

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice responds to the ICOOS Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111–11, section 12304), which requires the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to solicit nominations for Committee membership. The Committee will advise the NOAA Administrator or Interagency Ocean Observation Committee on matters related to the responsibilities and authorities set forth in section 12302 of the ICOOS Act of 2009 and other appropriate matters as the Under Secretary refers to the Committee for review and advice.

The United States Integrated Ocean Observing System Advisory Committee will provide advice on:

- (a) Administration, operation, management, and maintenance of the System;
- (b) Expansion and periodic modernization and upgrade of technology components of the System;
- (c) Identification of end-user communities, their needs for information provided by the System, and the System's effectiveness in disseminating information to end-user communities and to the general public; and

(d) Any other purpose identified by the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere or the Interagency Ocean Observation Committee.

The Committee's voting members will be appointed by the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere. Members shall be qualified by education, training, and experience to evaluate scientific and technical information related to the design, operation, maintenance, or use of the System, or the use of data products provided through the System. Members are selected on a standardized basis, in accordance with applicable Department of Commerce guidance. Members will be appointed for three-year terms, renewable once. One Committee member will be designated by the Under Secretary as chairperson. Full-time officers or employees of the United States may not be appointed as a voting member. Members will be appointed as special Government employees (SGEs) for purposes of section 202(a) of title 18, United States Code. Members serve at the discretion of the Under Secretary and are subject to government ethics standards. Members of the Committee will not be compensated for service on the Committee, but they may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

The Committee will meet at least once a year, and at other times at the call of the Under Secretary, the Interagency Ocean Observation Committee, or the Committee Chairperson. The Committee has approximately thirteen voting members. This solicitation requests candidate applications for up to thirteen full voting member vacancies. Some voting members whose terms expire August 15, 2018 may be reappointed for a second term if eligible.

If an applicant submitted a resume application for the 2015 **Federal Register** Notice for IOOS Advisory Committee membership solicitation, and is still interested in being considered for membership on the Committee, the applicant needs to confirm his or her interest by contacting Regina Evans as indicated in the **ADDRESSES** section. An applicant who is still interested, may either request that his or her 2015 resume application be resubmitted, or he or she may choose to submit a current resume application for the 2018 selection process.

Individuals Selected for Committee Membership

Upon selection and agreement to serve on the United States Integrated Ocean Observing System Advisory Committee, one becomes a Special Government Employee (SGE) of the United States Government. An SGE is an officer or employee of an agency who is retained, designated, appointed, or employed to perform temporary duties, with or without compensation, for not to exceed 130 days during any period of 365 consecutive days, either on a full-time or intermittent basis. After the membership selection process is complete, applicants who are selected to serve on the Committee must complete the following actions before they can be appointed as a Committee member:

- (a) Background Check (on-line Background Check process and fingerprinting conducted through NOAA Workforce Management); and
- (b) Confidential Financial Disclosure Report: As an SGE, a Confidential Financial Disclosure Report is required to be filed annually to avoid involvement in a real or apparent conflict of interest. This form can be found at the following Web site: http://www.usoge.gov/forms/form_450.aspx.

Dated: June 2, 2017.

Carl Gouldman,

Director, U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XF484

Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals

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

ACTION: Notice; affirmative finding annual renewals for Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Spain.

SUMMARY: The NMFS Assistant Administrator (Assistant Administrator) has issued affirmative finding annual renewals for the Governments of Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Spain (referred to hereafter as “The Nations”) under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). These affirmative finding annual renewals will continue to allow yellowfin tuna and yellowfin tuna products harvested in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean (ETP) in compliance with the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP) by The Nations’ flagged purse seine vessels or purse seine vessels operating under The Nations’ jurisdiction to be imported into the United States. The affirmative finding annual renewals were based on reviews of documentary evidence submitted by the Governments of The Nations and by information obtained from the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC).

DATES: These affirmative finding annual renewals are effective for the one-year period of April 1, 2017, through March 31, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Justin Greenman, West Coast Region, National Marine Fisheries Service, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802. Phone: 562–980–3264. Email: justin.greenman@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The MMPA, 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*, allows for importation into the United States of yellowfin tuna harvested by purse seine vessels in the ETP under certain conditions. If requested by the harvesting nation, the Assistant Administrator will determine whether to make an affirmative finding based upon documentary evidence provided by the government of the harvesting nation, the IATTC, or the Department of State.

The affirmative finding process requires that the harvesting nation is

meeting its obligations under the AIDCP and its obligations of membership in the IATTC. Every five years, the government of the harvesting nation must request a new affirmative finding and submit the required documentary evidence directly to the Assistant Administrator. On an annual basis, NMFS reviews the affirmative finding and determines whether the harvesting nation continues to meet the requirements. A nation may provide information related to compliance with AIDCP and IATTC measures directly to NMFS on an annual basis or may authorize the IATTC to release the information to NMFS to annually renew an affirmative finding determination without an application from the harvesting nation.

An affirmative finding will be terminated, in consultation with the Secretary of State, if the Assistant Administrator determines that the requirements of 50 CFR 216.24(f) are no longer being met or that a nation is consistently failing to take enforcement actions on violations, thereby diminishing the effectiveness of the AIDCP.

As a part of the affirmative finding process set forth in 50 CFR 216.24(f)(8), the Assistant Administrator considered documentary evidence submitted by the governments of The Nations and obtained from the IATTC and has determined that The Nations have met the MMPA's requirements to receive affirmative finding annual renewals.

After consultation with the Department of State, the Assistant Administrator issued affirmative finding annual renewals to The Nations, allowing the continued importation into the United States of yellowfin tuna and products derived from yellowfin tuna harvested in the ETP by The Nations' flagged purse seine vessels or purse seine vessels operating under The Nations' jurisdiction for the one-year period of April 1, 2017, through March 31, 2018.

El Salvador's five-year affirmative finding will remain valid through March 31, 2018, and Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Spain's five-year affirmative findings will remain valid through March 31, 2020, subject to subsequent annual reviews by NMFS.

Dated: June 19, 2017.

Samuel D. Rauch III,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

[170602536-7536-01]

RIN 0660-XC035

Promoting Stakeholder Action Against Botnets and Other Automated Threats

AGENCY: National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: In response to requests for additional time, the Department of Commerce is extending the closing deadline for submitting comments to a request for public comments entitled "Promoting Stakeholder Action Against Botnets and Other Automated Threats." In the request for comment, the NTIA seeks broad input from all interested stakeholders—including private industry, academia, civil society, and other security experts—on ways to improve industry's ability to reduce threats perpetuated by automated distributed attacks, such as botnets, and what role, if any, the U.S. Government should play in this area. Through this notice, the Department extends the comment period to July 28, 2017.

DATES: Comments are due on July 28, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be submitted by email to *counter_botnet_RFC@ntia.doc.gov*. Written comments also may be submitted by mail to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Room 4725, Attn: Evelyn L. Remaley, Deputy Associate Administrator, Washington, DC 20230. For more detailed instructions about submitting comments, see the "Instructions for Commenters" section of **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Megan Doscher, tel.: (202) 482-2503, email: *mdoscher@ntia.doc.gov*, or Allan Friedman, tel.: (202) 482-4281, email: *afriedman@ntia.doc.gov*, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Room 4725, Washington, DC 20230. Please direct media inquiries to NTIA's Office of Public Affairs, (202) 482-7002, or at *press@ntia.doc.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background: The open and distributed nature of the digital

ecosystem has led to unprecedented growth and innovation in the digital economy. However, it has been accompanied by risks that threaten to undermine that very ecosystem. These risks take many forms online, with different combinations of threats, vulnerabilities, and affected parties from those in the physical world. The President has directed the Departments of Commerce and Homeland Security to jointly lead an open and transparent process to identify and promote action by appropriate stakeholders to improve the resilience of the Internet and communications ecosystem and to encourage collaboration with the goal of dramatically reducing threats perpetrated by automated and distributed attacks.¹ This RFC focuses on automated, distributed attacks that affect large sets of victims, and that put the broader network and its users at risk. These types of attacks have been a concern since the early days of the Internet,² and were a regular occurrence by the early 2000s.³ Automated and distributed attacks, particularly botnets due to their ability to facilitate high-impact disruption, form a threat that is bigger than any one company or sector. Botnets are used for a variety of malicious activities, but distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks, which can overwhelm other networked resources, are a critical threat and developing collaborative solutions to prevent and mitigate these attacks is a priority. As new scenarios emerge, including those exploiting a new generation of connected devices (so called "Internet of Things" (IoT) devices), there is an urgent need for coordination and collaboration across a diverse set of ecosystem stakeholders. Please see the original notice (82 FR 27042 (June 13, 2017)) for more detailed questions to which NTIA is inviting feedback on this subject. The notice is available on NTIA's Web site at <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/federal-register-notice/2017/rfc-promoting-stakeholder-action-against-botnets-and-other-automated-threats>.

The original deadline for submission of comments was July 13, 2017. With this notice, NTIA announces that the closing deadline for submission of

¹ *Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure*, Exec. Order 13800, 82 FR 22391 (May 11, 2017).

² See generally *United States versus Morris*, 928 F.2d 504 (2d Cir. 1991) (discussing one of the first known computer worms to spread across the Internet).

³ See Nicholas C. Weaver, *Warhol Worms: The Potential for Very Fast Internet Plagues*, *Int'l Computer Science Inst.* (Aug. 15, 2001), <http://www1.icsi.berkeley.edu/~nweaver/papers/warhol/warhol.html>.