

Dated: July 16, 2008.

**Stephen J. Claeys,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.*

[FR Doc. E8-16999 Filed 7-23-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DS-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XJ20**

#### Endangered Species; File No. 13544

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

**ACTION:** Notice; receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Jeffrey Schmid, Conservancy of Southwest Florida, 1450 Merrihue Drive, Naples, FL 34102, has applied in due form for a permit to take Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*), loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), and green (*Chelonia mydas*) sea turtles for purposes of research.

**DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before August 25, 2008.

**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)427-2521; and Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701; phone (727)824-5312; fax (727)824-5309.

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)427-2521, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period.

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing e-mail comments is [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). Include

in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: File No. 13544.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kate Swails or Patrick Opay, (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 purpose of the proposed research activities is to characterize the aggregations of marine turtles in the nearshore waters of Lee County in southwest Florida. Turtles would be collected in Pine Island Sound, San Carlos Bay, Estero Bay, and adjacent Gulf of Mexico waters using a large-mesh, run-around strike net. Turtles would be measured, weighed, and tagged with Inconel tags on the trailing edge of the front flippers and a passive integrated transponder tag inserted in the left front flipper. Tissue samples would be collected for genetic and stable isotope analyses. The applicant requests annual take of 130 Kemp's ridley, 50 loggerhead, 20 green, and five hawksbill turtles. A subset of Kemp's ridleys would be held for 24-48 hrs. for fecal sample collection. Another subset of Kemp's ridleys would receive electronic transmitters to investigate their movements, home range, and habitat associations. The applicant is requesting a five-year permit.

Dated: July 18, 2008.

**P. Michael Payne,**

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

[FR Doc. E8-16994 Filed 7-23-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XB27**

#### Marine Mammals; File No. 373-1868

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

**ACTION:** Notice; withdrawal of application.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, 3820 Cypress Drive #11, Petaluma, California 94954, has withdrawn an application for an amendment to Permit No. 373-1868

for takes of Steller sea lions (*Eumetopias jubatus*) incidental to research.

**ADDRESSES:** The documents related to this action 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)427-2521; and

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Amy Sloan or Jaclyn Daly, (301)713-2289. **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

On July 10, 2007, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (71 FR 44020) that an application had been filed by the above-named organization for authorization to incidentally harass Steller sea lions during research on pinnipeds in California. The applicant has withdrawn the application.

Dated: July 18, 2008.

**P. Michael Payne,**

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

[FR Doc. E8-16988 Filed 7-23-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Telecommunications and Information Administration

**Docket Number: 080717848-8849-01**

#### Instructions to Assist Manufacturers Submitting Notices of Intent (NOI) for Digital-to-Analog Converter Boxes

**AGENCY:** National Telecommunications and Information Administration

**ACTION:** Notice

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces that manufacturers that intend to submit, for the first time, digital-to-analog converter boxes to the National

Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for certification as part of the TV Converter Box Coupon Program (Coupon Program) must submit their Notice of Intent (NOI) before September 1, 2008. Manufacturers who have to date received a certification notice for one or more converters (repeat manufacturers) have until September 30, 2008 to submit their NOI for any additional digital-to-analog converter boxes for certification under the Coupon Program. The intent of this notice is to allow NTIA to better plan and anticipate

resource needs to process a finite group of converters.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Maureen Lewis, Technical Quality Liaison, TV Converter Box Coupon Program, mlew@ntia.doc.gov, (202) 482-1892.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On March 15, 2007 NTIA published regulations to implement and administer a coupon program for digital-to-analog converter boxes.<sup>1</sup> Among other things, the Final Rule specifies that manufacturers interested in participating in the coupon program must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to NTIA. The regulations provide the necessary information to include in the NOI and also provide technical specifications and features required for a converter box to qualify for the coupon program.

Manufacturers' strong interest in the TV Converter Box Coupon Program has resulted in the certification of more than 125 coupon eligible converter boxes (CECBs), a third of which include the analog pass-through feature. NTIA appreciates manufacturers' efforts to offer consumers a range of product choices that will enable them to experience the benefits of the digital transition. The rapid approach of the analog shut-down, however, necessitates that NTIA redeploy some of its limited resources to other important aspects of Program administration such as resolving consumer concerns and mitigating waste, fraud, and abuse. Therefore, this Notice provides manufacturers information to facilitate their planning for further program participation.

NTIA informs manufacturers that first time manufacturers have until **September 1, 2008** to submit a Notice of Intent for their digital-to-analog converter boxes to ensure processing and certification in time to participate in the Coupon Program. Pursuant to NTIA's regulations, NOIs shall be submitted to NTIA at least three months prior to submission of the manufacturer's test report and samples.<sup>2</sup> This time is needed to complete the lengthy process to test and validate each converter box. NTIA is establishing a cutoff date for NOIs to ensure that there is enough time to complete the certification process for converter boxes before the expiration of the Coupon Program. NTIA has found that the time and resources needed to review and complete the certification process with first-time manufacturers is often much

greater than that needed to complete a technical review from a manufacturer that has successfully completed the process. By establishing September 1, 2008 as the last date for first-time manufacturers to submit NOIs, NTIA will be able to plan and anticipate resource needs to process a finite group of converters. NTIA reminds manufacturers the regulations also require that NOIs must include a brief description of the converter box, including permitted as well as required features.

Therefore, after **September 1, 2008**, NTIA will only accept NOIs from repeat manufacturers, *i.e.*, manufacturers that have, by that date, received a certification notice for one or more converters. These repeat manufacturers will have until September 30, 2008 to submit NOIs for any additional digital-to-analog converter boxes to NTIA for certification as part of the Coupon Program.

Manufacturers who have submitted NOIs that are pending with NTIA as of the date of this Notice, are requested to submit complete test results associated with each pending NOI **no later than September 30, 2008**. There are currently pending with NTIA many NOIs that indicate the manufacturer's intention to submit test results some months ago. In order to prompt manufacturers to complete and submit test results, NTIA establishes this end date. NTIA will close the file associated with any NOI which has not been followed by submission of completed test results by September 30, 2008.

Additional guidance on testing or submission procedures may be provided on NTIA's web page under Manufacturers' Frequently Asked Questions, pursuant to Section 301.5(e), [www.ntia.doc.gov](http://www.ntia.doc.gov).

Questions about the procedure for submitting NOIs or other aspects of NTIA's technical certification process may be submitted to:

Art Wall, Technical Advisor  
TV Converter Box Coupon Program  
US Department of Commerce  
Washington, DC 20230  
[awall@atlanticbb.net](mailto:awall@atlanticbb.net)

Dated: July 18, 2008.

**Meredith Atwell Baker,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information*

[FR Doc. E8-16903 Filed 7-23-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-60-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### **Notice of Availability of the Final Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (SPEIS) for Army Growth and Force Structure Realignment To Support Operations in the Pacific Theater**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Army announces the availability of the Final SPEIS for the growth and realignment of the U.S. Army to support operations in the Pacific Theater. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Department of the Army has prepared a Final SPEIS that evaluates the potential environmental and socioeconomic effects associated with alternatives for implementing the growth and realignment of the Army's forces to support operations in the Pacific Theater. Potential impacts have been analyzed in the Final SPEIS at installations that are capable of supporting operations in the Pacific Theater.

**DATES:** The waiting period for the Final SPEIS will end 30 days after the publication of the Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register** by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**ADDRESSES:** To obtain a copy of the Final SPEIS contact: Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Environmental Command, Building E4460, Attention: IMAE-PA, 5179 Hoadley Road, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21010-5401.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Public Affairs Office at (410) 436-2556 or facsimile at (410) 436-1693 during normal business hours Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time or e-mail [APGR\\_USAECPublicComments@conus.army.mil](mailto:APGR_USAECPublicComments@conus.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Army's Proposed Action and analysis within the Final SPEIS covers those activities the Army may undertake from 2008 through 2013 to grow, realign, and transform its forces to support operations in the Pacific Theater. Implementation of the Proposed Action will ensure the proper capabilities exist to sustain operations and regional security in the Pacific Theater now and into the foreseeable future. The implementation of the Proposed Action will better meet military operational needs, national and regional security requirements, and the needs of the Army's Soldiers and their Families. To

<sup>1</sup> See Rules to Implement and Administer a Coupon Program for Digital-to-Analog Converter Boxes (final Rule), 72 FR 12097 (March 15, 2007).

<sup>2</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 301.5(a).