

marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region if certain findings are made and either regulations are issued or, if the taking is limited to harassment, a notice of a proposed authorization is provided to the public for review.

An authorization for incidental takings shall be granted if NMFS finds that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s), will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for subsistence uses (where relevant), and if the permissible methods of taking and requirements pertaining to the mitigation, monitoring and reporting of such takings are set forth. NMFS has defined “negligible impact” in 50 CFR 216.103 as an impact resulting from the specified activity that cannot be reasonably expected to, and is not reasonably likely to, adversely affect the species or stock through effects on annual rates of recruitment or survival.

Except with respect to certain activities not pertinent here, the MMPA defines “harassment” as: any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance which: (i) has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild (Level A harassment); or (ii) has the potential to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering (Level B harassment).

On January 19, 2021, we issued a final rule with regulations to govern the unintentional taking of marine mammals incidental to geophysical survey activities conducted by oil and gas industry operators, and those persons authorized to conduct activities on their behalf (collectively “industry operators”), in U.S. waters of the GOM over the course of 5 years (86 FR 5322, January 19, 2021). The rule was based on our findings that the total taking from the specified activities over the 5-year period will have a negligible impact on the affected species or stock(s) of marine mammals and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of those species or stocks for subsistence uses. The rule became effective on April 19, 2021.

Our regulations at 50 CFR 217.180 *et seq.* allow for the issuance of LOAs to industry operators for the incidental take of marine mammals during geophysical survey activities and prescribe the permissible methods of taking and other means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact on

marine mammal species or stocks and their habitat (often referred to as mitigation), as well as requirements pertaining to the monitoring and reporting of such taking. Under 50 CFR 217.186(e), issuance of an LOA shall be based on a determination that the level of taking will be consistent with the findings made for the total taking allowable under these regulations and a determination that the amount of take authorized under the LOA is of no more than small numbers.

NMFS issued an LOA to Anadarko on January 4, 2024, for the take of marine mammals incidental a one-dimensional vertical seismic profile (VSP) within Mississippi Canyon Block MC-40, effective January 15, 2024 through May 15, 2024. Please see the **Federal Register** notice of issuance (89 FR 1550, January 10, 2024) for additional detail regarding the LOA and the survey activity.

Anadarko initially anticipated that the activity would occur at some point between January 15 and May 15, 2024. Anadarko subsequently conveyed to NMFS that the survey would occur later than previously expected. Anadarko has requested modification to the expiration date of the LOA (from May 15, 2024 to July 15, 2024) to accommodate the survey delays. Since issuance of the LOA, no survey work has occurred. There are no other changes to the LOA as described in the January 10, 2024, **Federal Register** notice of issuance (89 FR 1550): the specified survey activity; estimated take by incidental harassment; and small numbers analysis and determination remain unchanged and are incorporated here by reference.

#### Authorization

NMFS has changed the expiration date of the LOA from May 15, 2024, to July 15, 2024.

Dated: May 6, 2024.

**Kimberly Damon-Randall,**

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

[FR Doc. 2024–10305 Filed 5–10–24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Protocol for Access to Tissue Specimen Samples From the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on January 30, 2024, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

*Agency:* National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.

*Title:* Protocol for Access to Tissue Specimen Samples from the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank.

*OMB Control Number:* 0648–0468.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*Type of Request:* Regular submission (extension of a current information collection).

*Number of Respondents:* 25.

*Average Hours per Response:* 3 hours for tissue request form and 45 minutes for tissue bank form.

*Total Annual Burden Hours:* 105 hours.

*Needs and Uses:* The purpose of this collection of information is to enable the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to allow the scientific community the opportunity to request tissue specimen samples from the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank (NMMTB), as well as for tissue samples to be submitted. This information collection is being renewed to enable the Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program (MMHSRP) of NOAA to assemble information on all specimens submitted to the National Institute of Standards and Technology’s National Biomonitoring Specimen Bank (Bank), which includes the NMMTB.

*Affected Public:* Not-for-profit institutions.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

*Legal Authority:* Under 16 U.S.C.

1421f section 407(d)(1) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function and entering either the title of the collection or the OMB Control Number 0648–0468.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.*

[FR Doc. 2024–10287 Filed 5–10–24; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Public Search Facility User ID and Badging

**AGENCY:** United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, invites comments on the extension and revision of an existing information collection: 0651–0041 (Public Search Facility User ID and Badging). The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment preceding submission of the information collection to OMB.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, comments regarding this information collection must be received on or before July 12, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by any of the following methods. Do not submit Confidential Business

Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

- *Email: InformationCollection@uspto.gov.* Include "0651–0041 comment" in the subject line of the message.

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>.*

- *Mail:* Justin Isaac, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to Chad Hyland, Director, Security Division, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450; by telephone at 571–272–2978; or by email at [Chad.Hyland@uspto.gov](mailto:Chad.Hyland@uspto.gov) with "0651–0041 comment" in the subject line. Additional information about this information collection is also available at <http://www.reginfo.gov> under "Information Collection Review."

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is required by 35 U.S.C 41(i)(1) to maintain a Public Search Facility to make publicly accessible USPTO patent and trademark collections for search and retrieval. The Public Search Facility is located in a publicly accessible portion of USPTO headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, and offers the public access to the collection's paper, microfilm, and electronic files and trained staff to assist users with searches.

This information collection covers the application used to establish, renew, or replace security identification badges issued to members of the public who wish to access the Public Search Facility. Users can apply for a security badge in-person at the USPTO Security Office by providing the necessary information and presenting a valid form of photo identification. The issued security badges include a color photograph of the user and must be worn at all times while within the USPTO facility. Issued badges are valid for one year and can be renewed at no cost. Lost badges can be replaced at a cost of \$15. Public users are not required to obtain a security identification badge to access the Public Search Facility. Alternatively, public users can fill out a visitor badge request upon visiting the library. The process for obtaining a visitor badge is exempt from the Paperwork Reduction Act

(PRA). The visitor badge must be turned in each time the user leaves the library. Re-entry requires obtaining a new visitor badge. However, using a security identification badge issued to a public user allows that individual to leave and re-enter the library without needing to obtain a visitor badge. Public users only need to obtain either the visitor badge or a security identification badge to enter the Public Search Facility; they do not need both simultaneously.

Previously, the Public Search Facility collected information from the public to establish and maintain accounts for online access to USPTO resources and to register the public for user trainings. Instead of using unique accounts for the Public Search Facility, access is now automatically provided through MyUSPTO accounts. Registrations for training are no longer required as trainings are now provided on demand, via self-service online platforms. As a result, the USPTO is removing the information collection lines for online access accounts and user training registration from this information collection as a part of this renewal.

##### II. Method of Collection

Items in this information collection must be submitted in writing and in person at the USPTO Security Office.

##### III. Data

*OMB Control Number:* 0651–0041.

*Forms:*

- PTO Form 2030 (Application for Public User ID)

*Type of Review:* Extension and revision of a currently approved information collection.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

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

*Estimated Number of Annual Respondents:* 60 respondents.

*Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 60 responses.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Estimated Time per Response:* The USPTO estimates that the responses in this information collection will take the public approximately 5 minutes (0.08 hours) to complete. This includes the time to gather the necessary information, prepare the document, and submit the completed request to the USPTO.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours:* 6 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent Hourly Cost Burden:* \$1,710.