

**DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before March 7, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** The application and related documents are available for review by selecting "Records Open for Public Comment" from the "Features" box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species (APPS) home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 22187 from the list of available applications. These documents are also available upon written request via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov).

Written comments on this application should be submitted via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). Please include File No. 22187 in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sara Young or Shasta McClenahan, Ph.D., (301) 427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject amendment to Permit No. 22187-02 is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

On November 18, 2021, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (86 FR 64457) that a request for an amendment to a scientific research permit for research on northern elephant seals (*Mirounga angustirostris*) had been submitted by the above-named applicant. Following the close of the public comment period, the applicant made several substantive changes to the amendment request; therefore, the original request has been withdrawn from further consideration and a revised amendment request has been submitted.

Permit No. 22187-02, issued on December 13, 2021, authorizes the permit holder to conduct research to establish a catalog of known individual northern elephant seals along the California coast. Types of authorized takes include behavioral observations, measurements, bioacoustic recordings, acoustic playbacks, marking, flipper tagging, capture, and non-invasive physiological sampling. The permit holder is requesting the permit be amended to include authorization for 25 additional takes of northern elephant seals per year at two locations in California. Each animal would be handled up to three times per year. At

first handling, each animal will be flipper tagged. At the second handling, each animal will be captured by hand or net, sedated and fitted with satellite transmitters, in addition to the physiological sampling already authorized. At the third handling, approximately three months later, animals would be recaptured to remove the instruments. Five additional takes are requested for animals that are captured and released because they are not appropriate candidates for the study. An additional 200 harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina*) takes and 185 elephant seal takes are requested annually for unintentional harassment during these activities. The permit holder is requesting two mortalities, an increase in the number of annual mortalities from one animal to two, but the total number of mortalities (five) allowed across the life of the permit will not change. The permit would remain valid until March 31, 2024.

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.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: February 1, 2022.

**Julia M. Harrison,**

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

[FR Doc. 2022-02420 Filed 2-3-22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Highly Migratory Species Tournament Registration and Reporting

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection, request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before April 5, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to Adrienne Thomas, NOAA PRA Officer, at [NOAA.PRA@noaa.gov](mailto:NOAA.PRA@noaa.gov). Please reference OMB Control Number 0648-0323 in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to Clifford Hutt, Fishery Management Specialist, NOAA Fisheries Highly Migratory Species Management Division, 1315 East-West Highway, SSMC3, Silver Spring, MD 20910; 301-427-8503; or [cliff.hutt@noaa.gov](mailto:cliff.hutt@noaa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

This request is for extension of a currently approved information collection. Under the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is responsible for management of the nation's marine fisheries. Existing regulations require operators of tournaments involving Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS; Atlantic swordfish, sharks, billfish, and tunas) to register four weeks in advance of the tournament. Operators must provide contact information and the tournament's date(s), location(s), and target species. Operators are required to submit an HMS tournament summary report within seven days after tournament fishing has ended. Most of the catch data in the summary report is routinely collected in the course of regular tournament operations. NMFS uses the data to estimate the total annual catch of HMS and the impact of tournament operations in relation to other types of fishing activities. In addition, HMS tournament registration provides a method for tournament operators to request educational and

regulatory outreach materials from NMFS. No changes to the reporting requirements are being made at this time.

## II. Method of Collection

Operators have the choice of registering and reporting online or by electronic or paper forms. Methods of submittal include online submission (registering/reporting), email of electronic forms, and mail of paper forms.

## III. Data

*OMB Control Number:* 0648–0323.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission (extension of a current information collection).

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations; Not-for-profit institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 300.

*Estimated Time per Response:* Tournament registration, 2 minutes; tournament summary report, 20 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 110.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$34.80 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Mandatory.

*Legal Authority:* Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*)

## IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that

your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.*

[FR Doc. 2022–02394 Filed 2–3–22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Telecommunications and Information Administration

#### NTIA IJA Broadband Grant Program Webinars

**AGENCY:** National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) will host a pre-Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) technical assistance webinar series in March–May 2022 in connection with the five new broadband grant programs authorized and funded by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA): The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program; the Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program; and the Digital Equity Act Programs, which include the State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program, State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, and Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program. These pre-NOFO technical assistance webinars are designed to help prospective applicants understand NTIA's IJA broadband grant programs and to assist applicants to prepare high quality grant applications.

**DATES:** NTIA will hold these webinars based on the following schedule:

1. IJA Broadband Programs Pre-NOFO Technical Assistance Webinar #1: Wednesday, March 9, 2022, from 2:30–4:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET);

2. IJA Broadband Programs Pre-NOFO Technical Assistance Webinar #2: Wednesday, March 23, 2022, from 2:30–4:00 p.m. ET;

3. IJA Broadband Programs Pre-NOFO Technical Assistance Webinar #3: Wednesday, April 6, 2022, from 2:30–4:00 p.m. ET;

4. IJA Broadband Programs Pre-NOFO Technical Assistance Webinar

#4: Wednesday, April 27, 2022, from 2:30–4:00 p.m. ET; and

5. IJA Broadband Programs Pre-NOFO Technical Assistance Webinar #5: Wednesday, May 11, 2022, from 2:30–4:00 p.m. ET.

**ADDRESSES:** These webinars will be hosted via NTIA's virtual platform and conducted as a live webinars. NTIA will post the registration information on its BroadbandUSA website at <https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/events/latest-events>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Maci Morin, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 4872, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482–2048; email: [BroadbandForAll@ntia.gov](mailto:BroadbandForAll@ntia.gov). Please direct media inquiries to NTIA's Office of Public Affairs, (202) 482–7002; email [press@ntia.gov](mailto:press@ntia.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Pub. L. 117–58) authorized and funded five new broadband grant programs to be administered by NTIA: The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program; the Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program; and the Digital Equity Act Programs, which include the State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program, State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, and Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program. The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program is a \$42.45 billion formula-based program to states, territories, and the District of Columbia for qualifying broadband deployment, mapping, and adoption project. The Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program is a competitive \$1 billion grant program for the construction, improvement or acquisition of middle-mile infrastructure. The Digital Equity Act Programs—which includes the State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program, State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, and the Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program—allocate \$2.75 billion to promote digital inclusion and equity for communities that lack the skills, technologies, and support needed to take advantage of broadband connections.

These webinars are subject to change. Session time changes will be posted on the BroadbandUSA website at <https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/events/latest-events>. Any webinar cancellations will also be posted on the same website. Any date change to a scheduled webinar will be provided in a notice in the **Federal Register**.