

3, 2010), authorizes research on North Atlantic right whales (*Eubalaena glacialis*) off the coast of Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina. Activities include aerial surveys, vessel surveys, photo-identification, biopsy sampling, and behavioral observations. The purpose of the research is to monitor population status, demographics, habitat and anthropogenic impacts. The issued minor amendment (No. 15488–01) extends the duration of the permit through June 30, 2017, but does not change any other terms or conditions of the permit.

Permit No. 15537 (IMMS) was issued on October 5, 2011 (76 FR 63286, October 12, 2011), authorizing the acquisition of up to eight stranded, releasable California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*) from the NMFS Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program for the purposes of public display. Permit No. 15537 was amended on May 2, 2016 (81 FR 33217, May 25, 2016), in response to a Court-ordered remand of the permit to NMFS for reconsideration. *IMMS v. NMFS*, No. 1:11CV318–LG–JMR (S.D.Miss. 2014). Permit Condition B.3 was removed, Permit Condition B.2 was amended and the permit was extended for one year. The issued permit amendment (No. 15537–02) further extends the duration of permit through December 31, 2018, but does not change any other terms or conditions of the permit.

Permit No. 18890 (ADF&G; 80 FR 15992, March 26, 2015) authorizes research on beluga (*Delphinapterus leucas*), bowhead (*Balaena mysticetus*), gray, and humpback whales in Alaska including photo-identification, biopsy sampling, and tagging (large whales and belugas) and aerial surveys and captures for health assessments (belugas, excluding the Cook Inlet Distinct Population Segment). Research studies include population abundance (beluga), stock structure (bowhead, gray, humpback, and beluga), feeding areas and other important habitats (all species), migration routes (all species), behavior relative to human disturbance (all species), and to genetically identify individuals in order to determine survival and calving intervals (belugas). Ice seals may be incidentally captured or harassed during research. Biological samples may be imported or exported for analysis. The permit is valid for five years from the date of issuance.

Permit No. 19091 (SWFSC; 80 FR 45196, July 29, 2015) authorizes research on over 55 species of marine mammals and five species of sea turtles in all oceans of the world, with special focus on the eastern Pacific Ocean. The purpose of this research is to determine

the abundance, distribution, movement patterns, dive behavior, demography and stock structure, and to monitor trends in recruitment of pinnipeds, cetaceans, and sea turtles in U.S. territorial and international waters. Researchers may conduct ground, vessel, and aerial surveys for observation, photogrammetry, photo-identification, biological sampling, and tagging animals. A request to use fully implantable satellite tags for cetaceans was denied. Researchers also may salvage and receive/import/export specimens and biological samples of these species. The permit is valid for five years from the date of issuance.

Permit No. 19116 (Dr. Southall; 81 FR 29847, May 13, 2016) authorizes research involving studies of sound production, diving and other behavior, and responses to sound of sixteen species of marine mammals, including endangered species. This study involves close approaches, attachment of tags, and sound exposure. Small fragments of sloughed skin, which often remain attached to retrieved tags, would be used for genetic analyses. Target species include beaked whales and other odontocetes, key baleen whales, and pinniped species for whom such data have not been previously obtained; other marine species may be incidentally harassed. The permit is valid for five years from the date of issuance.

Permit No. 19638 (Dr. Ponganis; 81 FR 29846, May 13, 2016) authorizes research to determine the role of blood oxygen store depletion in the dive behavior and foraging ecology of California sea lions on San Nicolas Island, California. Lactating females would be captured, flipper tagged, anesthetized, and equipped with a venous or arterial blood oxygen recorder, a velocity-acceleration-depth recorder, kinematic recorders, intravascular lactate sensor, or intravascular thermistor probe during foraging trips to sea. Animals would be recaptured after the foraging trip to remove the recorders. The pups of the females would also be captured and marked for ID purposes. Other pinnipeds may be incidentally harassed. The permit is valid for five years from the date of issuance.

Permit No. 20283 (Dr. Chapman; 81 FR 33212, May 25, 2016) authorizes the import of scalloped hammerhead shark (*Sphyrna lewini*) samples obtained from the Hong Kong fish market in order to assess global trade of shark fins through genetic analysis. Samples from up to 200 individuals would be imported to the Florida International University for

analysis. The permit is valid for two years from the date of issuance.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activities proposed are categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement, with the exception of File No. 19116.

For File No. 19116, an environmental assessment (EA) was prepared analyzing the effects of the permitted activities on the human environment in compliance with NEPA. Based on the analyses in the EA, NMFS determined that issuance of the permit would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment and that preparation of an environmental impact statement was not required. That determination is documented in a Finding of No Significant Impact, signed on July 8, 2016.

As required by the ESA, as applicable, issuance of these permits were based on a finding that such permits: (1) Were applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of such endangered species; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: August 25, 2016.

**Julia Harrison,**

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

[FR Doc. 2016–20941 Filed 8–30–16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### United States Global Change Research Program (USGCRP)

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) United States Global Change Research Program (USGCRP).

**ACTION:** Request for public nominations.

Context: The U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) is mandated under the Global Change Research Act (GCRA) of 1990 to conduct a quadrennial National Climate Assessment (NCA). Under its current decadal strategic plan (<http://go.usa.gov/3qGU4>) USGCRP is building sustained assessment capacity. The sustained assessment supports the Nation's ability to understand, anticipate, and responds to risks and

potential impacts brought about by global environmental change, namely the human-caused buildup of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere that is causing climate change.

The last NCA from 2014 (NCA3: <http://nca2014.globalchange.gov>) and the process to develop it provided a foundation for subsequent activities and reports.

Comments have been received through a request for information on the draft, annotated outline for the Fourth National Climate Assessment (NCA4) <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/07/05/2016-15807/public-comment-on-an-annotated-outline-for-the-fourth-national-climate-assessment>. Informed by these comments, a revised outline, including a chapter list, is provided below and available online <https://www.globalchange.gov/notices>. Sectoral and response chapters will be coordinated and led by federal agencies. Regional chapters will be coordinated and led by non-federal regional chapter leads, who in turn will collaborate with federal coordinating lead authors.

For each regional chapter, a non-federal regional chapter lead must be nominated through this call for nominations and then selected by the Federal NCA4 Steering Committee. This non-federal regional chapter lead will then, with input and guidance from the Federal NCA4 Steering Committee, select federal and non-federal chapter authors and technical contributors to establish regional author teams. A federal coordinating lead author will also work with each regional chapter lead as a liaison between the regional chapter lead and federal agencies. Federal coordinating lead authors will provide technical editorial oversight of report content.

The regions that NCA4 will cover are the Northeast, Southeast and the Caribbean, Midwest, Northern Plains, Southern Plains, Southwest, Northwest, Alaska, and Hawai'i and Pacific Islands. See below in the appendix for the sectors, responses, and cross-cutting topics that will be covered.

In addition, this request presents an opportunity to submit scientific/technical information to inform the assessment. These technical inputs on sectoral, regional, and response information and cross-cutting topics will serve as part of the foundation for NCA4.

**SUMMARY:** NOAA, on behalf of USGCRP, is soliciting nominations for regional chapter leads, chapter authors, technical contributors and technical/scientific information for the Fourth National Climate Assessment (NCA4). Refer to the NCA4 Annotated Outline (accessible

below in the Appendix and via [www.globalchange.gov/notices](http://www.globalchange.gov/notices)) for further information on the scope, topics, and overarching themes for the report, as well as roles and responsibilities for nominated leads, authors, and contributors.

The report will adhere to the Information Quality Act requirements ([http://www.cio.noaa.gov/services\\_programs/info\\_quality.html](http://www.cio.noaa.gov/services_programs/info_quality.html)) for quality, transparency, and accessibility as appropriate for a Highly Influential Scientific Assessment (HISA).

**DATES:** Nominations should be submitted via the web address specified below (See **ADDRESSES**) and must be received within 30 days of publication of this Notice.

**ADDRESSES:** Nominations for regional chapter leads, chapter authors, and technical contributors must be submitted electronically via a web form accessible via <https://www.globalchange.gov/notices>. Nominees will identify their areas of expertise based on NCA4's sectoral and response topics. A short CV/resume of no more than 4 pages must be included. Technical inputs should also be submitted electronically via web form accessible from <https://www.globalchange.gov/notices>.

**Instructions:** Response to this notice is voluntary. Responses to this notice may be used by the government for program planning on a non-attribution basis. NOAA therefore requests that no business proprietary information or copyrighted information be submitted in response to this notice. Please note that the U.S. Government will not pay for response preparation, or for the use of any information contained in the response.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Emily Therese Cloyd, (202) 223-6262, [ecloyd@usgcrp.gov](mailto:ecloyd@usgcrp.gov), U.S. Global Change Research Program.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Background information, additional details, and instructions for submitting nominations and technical inputs can be found at [www.globalchange.gov/notices](http://www.globalchange.gov/notices). For the responsibilities and expectations of different kinds of authors and contributors, please see: [www.globalchange.gov/notices](http://www.globalchange.gov/notices). For more information about the NCA and access to previous NCA reports and activities, please see <http://assessment.globalchange.gov>.

Call for Nominations for Regional Chapter Leads, Chapter Authors and Technical Contributors, this notice seeks nominations for regional chapter leads, chapter authors, and technical contributors to NCA4 with pertinent

subject matter expertise and scientific background. Potential nominees should be accomplished scholarly writers and have demonstrated scientific and technical expertise and academic proficiency in at least one of the regions, sectors, response, or climate science topics outlined in the NCA4 Annotated Outline, (described below in the Appendix and accessible via <https://www.globalchange.gov/notices>). Submissions must show that nominees have demonstrated technical backgrounds such that they could contribute to the development of a robust scientific, technical assessment as subject matter experts in one or more of the topics listed in the outline.

Responses to this request for nominations for regional chapter leads, chapter authors, and technical contributors must be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice. Users can access the nominations form via [www.globalchange.gov/notices](http://www.globalchange.gov/notices). Interested persons may nominate themselves or third parties, and may nominate more than one person. Each nomination must include: (1) The nominee's full name, title, institutional affiliation, and contact information; (2) the nominee's area(s) of expertise; (3) a short description of his/her qualifications relative to contributing to the report; and (4) a current resume/CV [maximum length four (4) pages].

Nominations will be reviewed and selected by the Federal NCA4 Steering Committee. Non-federal nominees may be selected and requested to serve as regional chapter leads, and other federal and non-federal nominees may be invited to participate as chapter authors or technical contributors to NCA4. Those selected as regional chapter leads will be informed no later than six weeks after the close of the nominations window. Those not selected as non-federal chapter leads may have their information passed on to Federal agencies or non-federal chapter leads for further consideration as chapter authors or technical contributors.

#### Call for Relevant Scientific Information to Inform NCA4

Interested parties are invited to assist in contributing, collecting, and refining the scientific information base for NCA4. To do so, parties are asked to submit recent, relevant scientific and/or technical research studies including observed, modeled and/or projected climate science information that have been peer reviewed and published or accepted for publication in scientific journals and/or government reports. For some elements of NCA4 (such as adaptation issues), relevant literature

may not always be in the scientific peer-reviewed literature. These other types of literature (e.g., reports that are produced by the non-profit and business communities) may still be submitted as input. All information used in the report is expected to comply with NOAA Information Quality Act standards.

Please refer to the outline (See Appendix below for topics covered in NCA4) to target your submissions. We especially encourage submissions of regional information and information for such topics as case studies, economic valuation, and cross-cutting sectoral research. All scientific literature submitted in response to this call for information must be received by January 15, 2017. For best consideration, please submit by November 1, 2016.

Submissions must be uploaded electronically via the link provided on <http://www.globalchange.gov/notices>.

#### Appendix: NCA4 Updated Outline

- I: Overview
  - II: Our Changing Climate
  - III: National Analyses/Sectoral Chapters
    - Water
    - Energy
    - Ecosystems, Ecosystem Services, and Biodiversity
    - Oceans and Marine Resources
    - Coastal Effects
    - Agriculture and Food Production
    - Forests
    - Land Cover and Land Use Change
    - Transportation
    - Built Environment, Urban Systems, and Cities
    - Human Health
    - Air Quality
    - Energy, Water, Land Nexus
    - Tribal and Indigenous Communities
    - North American and Other International Effects
  - IV: Regional Analyses
    - Northeast
    - Southeast and Caribbean
    - Midwest
    - Northern Plains
    - Southern Plains
    - Northwest
    - Southwest
    - Alaska
    - Hawai'i and Pacific Islands
  - V: Response
    - Near-Term Adaptation Needs and Increased Resiliency
    - Mitigation: Avoiding and Reducing Long-Term Risks
- Dated: Thursday, August 18, 2016.
- Dan Barrie, *Program Manager, Assessments Program, NOAA Climate Program Office*  
Published on TBD.  
Dated: August 25, 2016.

**Jason Donaldson,**  
*Chief Financial Officer, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2016-20982 Filed 8-30-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

### Sunshine Act Meeting Notice

**TIME AND DATE:** Wednesday, August 31, 2016, 10 a.m.–11 a.m.\*

**PLACE:** Hearing Room 420, Bethesda Towers, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, Maryland.

**STATUS:** Commission Meeting—Open to the Public.

#### Matter To Be Considered

Decisional Matter: Fall 2016 Regulatory Agenda

A live webcast of the Meeting can be viewed at [www.cpsc.gov/webcast](http://www.cpsc.gov/webcast).

#### CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Todd A. Stevenson, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 4330 East West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814, (301) 504-7923.

\* The Commission unanimously determined by recorded vote that Agency business requires calling the meeting without seven calendar days advance public notice.

Dated: August 29, 2016.

**Todd A. Stevenson,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2016-21076 Filed 8-29-16; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 6355-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive Patent License to Fox Materials Consulting, LLC; Colorado Springs, CO

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with 35 U.S.C. 209(e) and 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i), the Department of the Army hereby gives notice of its intent to grant to Fox Materials Consulting, LLC; a corporation having its principle place of business at 7145 Baker Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80908, an exclusive license in the field of semiconductor applications that use nonvolatile switches and relays relative to the following:

- “Ferroelectric Mechanical Memory and Method”, US Patent No.: 9,385,306, Filing Date March 12, 2015, Issue Date July 5, 2016.

- “Ferroelectric Mechanical Memory Based on Remanent Displacement and Method”, US Patent Application No.: 15/131,881, Filing Date April 18, 2016.

**DATES:** Written objections must be filed not later than 15 days following publication of this announcement.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written objections to U.S. Army Research Laboratory Technology Transfer and Outreach Office, RDRL-DPT/Thomas Mulkern, Building 321, Room 110, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5425.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Thomas Mulkern, (410) 278-0889, email: [ORTA@arl.army.mil](mailto:ORTA@arl.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless within fifteen (15) days from the date of this published notice, the U.S. Army Research Laboratory receives written objections including evidence and argument that establish that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. Competing applications completed and received by the U.S. Army Research Laboratory within fifteen (15) days from the date of this published notice will also be treated as objections to the grant of the contemplated exclusive license.

Objections submitted in response to this notice will not be made available to the public for inspection and, to the extent permitted by law, will not be released under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

**Brenda S. Bowen,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2016-20922 Filed 8-30-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-03-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

#### Funding Down the State and Partnership Grant Slates From Fiscal Year (FY) 2014; Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)

[Catalog of Financial Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers: 84.334S and 84.334A]

**AGENCY:** Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to fund down the State and partnership grant slates from FY 2014.

**SUMMARY:** The Secretary intends to use grant slates developed in FY 2014 for the GEAR UP Program authorized by Section 404A of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), to make new grant awards in FY 2016. The Secretary takes this action because a number of high-quality applications remain on the FY 2014 State and partnership grant slates and limited funding is available for new grant awards in FY 2016. We expect to use an estimated \$20,000,000 for new awards in FY 2016.