

within the same state or region, especially those for tribes that are of similar size. A SDTSA encompasses a compact and contiguous area that contains a concentration of individuals who identify with the state-recognized tribe and within which there is structured and organized tribal activity. Referred to as state-designated American Indian statistical areas (SDAISAs) in Census 2000.

State recognition or state-recognized—Refers to American Indian tribes and associated geographic areas that are specifically recognized by a state government through treaty (generally with one of the original thirteen colonial assemblies and/or Great Britain), state legislation, or other formal process. State recognition of a tribe is determined by each respective state government, and conveyed to the Census Bureau by the governor's appointed liaison.

Statistical geographic entity or statistical area—A geographic entity specifically defined for the collection and/or tabulation of statistical data from the Census Bureau. Statistical entities are not generally established by law and their designation by the Census Bureau neither conveys nor confers legal ownership, entitlement, jurisdiction, or governmental authority. Tribal statistical geographic entities include ANVSAs, OTSAs, TDSAs, and SDTSAs, among others.

Surface estate—That portion of the interest, ownership, or property in land that resides on the earth's surface, as distinguished from the subsurface estate (for example, mineral rights). The Census Bureau collects the boundaries of ORTLs where the surface estate is held in trust; it does not collect the boundaries where only the subsurface estate is held in trust.

Tribal block group—Block groups defined on AIRs and ORTL that are separate from, and in addition to, standard state/county/census tract hierarchy block groups, maintained and presented within the Census Bureau's American Indian geographic hierarchy, and are defined through the TSAP by tribal primary participants. These are in all respects the functional and programmatic equivalent to standard block groups and should be treated as such. They were developed to further enhance the data available for federally recognized American Indian tribes with an AIR or ORTL. (See also Block group)

Tribal census tracts (tribal tracts)—Census tracts defined on AIRs and ORTL that are separate from, and in addition to, standard state/county hierarchy census tracts, maintained and presented within the Census Bureau's

American Indian geographic hierarchy, and are defined through the TSAP by tribal primary participants. These are in all respects the functional and programmatic equivalent to standard census tracts and should be treated as such. They were developed to further enhance the data available for federally recognized American Indian tribes with an AIR or ORTL. (See also Census tract)

Tribal-designated statistical area (TDSA)—A statistical geographic entity identified and delineated for the Census Bureau by a federally recognized American Indian tribe that does not currently have an AIR and/or ORTL. A TDSA is intended to be comparable to the AIRs within the same state or region, especially those for tribes that are of similar size. A TDSA encompasses a compact and contiguous area that contains a concentration of individuals who identify with the delineating federally recognized American Indian tribe, and within which there is structured and organized tribal activity. Although two TDSAs were delineated within Alaska for Census 2000, TDSAs will not be delineated within Alaska for the 2010 Census. All ANVs eligible to delineate TDSAs within Alaska for Census 2000 are eligible consider delineating an ANVSA within Alaska for the 2010 Census.

Tribal jurisdiction statistical area (TJSA)—A statistical entity identified and delineated for the 1990 Census to provide a geographic frame of reference for the presentation of statistical data. TJSA boundaries were required to follow census block boundaries and were based upon the boundaries of the former AIRs of federally recognized tribes in Oklahoma. The 1990 Census TJSA essentially were defined in the same manner as planned for the OTSAs in Census 2000; the descriptive designation is being changed for Census 2000 to correct the impression that these statistical entities conveyed or conferred any jurisdictional authority.

Tribal Statistical Areas Program (TSAP)—New for the 2010 Census, the TSAP is intended to consolidate the various AIAN statistical geographic entities into one program. New delineations, updates, and re-delineations of the various tribal statistical geographic entities, including ANVSAs, tribal tracts, and tribal block groups, will all be processed through the TSAP.

Tribal subdivision—An administrative subdivision of a federally recognized AIR, ORTs, or OTSA; variously known as chapters, communities, or districts. These entities are internal units of self-government or administration that serve social,

cultural, and/or economic purposes for the American Indians on the AIR, ORTLs, or OTSAs.

Visible feature—A map feature that can be seen on the ground such as a road, railroad track, major aboveground transmission line or pipeline, river, stream, shoreline, fence, sharply defined mountain ridge, or cliff. Nonstandard visible features are a subset of visible features that may not be clearly defined on the ground (such as a ridge), may be seasonal (such as an intermittent stream), or may be relatively impermanent (such as a fence). The Census Bureau generally requests verification that a nonstandard visible feature used as a boundary for a statistical geographic entity poses no problem for census enumerators in locating it during fieldwork.

Executive Order 12866

This Notice has been determined to be not significant under Executive Order 12866.

Paperwork Reduction Act

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) unless that collection of information displays a current, valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. In accordance with the PRA, 44 U.S.C., Chapter 35, the Census Bureau requested, and the OMB granted its clearance for the information collection requirements for geographic partnership programs on September 24, 2008 (OMB Control Number 0607-0795, expires on March 31, 2009). The Census Bureau's request for an extension of this clearance until March 31, 2009, was sent to the OMB on September 9, 2008.

Dated: November 7, 2008.

Steve H. Murdock,

Director, Bureau of the Census.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

Census Advisory Committees

AGENCY: Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) is giving notice of a joint meeting, followed by separate and

concurrently held meetings of the Census Advisory Committees (CACs) on the African American Population, the American Indian and Alaska Native Populations, the Asian Population, the Hispanic Population, and the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Populations. The Committees will address issues related to the 2010 Census, including the Integrated Communications Campaign, 2010 Partnerships, and other decennial activities. The five Census Advisory Committees on Race and Ethnicity will meet in plenary and concurrent sessions on December 10–12. Last-minute changes to the schedule are possible, which could prevent advance notification.

DATES: December 10–12, 2008. On December 10, the meeting will begin at approximately 9 a.m. and end at approximately 5 p.m. On December 11, the meeting will begin at approximately 8:30 a.m. and end at approximately 4:45 p.m. On December 12, the meeting will begin at approximately 8:30 a.m. and end at approximately 3:45 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the U.S. Census Bureau, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Suitland, MD 20746.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Jeri Green, Committee Liaison Officer, Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 8H153, Washington, DC 20233, telephone 301-763-6590. For TTY callers, please use the Federal Relay Service 1-800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The CACs on the African American Population, the American Indian and Alaska Native Populations, the Asian Population, the Hispanic Population, and the Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Populations comprise nine members each. The Committees provide an organized and continuing channel of communication between the representative race and ethnic populations and the Census Bureau. The Committees provide an outside-user perspective and advice on research and design plans for the 2010 Census, the American Community Survey, and other related programs, particularly as they pertain to an accurate count of these communities. The Committees also assist the Census Bureau on ways that census data can best be disseminated to diverse race and ethnic populations and other users. The Committees are established in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Title 5, United States Code, Appendix 2, Section 10(a)(b)).

All meetings are open to the public. A brief period will be set aside at the meeting for public comment. However,

individuals with extensive questions or statements must submit them in writing to Ms. Jeri Green at least three days before the meeting. Seating is available to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Committee Liaison Officer as soon as possible, preferably two weeks prior to the meeting.

Due to increased security and for access to the meeting, please call 301-763-3231 upon arrival at the Census Bureau on the day of the meeting. A photo ID must be presented in order to receive your visitor's badge. Visitors are not allowed beyond the first floor.

Dated: November 7, 2008.

Steve H. Murdock,

Director, Bureau of the Census.

[FR Doc. E8-27123 Filed 11-13-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XK60

Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Exempted Fishing, Scientific Research, Display, and Chartering Permits; Letters of Acknowledgment

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

ACTION: Notice of intent; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces its intent to issue Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs), Scientific Research Permits (SRPs), Display Permits, Letters of Acknowledgment (LOAs), and Chartering Permits for the collection of Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) in 2009. In general, EFPs and related permits would authorize collections of a limited number of tunas, swordfish, billfishes, and sharks from Federal waters in the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, and Gulf of Mexico for the purposes of scientific data collection and public display. Chartering permits allow the collection of HMS in the high seas or in the Exclusive Economic Zone of other nations. Generally, these permits will be valid from the date of issuance through December 31, 2009, unless otherwise specified, subject to the terms and conditions of individual permits.

DATES: Written comments on these activities received in response to this notice will be considered by NMFS when issuing EFPs and related permits and must be received on or before December 15, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Email: HMSEFP.2009@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line the following identifier: 0648- XK60.

- Mail: Craig Cockrell, Highly Migratory Species Management Division (F/SF1), NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

- Fax: (301) 713-1917.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Craig Cockrell, phone: (301) 713-2347, fax: (301) 713-1917 or Jackie Wilson, phone: (240) 338-3936.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Issuance of EFPs and related permits are necessary for the collection of HMS for public display and scientific research because regulations (e.g., seasons, prohibited species, authorized gear, and minimum sizes) may prohibit the collection of live animals or biological samples for these purposes. Collection for scientific research and display represents a small portion of the overall fishing mortality for HMS, and this mortality will be counted against the quota of the species harvested, as appropriate. The terms and conditions of individual permits are unique; however, all permits will include reporting requirements, limit the number and species of HMS to be collected, and only authorize collection in Federal waters of the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean Sea.

EFPs and related permits are issued under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*) and/or the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (ATCA) (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*). Regulations at 50 CFR 600.745 and 50 CFR 635.32 govern scientific research activity, exempted fishing, chartering arrangements, and exempted educational activities with respect to Atlantic HMS. Since the Magnuson-Stevens Act does not consider scientific research to be "fishing," scientific research is exempt from this statute, and NMFS does not issue EFPs for bona fide research activities (e.g., research conducted from a research vessel and not a commercial or recreational fishing vessel) involving species that are only regulated under the Magnuson-Stevens Act (i.e., sharks) and not under ATCA. NMFS requests copies of scientific research plans for these activities and