

Issuance of this amendment, as required by the ESA was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which is the subject of this permit, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: July 31, 1998.

**Ann D. Terbush,**

*Chief, Permits and Documentation Division,  
Office of Protected Resources, National  
Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 98-21067 Filed 8-5-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 072998B]

#### Marine Mammals; File Nos. 77#3-54 and 881-1443

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

**ACTION:** Receipt of applications for amendment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the following Permit Holders have requested an amendment to their scientific research Permit:

Dr. Bradford E. Brown, Southeast Fisheries Science Center (File No. 77#3-54), 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, FL 33149 (843/762-8541); and

Dr. Michael Castellini, Alaska Sealife Center (File No. 881-1443), Box 1329, Seward, AK 99664 (907/224-2600).

**DATES:** Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before October 5, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** The amendment request and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

(77#3-54) - Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813/570-5312); and

Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930, (978/281-9250). (881-1443) - Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907/586-7221).

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on these requests should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on these particular amendment requests would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301) 713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or other electronic media.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ruth Johnson or Sara Shapiro 301/713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject amendments to Permits No. 77#3-54 and 881-1443, issued on June 13, 1995 (60 FR 31214), and March 23, 1998 (63 FR 14905), respectively, are requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (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 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR 222.23).

Permit No. 77#3-54 authorizes the permit holder to: take by harassment a maximum of 2,000 Atlantic bottlenose dolphins per year for the purpose of locating a maximum of 100 dolphins per year suitable for take by capture for examination, sampling, marking, tagging and release. Sampling procedures include venipuncture, marking by freeze-brand, tooth extraction, skin/blubber biopsy, diagnostic ultrasound, urine, fecal, microbiological, milk, and sperm sampling, colonic temperature measurements, acoustic recordings, and the application of cattle ear tags (roto-tags) and telemetry devices.

The permit holder requests an amendment to this permit to: (1) extend geographic coverage to include entire summer range of the depleted coastal migratory stock of bottlenose dolphins to include coasts of VA, MD, DE, NJ; (2) include satellite telemetry and different attachment packages for VHF transmitters and increase the number of animals that will be tagged annually to 60; and (3) include hoop-netting as an alternative capture method.

Permit No. 881-1443 authorizes the permit holder to: import from Canada,

three juvenile Steller sea lions and two juvenile harbor seals, and to obtain six harbor seals domestically. The Holder conducts research on these animals that involve nutritional physiology, metabolic development, and clinical health under captive conditions.

The permit holder requests an amendment to this permit to: (1) collect whiskers or toenails from each animal for background concentrations of the stable isotopes of carbon and nitrogen; (2) ingest stable isotope carbon or nitrogen labeled fish orally or intravenously and blood sample collected following injection; (3) collect serial biopsies of blubber (50mg) to assess lipid profiles in Stellers and harbor seals; and (4) collection serial biopsies of muscle in harbor seals only for lipid profiles.

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 this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: July 30, 1998.

**Ann D. Terbush,**

*Chief, Permits and Documentation Division,  
Office of Protected Resources, National  
Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 98-21068 Filed 8-5-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Telecommunications and Information Administration

#### Advisory Committee on Public Interest Obligations of Digital Television Broadcasters; Notice of Postponement

**ACTION:** Notice is hereby given of the postponement of a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Public Interest Obligations of Digital Television Broadcasters, created pursuant to Executive Order 13038.

**REFERENCE:** This notice amends the notice of open meeting published in the **Federal Register** on July 23, 1998. Citation: 63 FR 39557.

**AUTHORITY:** Executive Order 13038, signed by President Clinton on March 11, 1997.

**NEW DATE:** The meeting scheduled for Monday, August 10, 1998 has been

postponed to Wednesday, September 9, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** The location of the September 9 meeting will be announced in a separate **Federal Register** notice. Updates about the location of the meeting will also be available on the Advisory Committee's website at [www.ntia.doc.gov/pubintadvcom/pubint.htm](http://www.ntia.doc.gov/pubintadvcom/pubint.htm) or you may call Karen Edwards at 202-482-8056.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Karen Edwards, Designated Federal Officer and Telecommunications Policy Specialist, at the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4720, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20230. Telephone: 202-482-8056; Fax: 202-482-8058; E-mail: [piac@ntia.doc.gov](mailto:piac@ntia.doc.gov).

**MEDIA INQUIRIES:** Please contact NTIA's Office of Public Affairs at 202-482-7002.

**Larry Irving,**

*Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information.*

[FR Doc. 98-21125 Filed 8-5-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Technology Administration

[Docket No. 980729197-8197-01]

#### National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee (NMTNEC).

**AGENCY:** Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of recruitment for additional members for NMTNEC.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, Technology Administration (TA), requests nominations of individuals for appointment to the National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee (NMTNEC). The Committee provides advice to the Secretary on the implementation of Public Law 96-480 (15 U.S.C. 3711) under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2. The terms of several current members have expired and the period of nominations will identify their replacement.

**DATE:** Please submit nominations before August 15, 1998 or within ten days of the publication of this notice.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit nominations to the National Medal of Technology Program Office, Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street

and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 4226, Washington, D.C. 20230. Materials may be faxed to 202-501-8153.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Allison A. Rosenberg, Director, 202-482-5572.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Medal of Technology was rechartered on December 8, 1997, for a period of two years to provide advice to the Secretary on the implementation of Public Law 96-480 (15 U.S.C. 3711) under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2. The National Medal of Technology Nomination Evaluation Committee (NMTNEC) serves as an advisory body to the Under Secretary of Technology in his capacity as Chair of the Steering Committee, which reports directly to the Secretary of Commerce. Members are responsible for reviewing nominations and making recommendations for the nation's highest honor for technological innovation, awarded annually by the President of the United States. Members of the NMTNEC have an understanding of, and experience in, developing and utilizing technological innovation and/or they are familiar with the education, training, employment and management of technological human resources.

Under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, membership in a committee constituted under the Act must be balanced. To achieve balance, the Department is seeking additional nominations of candidates from small, medium-sized, and large businesses from the following subsectors of the technology industry:

- (1) Manufacturing and Process Quality Technologies;
- (2) Infrastructure and Transportation Technologies, Structural Materials;
- (3) Microelectronics, Functional Materials and Instrumentation; and
- (4) Quality of Life Related Technologies.

Typically, committee members are present or former Chief Executive Officers or other senior leaders of corporations; presidents or distinguished faculty of universities; or senior executives of non-profit organizations. They offer stature by virtue of their positions and also possess first-hand knowledge of the forces driving future directions for their industries or fields of expertise. The Committee as a whole is balanced in representing geographical, professional, ethnic, and gender groups. Nominees must be U.S. citizens, must be able to fully participate in meetings pertaining to the review and selection of finalists for the National Medal of Technology, and must uphold the confidential nature

of an independent peer review and competitive selection process.

Those wishing to nominate qualified parties should send a professional biographical fact sheet and a brief description of current corporate or organizational affiliation(s) that detail activity in the technology subsectors listed above.

The Department of Commerce is committed to equal opportunity in the workplace and seeks a broad-based and diverse NMTNEC membership.

**Gary R. Bachula,**

*Under Secretary (Acting), Technology Administration.*

[FR Doc. 98-20999 Filed 8-5-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for Pilot Testing of Neutralization/Biotreatment of Mustard Agent at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability.

**SUMMARY:** This announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) which assesses the potential environmental impacts of the design, construction, systemization and operation of a facility to pilot test the neutralization/biotreatment process of mustard agent using water at Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG), Maryland. The proposed facility will be used to demonstrate, as part of a research and development program, the feasibility of adopting the neutralization process using water, followed by biotreatment, to destroy mustard agent currently stored in ton containers at APG.

**DATES:** Written comments received within 30 days of the publication of the Environmental Protection Agency's Notice of Availability for this action will be considered by the Army during final decision making.

**ADDRESSES:** To obtain a copy of the FEIS, write to Ms. Nancy Hoffman, Edgewood Community Outreach Office, Woodbridge Station, 1011 Woodbridge Center Way, Edgewood, Maryland 21040.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Catherine Herlinger, Office of the Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization, ATTN: SFAE-CD-P Building E4585, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, 21010-5401;