

(ITP) to Port Blakely, pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended, for the incidental take of ESA-listed species on the John Franklin Eddy Forestlands located in the Clackamas River and Molalla River basins of Oregon. The ITP is issued for a duration of 50 years. The ITP application and Port Blakely Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) were submitted to NMFS pursuant to the ESA. NMFS also prepared a Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) associated with NMFS' issuance of the ITP for the HCP.

DATES: The ITP (No. 26729) was issued to Port Blakely on September 8, 2023, and the necessary countersignatures by the applicants were received on September 8, 2023. The expiration date of the ITP is September 1, 2073. The issued ITP is subject to certain conditions set forth therein.

ADDRESSES: The permit, the Final EA and FONSI, and other related documents are available on the NMFS West Coast Region website at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/port-blakely-habitat-conservation-plan-john-franklin-eddy-forestlands>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Annie Birnie, NMFS, via phone at 503-230-5407 or via email at annie.birnie@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Species Included in the HCP

ESA-Listed Species Covered by NMFS

- Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*): threatened Lower Columbia River (LCR) evolutionarily significant unit (ESU); threatened Upper Willamette River (UWR) ESU;
- Coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*): threatened LCR ESU;
- Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*): threatened LCR distinct population segment (DPS); threatened UWR DPS.

ESA-Listed Species Covered by USFWS

- Bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*);
- Gray wolf (*Canis lupus*); and
- Northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*).

Non-ESA-Listed Species Covered by USFWS

- Pacific lamprey (*Lampetra tridentata*);
- Cascades frog (*Rana cascadae*);
- Coastal tailed frog (*Ascaphus truei*);
- Cascade torrent salamander (*Rhyacotriton cascadae*);
- Oregon slender salamander (*Batrachoseps wrighti*);

- Western/North Pacific pond turtle (*Actinemys marmorata marmorata*);
- Northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*);
- Pacific Fisher (*Pekania pennanti*);
- Townsend's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii spp.*);
- Hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*);
- Silver-haired bat (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*);
- Fringed myotis bat (*Myotis thysanodes*);
- Long-eared myotis bat (*Myotis evotis*);
- Long-legged myotis bat (*Myotis volans*).

Background

Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), authorizes NMFS and USFWS to issue ITPs to non-Federal parties for potential incidental take of endangered or threatened species as a result of covered activities. In support of its applications for such ITPs, Port Blakely prepared an HCP that provides an assessment of impacts of its timber harvest, silviculture, and road management activities in the Clackamas River and Molalla River basins of Oregon on the identified species; measures to monitor, minimize and mitigate for those impacts on those species; and procedures to account for unforeseen or extraordinary circumstances. NMFS received the ITP application and draft HCP on February 10, 2022.

On June 14, 2022, NMFS published a Notice of Receipt and Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register** (87 FR 35970) asking for public comments on the draft HCP and the associated draft NEPA EA. NMFS received two comments and these comments were addressed as changes to the final EA. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the ESA on September 8, 2023. This ITP authorizes the incidental take of ESA-listed species set forth in the HCP over the 50-year permit term.

Authority

Section 9 of the ESA and Federal regulations prohibit the taking of a species listed as endangered or threatened. The ESA defines "take" to mean harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct. NMFS may issue permits, under limited circumstances to take listed species incidental to, and not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities. Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the ESA provides for authorizing incidental take of listed species. NMFS regulations governing permits for threatened and endangered

species are promulgated at 50 CFR 222.307

Dated: September 5, 2023.

Angela Somma,

Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XD320]

Nominations to the Marine Mammal Scientific Review Groups

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

ACTION: Notice; request for nominations.

SUMMARY: As required by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), the Secretary of Commerce established three independent regional scientific review groups (SRGs) to provide advice on a range of marine mammal science and management issues. NMFS conducted a membership review of the Alaska, Atlantic, and Pacific SRGs, and is soliciting nominations for new members to fill vacancies and gaps in expertise (see below).

DATES: Nominations must be received by October 12, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Nominations can be emailed to Zachary.Schakner@noaa.gov, Assessment Branch, Office of Science and Technology, National Marine Fisheries Service, Attn: SRGs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Zachary Schakner, Office of Science and Technology, 301-427-8106, Zachary.Schakner@noaa.gov. Information about the SRGs, including the SRG Terms of Reference, is available at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/scientific-review-groups>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 117(d) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1386(d)) directs the Secretary of Commerce to establish three independent regional SRGs to advise the Secretary (authority delegated to NMFS). The Alaska SRG advises on marine mammals that occur in waters off Alaska that are under the jurisdiction of the United States. The Pacific SRG advises on marine mammals that occur in waters off the U.S. West Coast, Hawaiian Islands, and the U.S. Territories in the Central and Western Pacific that are under the

jurisdiction of the United States. The Atlantic SRG advises on marine mammals that occur in waters off the Atlantic coast, Gulf of Mexico, and U.S. Territories in the Caribbean.

SRG members are highly qualified individuals with expertise in marine mammal biology and ecology, population dynamics and modeling, commercial fishing technology and practices, and stocks taken under section 101(b) of the MMPA. The SRGs provide expert reviews of draft marine mammal stock assessment reports and other information related to the matters identified in section 117(d)(1) of the MMPA, including:

A. Population estimates and the population status and trends of marine mammal stocks;

B. Uncertainties and research needed regarding stock separation, abundance, or trends, and factors affecting the distribution, size, or productivity of the stock;

C. Uncertainties and research needed regarding the species, number, ages, gender, and reproductive status of marine mammals;

D. Research needed to identify modifications in fishing gear and practices likely to reduce the incidental mortality and serious injury of marine mammals in commercial fishing operations;

E. The actual, expected, or potential impacts of habitat destruction, including marine pollution and natural environmental change, on specific marine mammal species or stocks, and for strategic stocks, appropriate conservation or management measures to alleviate any such impacts; and

F. Any other issue which the Secretary or the groups consider appropriate.

SRG members collectively serve as independent advisors to NMFS and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and provide their expert review and recommendations through participation in the SRG. Members attend annual meetings and undertake activities as independent persons providing expertise in their subject areas. Members are not appointed as representatives of professional organizations or particular stakeholder groups, including government entities, and are not permitted to represent or advocate for those organizations, groups, or entities during SRG meetings, discussions, and deliberations.

SRG membership is voluntary, and, except for reimbursable travel and related expenses, service is without pay. The term of service for SRG members is 3 years, and members may serve up to three consecutive terms if reappointed.

NMFS annually reviews the expertise available on the SRG and identifies gaps in the expertise that is needed to provide advice pursuant to section 117(d) of the MMPA. In conducting the reviews, NMFS attempts to achieve, to the maximum extent practicable, a balanced representation of viewpoints among the individuals on each SRG.

Expertise Sought

For the Alaska SRG, NMFS seeks individuals with expertise in one or more of the following areas (not in order of priority): Abundance estimation, especially distance sampling and mark-recapture methods and survey design; Passive acoustic data collection and analysis; Climate and oceanographic changes impacting marine mammals, particularly in the Arctic; Quantitative ecology, population dynamics, modeling, and statistics, especially as related to abundance, bycatch, and distribution; Anthropogenic impacts, particularly fisheries bycatch and depredation; vessel strikes; effects of anthropogenic sound; Marine mammal health and ecotoxicology; contaminants and algal blooms, toxicology, pollutants; Pinnipeds; genetics as a method of identifying population structure; offshore oil impacts.

For the Pacific SRG (including waters off the Pacific coast, Hawaiian Islands and the U.S. Territories in the Central and Western Pacific), NMFS seeks individuals with expertise in one or more of the following areas (not in order of priority): Population structure based on genetic data, incorporation of new methodological or technological advancements for data collection/analysis (*e.g.*, -omics, eDNA, microbiome); West Coast and Pacific Islands marine mammal expertise, including assessment, life history, ecology, or human-marine mammal interactions; Applied conservation and management, including evaluating bycatch or fisheries impacts on marine mammals; Expertise in identifying and delineating demographically independent populations based on multiple lines of evidence; West Coast and Pacific Islands fishing gear/techniques, including fishery/marine mammal interactions for State, Tribal, or regional/local fisheries; Oceanography or marine ecology, particularly decadal and long-term understanding and impacts of climate change; spatial movement ecology, telemetry, habitat modeling; Sea otters; Pinnipeds.

For the Atlantic SRG (including waters off the Atlantic coast, Gulf of Mexico, and U.S. Territories in the Caribbean), NMFS seeks individuals with expertise in one or more of the

following highest priority areas: Large whale (especially North Atlantic right whales) population dynamics, biology and ecology; Small cetacean population dynamics and ecology with a focus on pelagic species and estuarine and nearshore bottlenose dolphins; Marine mammal—fishery interactions including fishing gear, fishing practices, and bycatch reduction; Impacts of oceanographic & ecosystem changes such as climate change, energy (renewable/non-renewable), or marine aquaculture on marine mammal populations; Quantitative skills relevant to marine mammal population assessment including, mark-recapture population estimation methods, bycatch estimation, and population dynamics modeling; Quantitative skills relevant to marine mammal habitat modeling; Ecology of Caribbean marine mammals especially humpback and sperm whales; Manatee population dynamics and ecology.

Submitting a Nomination

Nominations for new members should be sent to Dr. Zachary Schakner in the NMFS Office of Science & Technology (see **ADDRESSES**) and must be received by October 12, 2023. Nominations should be accompanied by the individual's curriculum vitae and detailed information regarding how the recommended person meets the minimum selection criteria for SRG members (see below). Nominations should also include the nominee's name, address, telephone number, and email address. Self-nominations are acceptable.

Selection Criteria

Although the MMPA does not explicitly prohibit Federal employees from serving as SRG members, NMFS interprets MMPA section 117(d)'s reference to the SRGs as "independent" bodies that are exempt from Federal Advisory Committee Act requirements to mean that SRGs are intended to augment existing Federal expertise and are not composed of Federal employees or contractors.

When reviewing nominations, NMFS, in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will consider the following six criteria:

(1) Ability to make time available for the purposes of the SRG;

(2) Knowledge of the species (or closely related species) of marine mammals in the SRG's region;

(3) Scientific or technical achievement in a relevant discipline, particularly the areas of expertise identified above, and the ability to serve as an expert peer reviewer for the topic;

(4) Demonstrated experience working effectively on teams;

(5) Expertise relevant to current and expected needs of the SRG, in particular, expertise required to provide adequate review and knowledgeable feedback on current or developing stock assessment issues, techniques, *etc.* In practice, this means that each member should have expertise in more than one topic as the species and scientific issues discussed in SRG meetings are diverse; and

(6) No conflict of interest with respect to their duties as a member of the SRG.

Next Steps

Following review, nominees who are identified by NMFS as potential new members must be vetted and cleared in accordance with Department of Commerce policy. NMFS will contact these individuals and ask them to provide written confirmation that they are not registered Federal lobbyists or registered foreign agents, and to complete a confidential financial disclosure form, which will be reviewed by the Ethics Law and Programs Division within the U.S. Department of Commerce's Office of General Counsel. All nominees will be notified of a selection decision in advance of the 2023 SRG meetings.

Dated: September 7, 2023.

Evan Howell,

*Director, Office of Science and Technology,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2023-19642 Filed 9-11-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Notice of Meeting

Per 45 CFR Chapter XXI § 2102.3, the next meeting of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts is scheduled for September 21, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. and will be held via online videoconference. Items of discussion may include buildings, infrastructure, parks, memorials, and public art.

Draft agendas, the link to register for the online public meeting, and additional information regarding the Commission are available on our website: www.cfa.gov. Inquiries regarding the agenda, as well as any public testimony, should be addressed to Thomas Luebke, Secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, at the above address; by emailing cfastaff@cfa.gov; or by calling 202-504-2200. Individuals requiring sign language interpretation for the hearing impaired should contact the Secretary at least 10 days before the meeting date.

Dated: September 1, 2023 in Washington, DC.

Susan M Raposa,

Technical Information Specialist.

[FR Doc. 2023-19802 Filed 9-11-23; 8:45 am]

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

FEDERAL REGISTER CITATION OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: 88 FR 60442, September 1, 2023.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TIME AND DATE OF THE MEETING: 9:00 a.m. EDT, Friday, September 8, 2023.

CHANGES IN THE MEETING: The meeting has been canceled.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Christopher Kirkpatrick, Secretary of the Commission, 202-418-5964.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Dated: September 7, 2023.

Christopher Kirkpatrick,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2023-19734 Filed 9-8-23; 11:15 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

Record of Decision for Comprehensive Airspace Initiative at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia Environmental Impact Statement

ACTION: Notice of availability of Record of Decision.

SUMMARY: On August 15, 2023, the Department of the Air Force (DAF) signed the Record of Decision (ROD) for Comprehensive Airspace Initiative at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, Environmental Impact Statement.

ADDRESSES: Mr. Lorence Busker, 23rd Civil Engineer Squadron, 3485 Georgia Street, Moody Air Force Base, Georgia 31699-1707, Telephone: (229) 257-2396; lorence.busker@us.af.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DAF has selected Modified Alternative 1: Create the Corsair North Low, Corsair South Low, Mustang Low, and Warhawk Low Military Operations Areas (MOAs) with a floor of 1,000 ft above ground level (AGL) and a ceiling of 7,999 ft above mean sea level (MSL) beneath and within the lateral confines of the existing Corsair North, Corsair South, Mustang and Warhawk MOAs, respectively; create the Thud Low MOA with a floor of 4,000 ft AGL and a

ceiling of 7,999 ft MSL beneath and within the lateral confines of the existing Thud MOA; create Grand Bay MOA with a floor of 100 ft AGL and a ceiling of 499 ft AGL beneath and within the lateral confines of the existing Restricted Area R-3008C; and lower the floor of Moody 2 North MOA from 500 ft AGL to 100 ft AGL. Based on this decision, the DAF will request the Federal Aviation Administration modify the low-altitude airspace floors to enhance low-altitude training within the Moody Airspace Complex.

The DAF decision documented in the ROD was based on matters discussed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement, inputs from the public and regulatory agencies, and other relevant factors. The Final Environmental Impact Statement was made available to the public on May 19, 2023, through a Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register** (88 FR 32215) with a waiting period that ended on June 20, 2023.

Authority: This Notice of Availability is published pursuant to the regulations (40 CFR part 1506.6) implementing the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.*) and the Air Force's Environmental Impact Analysis Process (32 CFR parts 989.21(b) and 989.24(b)(7)).

Mia Day,

Acting Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2023-19557 Filed 9-11-23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

[ARY-230418B-JA]

Notice of Intent To Grant a Joint Ownership Agreement With an Exclusive Patent License

AGENCY: Department of the Air Force, Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Bayh-Dole Act and implementing regulations, the Department of the Air Force hereby gives notice of its intent to grant a joint ownership agreement with an Exclusive Patent License to Licensee, Battelle Memorial Institute having a place of business at 505 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43201.

DATES: Written objections must be filed no later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the date of publication of this Notice.