

Southpark Circle, Suite 306, Charleston, SC 29407-4699.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer; telephone: (843) 571-4366; fax: (843) 769-4520; email: kim.iverson@noaa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of this meeting is to further develop the options paper for Amendment 6 to the South Atlantic Shrimp Fishery Management Plan by including the advisory panels' input and recommendations. Management actions to be considered in Amendment 6 will include the required Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA) criteria for all shrimp species, options to modify or remove the BRD Protocol from the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan and measures to reduce the level of turtle mortality. In relation to the increased number of turtle strandings observed, the Council is considering night time closures in the shrimp fishery as one of the options to remedy this situation.

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

### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) by August 26, 2002.

Dated: August 9, 2002.

**Richard W. Surdi,**

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

[FR Doc. 02-20737 Filed 8-14-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071802A]

### Marine Mammals; File No. 1013-1648

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

**ACTION:** Issuance of permit.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Dr. Patricia E. Mascarelli, Caribbean Center for Marine Studies, P.O. Box 3197, Lajas, PR 00667, has been issued a permit to take humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), spinner dolphins (*Stenella longirostris*), and bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) for purposes of scientific research.

**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)713-2289; fax (301)713-0376; 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:** Tammy Adams or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On November 14, 2001, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 57040) that a request for a scientific research permit to take humpback whales, spinner dolphins, and bottlenose dolphins had been submitted by the above-named individual. 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.*), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), 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 parts 222-226).

Permit No. 1013-1648 authorizes takes of up to 50 humpback whales per year for 5 years by harassment from close approach for photo-identification, collection of sloughed skin, and behavioral observations for the purpose of estimating abundance, habitat use, and behavior. The permit also authorizes inadvertent harassment of up to 200 humpback whales per year and unlimited annual takes of spinner and bottlenose dolphins by inadvertent harassment during these activities.

Issuance of this permit, 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: August 8, 2002.

**Eugene T. Nitta,**

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

[FR Doc. 02-20736 Filed 8-14-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

### Rules for Patent Maintenance Fees

**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 revision of a 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 October 15, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Susan K. Brown, Records Officer, Office of Data Management, Data Administration Division, USPTO, Suite 310, 2231 Crystal Drive, Washington, DC 20231; by telephone at (703) 308-7400; or by electronic mail at [susan.brown@uspto.gov](mailto:susan.brown@uspto.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information should be directed to Robert J. Spar, Director, Office of Patent Legal Administration, USPTO, Washington, DC 20231; by telephone at (703) 308-5107; or by electronic mail at [bob.spar@uspto.gov](mailto:bob.spar@uspto.gov).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

#### I. Abstract

Under 35 U.S.C. 41(b) and 37 CFR 1.20(e)-(g) and 1.362, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) charges fees for maintaining in force all utility patents based on applications filed on or after December 12, 1980. Payment of these maintenance fees is required at 3½, 7½, and 11½ years after the date the patent was granted. If the payment of the appropriate maintenance fee is not received within a grace period of six months following each of the above intervals (at 4, 8, or 12 years after the date of grant), the patent will expire at that time as set forth in 37 CFR 1.362(g). If a patent has expired due to nonpayment of a maintenance fee, the

patentee may petition the USPTO to accept a delayed payment of the maintenance fee under 35 U.S.C. 41(c) and 37 CFR 1.378 by showing that the delayed payment was unavoidable or unintentional. Additionally, if the USPTO refuses to accept and record a maintenance fee that was filed prior to the expiration of a patent, the patentee may petition the Commissioner under 37 CFR 1.377 to accept and record the maintenance fee payment.

Payments of maintenance fees that are submitted during the six-month grace period or after the expiration of the patent must also include the appropriate surcharge as indicated by 37 CFR 1.20(h)–(i). Maintenance fees are not required for design or plant patents, or for reissue patents if the patent being reissued did not require maintenance fees. Submissions of maintenance fees and surcharges must include the relevant patent number and the United States application number in order to identify the patent for which the fee is being paid.

The rules of practice (37 CFR 1.33(d) and 1.363) permit applicants, patentees, assignees, or their representatives of record to specify a “fee address” for correspondence related to maintenance fees that is separate from the correspondence address associated with a patent or application. Only an address associated with a customer number can be established as a fee address. Customer numbers can be requested by using the Request for Customer Number form (PTO/SB/125), which is covered under OMB Control Number 0651–0035 “Representative and Address Provisions.” Maintaining a correct and updated address is necessary so that fee-related correspondence from the USPTO will be properly received by the applicant, patentee, assignee, or authorized representative. If a separate fee address is not specified for a patent or application, the USPTO will direct fee-related correspondence to the correspondence address of record.

The USPTO offers forms to assist the public with providing the information covered by this collection, including the information necessary to submit a

patent maintenance fee payment, to file a petition to accept an unavoidably or unintentionally delayed maintenance fee payment, and to designate or change a fee address. Instead of submitting maintenance fee payments using the paper Maintenance Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/45), customers may pay maintenance fees electronically over the Internet by using the Electronic Maintenance Fee Form, which is accessible through the USPTO Web site. Customers may use the Electronic Maintenance Fee Form to submit maintenance fee payments as well as surcharges incurred during the six-month grace period before patent expiration. However, to pay a maintenance fee after patent expiration, the maintenance fee payment and the appropriate delayed payment surcharge must be filed together with a Petition to Accept Unavoidably Delayed Payment under 37 CFR 1.378(b) or a Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Payment under 37 CFR 1.378(c). These delayed payment submissions cannot be filed electronically over the Internet. In addition to accepting electronic payments by credit card or electronic funds transfer (EFT) through the USPTO Web site, the USPTO has also recently begun accepting online payments by USPTO deposit account. Otherwise, non-electronic payments may be made by check, credit card, or USPTO deposit account.

The USPTO is adding the Petition to Accept Payment of Maintenance Fees Prior to Expiration of Patent (37 CFR 1.377) to this collection. The public may use this petition to request that the Commissioner review a decision to refuse to accept the payment of a maintenance fee that was filed prior to the expiration of a patent. This petition is not a new requirement but was overlooked when this information collection was previously submitted for OMB approval. No forms are provided for this petition under 37 CFR 1.377.

## II. Method of Collection

By mail, facsimile, or hand delivery to the USPTO. Maintenance fees and surcharges for fee payments made

during the six-month grace period following each maintenance fee interval may also be submitted electronically over the Internet.

## III. Data

OMB Number: 0651–0016.

Form Number(s): PTO/SB/45/47/65/66.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; not-for-profit institutions; and the Federal Government.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 348,110 responses per year.

Estimated Time Per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 5 minutes (0.08 hours) to 8 hours to complete this information, depending on the form or petition. This includes time to gather the necessary information, prepare the form or petition, and submit the completed request. The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 20 seconds (0.006 hours) to submit the Electronic Maintenance Fee Form.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 30,495 hours per year.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden: \$1,705,170 per year. The USPTO expects that the Petition to Accept Unavoidably Delayed Payment of Maintenance Fees in an Expired Patent (37 CFR 1.378(b)) and the Petition to Accept Payment of Maintenance Fees Prior to Expiration of Patent (37 CFR 1.377) will be prepared by attorneys. Using the professional rate of \$252 per hour for associate attorneys in private firms, the USPTO estimates that the respondent cost burden for submitting these petitions will be \$897,120 per year. The USPTO expects that the other items in this collection will be prepared by paraprofessionals. Using the paraprofessional rate of \$30 per hour, the USPTO estimates that the respondent cost burden for submitting the other items in this collection will be \$808,050 per year, for a total annual respondent cost burden of \$1,705,170 per year.

Item	Estimated time for response	Estimated annual responses	Estimated annual burden hours
Maintenance Fee Transmittal Transactions .....	5 minutes .....	227,690	18,215
Electronic Maintenance Fee Transactions .....	20 seconds .....	31,050	186
Petition to Accept Unavoidably Delayed Payment of Maintenance Fee in an Expired Patent (37 CFR 1.378(b)).	8 hours .....	370	2,960
Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Payment of Maintenance Fee in an Expired Patent (37 CFR 1.378(c)).	1 hour .....	1,550	1,550
Petition to Accept Payment of Maintenance Fee Prior to Expiration of Patent (37 CFR 1.377).	4 hours .....	A150	600

Item	Estimated time for response	Estimated annual responses	Estimated annual burden hours
"Fee Address" Indication Form .....	5 minutes .....	87,300	6,984
Total .....	.....	348,110	30,495

**Estimated Total Annual Non-hour Respondent Cost Burden: \$369,755,939.**

There are no capital start-up costs or maintenance costs associated with this information collection. However, this collection does have annual (non-hour) costs in the form of recordkeeping costs, postage costs, and filing fees. The recordkeeping costs for this collection are associated with using the Electronic Maintenance Fee Form to submit maintenance fee payments over the Internet. It is recommended that users of the Electronic Maintenance Fee Form print and retain a copy of the updated payment statement that appears on the screen after the transaction has been completed as a receipt and proof of timely payment. The USPTO estimates that it will take 5 seconds (0.001 hours) to print a copy of the payment statement and that approximately 31,050 submissions per year will use the Electronic Maintenance Fee Form, for a total of 31 hours per year for printing this receipt. Using the paraprofessional rate of \$30 per hour, the USPTO estimates that the recordkeeping cost

associated with this collection will be \$930 per year.

The public may submit the paper forms and petitions in this collection to the USPTO by mail through the United States Postal Service. If the submission is sent by first-class mail, the public may also include a signed certification of the date of mailing in order to receive credit for timely filing. The USPTO estimates that the average first-class postage cost for a mailed submission will be 49 cents, and that customers filing a Maintenance Fee Transmittal Form, a Petition to Accept Unavoidably Delayed Payment, a Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Payment, a Petition to Accept Payment of Maintenance Fee Prior to Expiration of Patent, or a "Fee Address" Indication Form may choose to mail their submissions to the USPTO. Therefore, the USPTO estimates that up to 317,060 submissions per year may be mailed to the USPTO, for a total postage cost of \$155,359 per year.

This collection also has filing costs in the form of patent maintenance fees as well as surcharges for late payment of

maintenance fees. The filing costs for this submission are calculated using the proposed fees for FY 2003 that would be effective on October 1, 2002. Under 37 CFR 1.20(e)–(g), the patent maintenance fees due at 3½ years, 7½ years, and 11½ years after the date of grant would be \$900, \$2,070, and \$3,170 respectively (or \$450, \$1,035, and \$1,585 for small entities). The surcharge under 37 CFR 1.20(h) for paying a maintenance fee during the six-month grace period following the above intervals is \$130 (or \$65 for small entities). The surcharge under 37 CFR 1.20(i) for a petition to accept a maintenance fee after the six-month grace period for these intervals has expired is \$700 where the delayed payment is shown to be unavoidable and \$1,640 where the delayed payment is shown to be unintentional. The filing fee listed in 37 CFR 1.17(h) for a petition to accept the payment of a maintenance fee filed prior to the expiration of a patent is \$130. The total estimated annual filing costs for this collection are calculated in the accompanying chart.

Fee or surcharge	Amount of fee or surcharge	Estimated annual responses	Estimated annual filing costs
Patent maintenance fee at 3½ years .....	\$900	98,460	\$88,614,000
Patent maintenance fee at 3½ years (small entity) .....	450	31,200	14,040,000
Patent maintenance fee at 7½ years .....	2,070	59,550	123,268,500
Patent maintenance fee at 7½ years (small entity) .....	1,035	15,040	15,566,400
Patent maintenance fee at 11½ years .....	3,170	35,350	112,059,500
Patent maintenance fee at 11½ years (small entity) .....	1,585	7,670	12,156,950
Surcharge for paying maintenance fee during the six-month grace period .....	130	5,050	656,500
Surcharge for paying maintenance fee during the six-month grace period (small entity) .....	65	6,420	417,300
Petition to Accept Unavoidably Delayed Payment of Maintenance Fee in an Expired Patent (37 CFR 1.378(b)) .....	700	370	259,000
Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Payment of Maintenance Fee in an Expired Patent (37 CFR 1.378(c)) .....	1,640	1,550	2,542,000
Petition to Accept Payment of Maintenance Fee Prior to Expiration of Patent (37 CFR 1.377) .....	130	150	19,500
"Fee Address" Indication Form .....	0	87,300	0
Total .....	.....	348,110	369,599,650

The USPTO estimates that the total filing costs associated with this collection will be \$369,599,650 per year. The total non-hour respondent cost burden for this collection in the form of recordkeeping costs, postage costs, and filing fees is \$369,755,939 per year.

#### IV. Request for Comments

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the 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, *e.g.*, 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 OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: August 6, 2002.

**Susan K. Brown,**

*Records Officer, USPTO, Office of Data Management, Data Administration Division.*

[FR Doc. 02-20671 Filed 8-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Air Force

#### Community College of the Air Force

**AGENCY:** Department of the Air Force, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) Board of Visitors will hold a meeting to review and discuss academic policies and issues relative to the operation of the college. Agenda items include a review of the operations of the CCAF and an update on the activities of the CCAF Policy Council. Members of the public who wish to make oral or written statements at the meeting should contact Second Lieutenant Richard W. Randolph, Designated Federal Officer for the Board, at the address below no later than 4 p.m. on 11 October 2002. Please mail or electronically mail all requests. Telephone requests will not be honored. The request should identify the name of the individual who will make the presentation and an outline of the issues to be addressed. At least 35 copies of the presentation materials must be given to Second Lieutenant Richard Randolph no later than three days prior to the time of the board meeting for distribution. Visual aids must be submitted to Second Lieutenant Richard Randolph on a 3 1/2" computer disc in Microsoft PowerPoint format no later than 4 p.m. on 11 October 2002 to allow sufficient time for virus scanning and formatting of the slides.

**DATES:** October 29, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Tyndall Conference Center Conference Room, Tyndall Air Force Base, Panama City, Florida 32403.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Second Lieutenant Richard Randolph, (334) 953-7322, Community College of the Air Force, 130 West Maxwell Boulevard, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama 36112-6613, or via electronic

mail at  
*Richard.Randolph@maxwell.af.mil.*

**Pamela D. Fitzgerald,**

*Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 02-20698 Filed 8-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-05-P

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Federal Interagency Coordinating Council Meeting

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice describes the schedule and agenda of the forthcoming meeting of the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council (FICC). Notice of this meeting is intended to inform members of the general public of their opportunity to attend the meeting. The FICC will engage in ongoing policy discussions related to young children with disabilities and their families. The meeting will be open and accessible to the general public.

FICC committee meetings will be held on September 18, 2002 in the Switzer Building, 330 C Street, SW., Washington, DC 20202.

**DATE AND TIME:** FICC Meeting: Thursday, September 19, 2002 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Hubert Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 505A, Washington, DC 20201.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bobbi Stettner-Eaton or Obral Vance, U.S. Department of Education, 330 C Street, SW., Room 3080, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202. Telephone: (202) 205-5507 (press 3).

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call (202) 205-5637.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FICC is established under section 644 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1444). The FICC is established to: (1) Minimize duplication across Federal, State, and local agencies of programs and activities relating to early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families and preschool services for children with disabilities; (2) ensure effective coordination of Federal early intervention and preschool programs, including Federal technical assistance and support activities; and (3) identify gaps in Federal agency programs and services and barriers to Federal interagency cooperation. To meet these purposes, the FICC seeks to: (1) Identify areas of conflict, overlap, and omissions in interagency policies related to the

provision of services to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with disabilities; (2) develop and implement joint policy interpretations on issues related to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers that cut across Federal agencies, including modifications of regulations to eliminate barriers to interagency programs and activities; and (3) coordinate the provision of technical assistance and dissemination of best practice information. The FICC is chaired by Dr. Robert H. Pasternack, Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

Individuals who need accommodations for a disability in order to attend the meeting (i.e., interpreting services, assistive listening devices, material in alternative format) should notify Obral Vance at (202) 205-5507 (press 3) or (202) 205-5637 (TDD) ten days in advance of the meeting. The meeting location is accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Summary minutes of the FICC meetings will be maintained and available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, 330 C Street, SW., Room 3080, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202, from the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays, except Federal holidays.

**Loretta Petty Chittum,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.*

[FR Doc. 02-20669 Filed 8-14-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA Nos. 84.007, 84.032, 84.033, 84.038, 84.063, 84.069, and 84.268]

### Student Assistance General Provisions, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Family Education Loan, Federal Work-Study, Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Pell Grant, Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership, and William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Programs; Notice of Deadline and Submission Dates for Receipt of Applications, Reports, and Other Documents for the 2002-2003 Award Year

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary announces deadline submission dates for receiving documents from institutions and applicants for assistance under the Federal student aid programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended for the 2002-2003 award year. The Federal student aid programs include the Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Work-Study,