Designated Federal Officer by November 26, 2019.

Dated: October 2, 2019.

**David Holst,**

*Chief Financial Officer/Administrative Officer, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2019-22111 Filed 10-8-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-KA-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XV031**

#### Draft Outline for a Work Plan for a Federal Aquaculture Regulatory Task Force

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** On behalf of the National Science and Technology Council's Subcommittee on Aquaculture, NOAA announces the availability of the Draft Outline for a Work Plan for a Federal Aquaculture Regulatory Task Force for public review and comment.

**DATES:** NOAA will consider public comments received on or before November 8, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:**

*Obtaining Documents:* You may download the Draft Outline for a Work

Plan for a Federal Aquaculture Regulatory Task Force at: <https://www.ars.usda.gov/SCA/taskforce.html>.

*Submitting Comments:* Interested persons may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Electronic Submissions:* Submit electronic public comments to [Aqua.RegPlan@noaa.gov](mailto:Aqua.RegPlan@noaa.gov).

- *Mail:* Susan Bunsick, Attn: Aquaculture Work Plan Comments, Office of Aquaculture, F/AQ, 1315 East-West Highway, 12th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be made available for public viewing upon request. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Susan Bunsick, [susan.bunsick@noaa.gov](mailto:susan.bunsick@noaa.gov), 301-427-8325.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### Background

The U.S. national policy on aquaculture states that (from the National Aquaculture Act of 1980): “Congress declares that aquaculture has the potential for reducing the United States trade deficit in fisheries products, for augmenting existing commercial and recreational fisheries, and for producing other renewable resources, thereby assisting the United States in meeting its future food needs and contributing to the solution of world resource problems. It is, therefore, in the national interest, and it is the national policy, to encourage the development of aquaculture in the United States.”

The Subcommittee on Aquaculture (SCA), previously known as the Interagency Working Group on Aquaculture (IWGA) and the Joint Subcommittee on Aquaculture (JSA), is a statutory subcommittee that operates under the Committee on Environment of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) under the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President. It is co-chaired by the Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce, and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Members include the Department of Agriculture,