

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center, 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543 (Responsible Party: Jon Hare), has applied in due form for a permit to conduct research on marine mammals.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before April 14, 2023.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review by selecting “Records Open for Public Comment” from the “Features” box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species (APPS) home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 27066 from the list of available applications. These documents are also available upon written request via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov.

Written comments on this application should be submitted via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Please include File No. 27066 in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shasta McClenahan, Ph.D., or Carrie Hubard, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 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).

The applicant requests a 5-year research permit to determine the abundance, distribution, movement patterns, dive behavior, demographic parameters, trends in recruitment, and stock structure of cetaceans in U.S. waters of the western North Atlantic from Florida to Maine, and Canadian waters in the Bay of Fundy and Scotian Shelf. Up to 38 species of cetaceans may be taken during research including the following endangered species: blue (*Balaenoptera musculus*), bowhead (*Balaena mysticetus*), fin (*Balaenoptera physalus*), gray (Western North Pacific; *Eschrichtius robustus*), North Atlantic right (*Eubalaena glacialis*), sei

(*Balaenoptera borealis*), and sperm (*Physeter macrocephalus*) whales. Research methods during vessel and aerial (manned and unmanned) surveys will include counts, photo-identification, video recording, photogrammetry, passive acoustic recording, observations, thermal imaging, biological sampling (skin and blubber biopsy, sloughed skin, feces, and exhaled air), and tagging (suction-cup and dart tags). Dart tags may include short Type C tags that anchor in the blubber of large whales. Receipt, import, and export of marine mammal parts would also be authorized for research purposes. Four species of non-ESA listed pinnipeds may be unintentional harassed and opportunistically studied during cetacean research. See the application for complete numbers of animals requested by species, life stage, and procedure.

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

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: March 8, 2023.

Amy Sloan,

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

[FR Doc. 2023-05262 Filed 3-14-23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Notice of Request for Information; U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP)

AGENCY: Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice of request for information from the public on the structure, topics and content of an updated Climate Literacy Guide.

SUMMARY: The United States Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) requests input from the public to guide

an update of the 2009 “Climate Literacy: Essential Principles of Climate Science”. This request for information (RFI) will inform USGCRP as it updates the Guide to include current climate and social science, and a focus on justice and capacity to implement solutions.

DATES: Comments should be submitted via <https://contribute.globalchange.gov> and must be received by May 31, 2023.

ADDRESSES: “Climate Literacy: The Essential Principles of Climate Science” can be accessed at <https://www.globalchange.gov/browse/reports/climate-literacy-essential-principles-climate-science-high-resolution-booklet> and also through the USGCRP Open Notices Page (<https://www.globalchange.gov/notices>).

Instructions: To submit comments, respondents will need to register in the Public Contribution system. Comments may be submitted only via this online mechanism. Registration details can be found on the <https://contribute.globalchange.gov> home page, and review instructions are accessible once a registered user has logged into the system. All comments received through this process will be considered by the updated guide’s authors without knowledge of the commenters’ identities. No information submitted by a commenter as part of the registration process (such as an email address) will be disclosed publicly. Comments will be considered by USGCRP in the development of updated guidance.

Response to this RFI is voluntary. Respondents need not reply to all questions listed. Each individual or institution is requested to submit only one response. Please identify your answers by responding to a specific question or topic. Respondents may answer as many or as few questions as they wish. Comments of seven pages or fewer (3,500 words or equivalent) are strongly recommended. Links to resources, images, and videos may be submitted for consideration.

USGCRP seeks to create a Climate Literacy Guide that is broadly relevant and provides useful information to all people living or residing in the United States. In that spirit, we encourage all members of the public who are interested in this initiative to submit their comments. Those interested may include any member of the public of any age, culture, background, level of education or career stage. There may also be interested organizations, such as Tribal Nations or Indigenous Peoples, scientific research or practitioner organizations, any state, local or territorial governments, any non-profit

organizations, any private companies, any philanthropic organizations, and any others. USGCRP is interested in personal narrative and experience; Indigenous Knowledge; local knowledge and lived experience; and technical, legal, and scientific content or research from any discipline. Comments from active or past users of the 2009 version of the guide, from the education and related sectors, from workforce development organizations, and from environmental justice communities are particularly welcome.

This RFI is not accepting applications for financial assistance or financial incentives. Comments submitted in response to this notice are subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Responses to this RFI may be posted without change online. USGCRP therefore requests that no proprietary information, copyrighted information, or personally identifiable information be submitted in response to this RFI. Please note that the United States Government will not pay for response preparation, or for the use of any information contained in a response. In accordance with FAR 15–202(3), responses to this notice are not offers and cannot be accepted by the U.S. Government to form a binding contract.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Haley Crim, haley.crim@noaa.gov; Phone Number: (301) 734–1200, NOAA Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, Climate Program Office Communication, Education, and Engagement Division.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: “Climate Literacy: The Essential Principles of Climate Science” was released in 2009 as part of USGCRP’s mission to provide authoritative science and resources to help people and organizations across the country manage risks and respond to changing environmental conditions. This document has informed educators, policymakers, and scientists for over a decade across the United States and internationally.

An interagency team is working to create an updated version of “Climate Literacy: Essential Principles of Climate Science” based on the 2009 Guide. The intention of the update is to ensure the Guide reflects current climate science, engagement, and education methods and includes a focus on informed climate decisions. Feedback is solicited on the following questions:

1. How should the updated document be structured?
2. What topics should be included?
3. How should topics be weighted and ordered within the document?

4. Are there pieces that are missing from the 2009 Guide?

5. Are there pieces of the 2009 Guide that aren’t relevant anymore?

6. What audiences do you think should use the guide?

7. How do you see yourself or your community using this guide?

Specific dates and locations for all public engagement during development and upon final release will be provided on www.globalchange.gov/notices as they are determined. Members of the public may also sign up to receive updates through USGCRP’s bimonthly newsletter at www.globalchange.gov/newsletter-signup.

The U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) intends to release the updated guide at the end of 2023.

The USGCRP is a federal program mandated by Congress to coordinate federal research and investments in understanding the forces shaping the global environment, both human and natural, their impacts on society, and inform responses at local to international scales.

David Holst,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XC786]

Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to U.S. Navy Construction at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine

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

ACTION: Notice; request for comments on proposed renewal incidental harassment authorization.

SUMMARY: NMFS received a request from the U.S. Navy (Navy) for the renewal of their currently active incidental harassment authorization (IHA) to take marine mammals incidental to construction activities associated with the multifunctional expansion of Dry Dock 1 project at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine. These activities are identical to those covered by the current authorization, and consist of a subset of activities that will not be

completed prior to its expiration. Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), prior to issuing the currently active IHA, NMFS requested comments on both the proposed IHA and the potential for renewing the initial authorization if certain requirements were satisfied. The renewal requirements have been satisfied, and NMFS is now providing an additional 15-day comment period to allow for any additional comments on the proposed renewal not previously provided during the initial 30-day comment period.

DATES: Comments and information must be received no later than March 30, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Jolie Harrison, Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, and should be submitted via email to ITP.tyson.moore@noaa.gov.

Instructions: NMFS is not responsible for comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period. Comments, including all attachments, must not exceed a 25-megabyte file size. Attachments to comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word or Excel or Adobe PDF file formats only. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted online at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/incidental-take-authorizations-under-marine-mammal-protection-act> without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Reny Tyson Moore, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 427–8401. Electronic copies of the original application, renewal request, and supporting documents (including NMFS **Federal Register** notices of the original proposed and final authorizations, and the previous IHA), as well as a list of the references cited in this document, may be obtained online at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/incidental-take-authorizations-under-marine-mammal-protection-act>. In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The MMPA prohibits the “take” of marine mammals, with certain