

Area fishery	2009	2010
GOA Trawl Other Salmon Incidental Catch	2,355 fish	1,857 fish.
BSAI Trawl Halibut Mortality	2,802 mt	2,736 mt.
GOA Trawl Halibut Mortality	1,818 mt	1,637 mt.

mt = metric tons.

Halibut incidental catch amounts are constrained by an annual prohibited species catch limit in the BSAI and GOA. Future halibut incidental catch levels likely will be similar to those experienced in 2009 and 2010. Chinook salmon prohibited species catch (PSC) limits are established for the BS pollock fisheries that when attained, result in the closure of pollock fishing. The Chinook salmon PSC limits for the Bering Sea pollock fishery were established by Amendment 91 to the FMP for Groundfish of the BSAI FMP (75 FR 53026, August 30, 2010). Salmon incidental catch limits are not yet established for the GOA. In general, salmon incidental catch amounts tend to be variable between years, making accurate prediction of future incidental take amounts difficult.

4. *Number of vessels and processors participating in the PSD program.* For the 2011 permit renewal, participation in the PSD program is being expanded beyond the BSAI to include GOA processors and vessels. Shoreside processors will increase from 5 to 15, and vessels delivering to shoreside processors will increase from 87 vessels to 166, with 31 of the 166 vessels participating in both the BSAI and GOA. Catcher processors participating in the PSD program for salmon will drop slightly from 17 to 16 under the 2011 permit renewal. Catcher vessels delivering to motherships will remain at 11 vessels.

NMFS issues PSD permits to SeaShare for a 3-year period unless the permits are suspended or revoked under § 679.26. The permits may not be transferred; however, they may be renewed following the application procedures in § 679.26.

If the authorized distributor modifies the list of participants in the PSD program or delivery locations, the authorized distributor must submit a modified list of participants or a modified list of delivery locations to the Regional Administrator.

These permits may be suspended, modified, or revoked under 15 CFR part 904 for violation of § 679.26 or other regulations in 50 CFR part 679.

Classification

This action is taken under § 679.26.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 773 *et seq.*; 1801 *et seq.*; 3631 *et seq.*; Pub. L. 108-447.

Dated: July 1, 2011.

Margo Schulze-Haugen,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2011-17203 Filed 7-7-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RIN 0648-XA545]

Marine Mammals; Photography Permit No. 16360

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a permit has been issued to Oceanic Nature Film Productions (Responsible Party: Dieter Paulmann), P.O. Box 301 722, Albany 0752, Auckland, New Zealand to conduct commercial/educational photography of cetaceans off Hawaii.

ADDRESSES: The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 427-8401; fax (301) 713-0376; and Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808) 944-2200; fax (808) 973-2941.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carrie Hubard or Laura Morse, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On May 11, 2011, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (76 FR 27307) that a request for a permit to conduct commercial/educational photography on 12 cetacean species had been submitted by the above-named applicant. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking and

importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216). Section 104(c)(6) provides for photography for educational or commercial purposes involving non-endangered and non-threatened marine mammals in the wild.

Oceanic Nature Film Productions is authorized to film cetaceans in the waters off Kona, Hawaii. Using one or two sailing catamarans as a base, filmmakers can conduct surface and underwater photography. Additionally, a passive acoustic array may be towed to obtain marine mammal vocalizations. Twelve species of cetaceans may be approached for filming. The permit does not authorize approaches of species listed as threatened or endangered. Up to 50 animals from each species may be harassed as a result of filming. Footage will be used in a feature film intended to educate the public about marine mammal conservation issues, as well as the importance of the Pacific Islands to the oceans. The permit expires on October 31, 2011.

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 activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Dated: July 1, 2011.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. 2011-17194 Filed 7-7-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Estuarine Research Reserve System

AGENCY: Estuarine Reserves Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Approval and Availability for Revised Management Plans for ACE Basin, SC National Estuarine Research Reserve and Old

Woman Creek, OH National Estuarine Research Reserve.

SUMMARY: The Estuarine Reserves Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Department of Commerce has approved the ACE Basin, SC National Estuarine Research Reserve and Old Woman Creek, OH National Estuarine Research Reserve Management Plan Revisions.

The revised management plan for the ACE Basin, SC National Estuarine Research Reserve outlines the administrative structure; the education, training, stewardship, and research programs of the reserve; and the plans for future land acquisition and facility development to support reserve operations. The objectives described in this plan address the most critical coastal issues in ACE Basin related to habitat conservation, water quality, community resilience, and public access. Since the last approved management plan in 1992, the reserve has become fully staffed; added a Coastal Training Program that delivers science-based information to key decision makers; and added significant monitoring of emergent marsh vegetation, water quality, and invasive species. In addition to programmatic and staffing advances, the reserve has constructed an interpretive center that houses educational exhibits, classrooms, offices, conference space, trails and dock with public access. A field station with lab facilities, research dock, and accommodations for visiting researchers has also been constructed.

This management plan amends the boundary to include 4,687 acres of the Botany Bay Plantation located adjacent to the northeastern corner of Edisto Island in lower Charleston County, SC. South Carolina Budget and Control Board is the property owner and has a cooperative partnership with South Carolina Department of Natural Resources to manage the Botany Bay Plantation as a Wildlife Management Area and Heritage Preserve property. The undeveloped coastal habitats of the plantation include maritime forest, coastal shrub, wetlands, tidal marshes and sand beaches. The property provides important habitat for numerous wildlife species, including critical nesting habitat for the Federally threatened loggerhead sea turtle and the state threatened least tern. The lands contain significant cultural resources and list several sites on the National Register of Historic Places. This management plan amends the boundary

by also removing 40,089 acres of private lands previously counted in error. In total, the ACE Basin Reserve includes 99,308 acres designated for long term research, education and stewardship. The revised management plan is available at: <http://www.dnr.sc.gov/marine/NERR/index.html>.

The revised management plan for the Old Woman Creek, OH National Estuarine Research Reserve contains the collective vision, mission, goals, and objectives of the reserve; updates the reserve boundary; as well as outlines plans for facility use and development to support reserve operations. The objectives described in this plan address the most critical coastal issues of the reserve related to water quality (non-point source pollution), invasive species, habitat loss and regional ecosystem impacts of climate change. Since the last approved management plan in 2000, the reserve has all core staff; added a Coastal Training Program that delivers science-based information to key decision makers; and developed partnerships to continue to restore and protect land and waters in the Old Woman Creek watershed. In addition to programmatic and staffing advances, the reserve has completed construction of a new dormitory, boathouse, and administrative spaces.

This management plan includes a boundary expansion of 2.2 acres. This land was incorporated with the state nature preserve in 2004 and is subject to all protection afforded by Ohio laws governing state nature preserves. The additional parcel is adjacent to the reserve's southwestern boundary and consists of early successional habitat (e.g., various *Cornus* sp.) and will become an area dominated by mixed hardwoods. Incorporating these lands increases the size of the reserve to 573 acres. The revised management plan is available at: <http://www.oldwomancreek.org>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tina O'Connell at (301) 563-7107 or Laurie McGilvray at (301) 563-1158 of NOAA's National Ocean Service, Estuarine Reserves Division, 1305 East-West Highway, N/ORM5, 10th floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Dated: June 24, 2011.

Donna Wieting,

Director, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2011-16971 Filed 7-7-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Program

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before September 6, 2011.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *E-mail:*

InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include "0651-0058 comment" in the subject line of the message.

- *Mail:* Susan K. Fawcett, Records Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to Magdalen Greenlief, Office of the Associate Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; by telephone at 571-272-8850; or by e-mail to Magdalen.Greenlief@uspto.gov. Additional information about this collection is also available at <http://www.reginfo.gov> under "Information Collection Review."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) pilot program was originally established between the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO) on July 3, 2006. The USPTO and the JPO agreed at the November 2007 Trilateral Conference to fully implement the PPH program on a permanent basis starting on January 4, 2008.

The USPTO entered into a PPH pilot program with the United Kingdom Intellectual Property Office (UKIPO) on September 4, 2007. Since then, additional PPH pilot programs have