

agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized or included in the request for the Office of Management and Budget approval of this information collection. They also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: July 17, 2002.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-18498 Filed 7-22-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-07-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071702B]

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council), its Protected Resources Committee, and its Demersal Species Committee meeting as a Council Committee of the Whole with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Board, and Bluefish Board(s), and its Executive Committee will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meetings will be held on Tuesday, August 6, to Thursday, August 8, 2002. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: This meeting will be held at the Sheraton Society Hill, One Dock Street, Philadelphia, PA; telephone: 215-238-6000.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 300 S. New Street, Dover, DE 19904; telephone: 302-674-2331.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management

Council; telephone: 302-674-2331, ext. 19.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On Tuesday, August 6, the Protected Resources Committee will meet from 9:30-10:30 a.m. There will be a report of the 35th Stock Assessment Review Committee (SARC) from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. The Council will meet jointly with the ASMFC's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board from 1:30-5:00 p.m. regarding scup specifications for 2003. On Wednesday, August 7, the Council will meet jointly with the ASMFC's Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Board from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. regarding summer flounder and black sea bass specifications for 2003. The Council will meet with the ASMFC's Bluefish Board from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. regarding 2003 specifications. On Thursday, August 8, Council will meet from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Agenda items for the committees and Council meetings are:

The Protected Resources Committee will review the status of NMFS action regarding white marlin; review SARC reports on summer flounder, scup, and silver hake;

The Council and ASMFC's Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass, and Bluefish Board(s) will review Monitoring Committee recommendations regarding the 2003 harvest level and commercial management measures, and recommend the 2003 harvest level and commercial management measures for scup, summer flounder, black sea bass, and bluefish; receive and discuss organizational and committee reports including the New England Council's report regarding possible actions on herring, groundfish, monkfish, red crab, scallops, skates, and whiting; and, under continuing business the Council will discuss Russian research proposal for mackerel and its total allowable level of foreign fishing (TALFF) implications.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before the Council and ASMFC for discussion, these issues can not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for

sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Joanna Davis at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: July 17, 2002.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 02-18590 Filed 7-22-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071202H]

Endangered Species; File No. 1388

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

ACTION: Receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. David A. Nelson, U.S. Army Research And Development Center, Waterway Experimental Station, 4104 Freetown Road, Vickburg, MS 39183, has applied in due form for a permit to take green (*Chelonia mydas*), hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempi*) and leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) turtles for purposes of scientific research.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before August 22, 2002.

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

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)713-0376;

Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978)281-9200; fax (978)281-9371; and

Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432; phone (727)570-5301; fax (727)570-5320.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lillian Becker or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and

exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222–226).

The applicant proposes three projects along the northwestern Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. The first is to perform turtle relocation trawling for U.S. Army Corps of Engineer dredging projects. The purpose of this action is risk assessment or relocation of the turtles in the channels being dredged. All turtles captured will be handled, flipper and PIT tagged, and released away from the dredging hopper. The applicant requests to take 180 loggerhead, 25 Kemp's ridley, 2 Hawksbill, 20 green, and 2 leatherback turtles per year.

The second project is to perform relative abundance and habitat use surveys of near shore areas for green turtles. The turtles will be captured in tangle nets, measured, flipper and PIT tagged, and released. These turtles will also be tagged with both radio and sonic transmitters or time-depth recorders and radio transmitters. The applicant requests to take 75 green turtles per year.

The third project is to investigate large-scale movements and diving behavior. Turtles will be captured by trawling measured, flipper and PIT tagged, and released. A satellite transmitter will be attached. The applicant requests to take 20 loggerhead, 5 Kemp's ridley, and 5 green turtles per year.

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.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request 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 by other electronic media.

Dated: July 16, 2002.

Eugene T. Nitta,

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

[FR Doc. 02–18591 Filed 7–22–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. 2002–C–002]

Notice of Change in Publication Format for the Official Gazette of the United States Patent and Trademark Office—Patents

AGENCY: Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will discontinue the publication of the paper version of the *Official Gazette of the United States Patent and Trademark Office—Patents*. Electronic publication via CD-ROM and Internet versions (the *eOG:P*) will replace the printed copy.

DATES: The last publication of the paper version will be September 24, 2002. The electronic publication of the CD-ROM will commence October 1, 2002.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The USPTO has published the *Official Gazette of the United States Patent and Trademark Office—Patents* since 1872 and it has historically served as the official notification of patent issuance. The *Official Gazette—Patents* is published weekly in conjunction with the issuance of patents. Entries in the *Official Gazette—Patents* contain patent bibliographic information such as inventor name(s), assignee name (if applicable), patent number, patent title, and classification. The entry also contains a representative claim and drawing (if applicable). Each weekly issue also includes an alphabetical index of patentees.

Explanation and Advantages of Change

In view of the widespread access to computers and the Internet and in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the USPTO will discontinue the printed copy distribution of the *Official Gazette—Patents*, effective October 1, 2002. Weekly electronic publication via CD-ROM and Internet versions (the *eOG:P*) will replace the paper. Beginning with the July 2, 2002, issue, the *eOG:P* and

printed copy will be published on a concurrent basis until the paper version is discontinued.

The information provided by the electronic products will be unchanged from the traditional printed copy. Users will continue to browse patents by classification or patent type. However, the advantages offered by an electronic format will enable easier access to the information. Some of these advantages include: A cumulative patentee and assignee index regardless of patent type, in addition to the standard separate patentee indexes by patent type; direct links from the patentee index entry to the image of the patent; the addition of patentees by country to the geographical index by state; direct links to the patents by state or country; direct links to the patent from classification; and the addition of plant patent images. The electronic information can be easily printed or saved for future use.

The *eOG:P* on CD-ROM will be published and distributed close to issue date. The CD-ROM product will be available from the Information Products Division, Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, as an annual subscription for \$300 per year and as single copies for \$15 per issue.

The *eOG:P* will also be available on the USPTO Web site at www.uspto.gov/web/patents/patog/ each Tuesday, beginning July 2, 2002.

The USPTO will continue paper publication of the *Official Gazette—Trademarks*, the *Official Gazette Notices* and the *Consolidated Listing of Official Gazette Notices*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Information Products Division at 703–306–2600.

Dated: July 16, 2002.

James E. Rogan,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 02–18478 Filed 7–22–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–16–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Technology Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; National Medal of Technology Nomination Applications

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (DOC), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on