

NOAA Fisheries

## Office of Protected Resources



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#### **Incidental Take Authorizations**

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#### Overview

This page is designed to provide information on why the marine mammal non-fishery interaction program was created, how the program operates under current laws and regulations, and to provide guidance on how to obtain marine mammal small take authorizations for non-fishery activities. The marine mammal non-fishery interaction program is tasked with implementation of section 101(a)(5) (A-D) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA), as amended (16 U.S.C. 1371(a)(5)), which provides a mechanism for allowing, upon request, the "incidental", but not intentional, taking, of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographic region.

### MMPA Incidental Take Authorization or Letter of Authorization (LOA)

In 1981, Congress amended the MMPA to provide for "incidental take" authorizations for maritime activities, provided NMFS found the takings would be of small numbers and have no more than a "negligible impact" on those marine mammal species not listed as depleted under the MMPA (i.e., listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and not having an "unmitigable adverse impact" on subsistence harvests of these species. These "incidental take" authorizations, also known as Letters of Authorization or LOAs, require that regulations be promulgated and published in the Federal Register outlining:

- Permissible methods and the specified geographical region of taking;
- The means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact on the species or stock and its habitat and on the availability of the species or stock for "subsistence" uses; and,
- Requirements for monitoring and reporting, including requirements for the independent peer-review of proposed monitoring plans where the proposed activity may affect the availability of a species or stock for taking for subsistence uses.

In 1986, Congress amended both the MMPA, under the incidental take program, and the ESA to authorize takings of depleted (and endangered or threatened) marine mammals, again provided the taking (lethal, injurious, or harassment) was small in number and had a negligible impact on marine mammals.

# MMPA Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA)

In 1994, MMPA section 101(a)(5) was amended to establish an expedited process by which citizens of the U.S. can apply for an authorization to incidentally take small numbers of marine mammals by "harassment", referred to as Incidental Harassment Authorizations or IHAs. It established specific time limits for public notice and comment on any requests for authorization which would be granted under this new provision. According to the legislative history, Congress expected NMFS to act expeditiously in complying with the notice and comment requirements

and expected NMFS to use the general rule making authority available under section 112 of the MMPA to establish a process for granting authorization in the case of incidental takes by harassment in "Arctic waters". In 1996 NMFS published an interim final rule (50 CFR Part 216.101-108) implementing this aspect of the program. The interim rule will be amended and written upon completion of NMFS' criteria for acoustic harassment.

Recause the incidental harassment authorization process has eliminated the need

for promulgating specific regulations on the incidental taking, IHAs have been of increasing interest since 1994 for those individuals with relatively short-term activities that might inadvertently harass marine mammals. This program allows authorizations to be issued in 120 days, instead of the 8-18 months typically needed for LOAs issued under regulations.

Regarding activities that occur in Arctic waters, the MMPA requires that monitoring plans be peer reviewed where the activity has the potential to affect the availability of a species or stock of marine mammals for subsistence uses. In order to aid NOAA Fisheries Service in its review of the monitoring plans, NOAA Fisheries Service holds an annual Open Water Meeting in Anchorage, Alaska, each spring.

# **Types of Activities**

Most LOAs and IHAs to date have involved the incidental harassment of marine mammals by noise. Activities with the greatest potential to harass by noise include:

- seismic airguns
- ship and aircraft noise
- high energy sonars
- explosives detonations

#### Applying for an LOA or IHA

First the applicant must ask: Do I need an LOA or an IHA?

The applicant should apply for an **IHA** and does not need an LOA for the activity if it can be shown that:

- 1. there is no potential for serious injury or mortality; or,
- 2. the potential for serious injury or mortality can be negated through mitigation requirements that could be required under the authorization

If these two requirements cannot be met, or in other words, if the potential for "serious injury" and/or mortalities exists and there are no mitigating measurements that could be taken to prevent this form of 'take' from occurring, then the applicant must obtain an *LOA*.

After the type of authorization is determined, the applicant must submit a written request to the NMFS Office of Protected Resources AND the appropriate NMFS Regional Office where the specified activity is planned. These requests must include items 1-14 below before being considered by NMFS.

{Note that incomplete applications and applications that do not contain or refer to the necessary  ${\hbox{\tt NEPA}}$  documentation, if applicable, will be returned to the applicant with explanation.}

All applications for marine mammal incidental take authorizations, whether an LOA or an IHA, must include the following information in sufficient detail for NOAA Fisheries to meet the requirements mandated by section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA):

- 1. A detailed description of the specific activity or class of activities that can be expected to result in incidental taking of marine mammals;
- 2. The date(s) and duration of such activity and the specific geographical region where it will occur;
- 3. The species and numbers of marine mammals likely to be found within the activity area:
- 4. A description of the status, distribution, and seasonal distribution (when applicable) of the affected species or stocks of marine mammals likely to be affected by such activities;
- 5. The type of incidental taking authorization that is being requested (i.e., takes by harassment only; takes by harassment, injury and/or death) and the method of incidental taking;
- 6. By age, sex, and reproductive condition (if possible), the number of marine mammals (by species) that may be taken by each type of taking identified in paragraph (a)(5) of this section, and the number of times such takings by

each type of taking are likely to occur;

- 7. The anticipated impact of the activity upon the species or stock;
- 8. The anticipated impact of the activity on the availability of the species or stocks of marine mammals for subsistence uses;
- 9. The anticipated impact of the activity upon the habitat of the marine mammal populations, and the likelihood of restoration of the affected habitat;
- 10. The anticipated impact of the loss or modification of the habitat on the marine mammal populations involved;
- 11. The availability and feasibility (economic and technological) of equipment, methods, and manner of conducting such activity or other means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact upon the affected species or stocks, their habitat, and on their availability for subsistence uses, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds, and areas of similar significance;
- 12. Where the proposed activity would take place in or near a traditional Arctic subsistence hunting area and/or may affect the availability of a species or stock of marine mammal for Arctic subsistence uses, the applicant must submit either a "plan of cooperation" or information that identifies what measures have been taken and/or will be taken to minimize any adverse effects on the availability of marine mammals for subsistence uses.
- 13. The suggested means of accomplishing the necessary monitoring and reporting that will result in increased knowledge of the species, the level of taking or impacts on populations of marine mammals that are expected to be present while conducting activities and suggested means of minimizing burdens by coordinating such reporting requirements with other schemes already applicable to persons conducting such activity. Monitoring plans should include a description of the survey techniques that would be used to determine the movement and activity of marine mammals near the activity site(s) including migration and other habitat uses, such as feeding. Guidelines for developing a site-specific monitoring plan may be obtained by writing to the Director, Office of Protected Resources; and
- 14. Suggested means of learning of, encouraging, and coordinating research opportunities, plans, and activities relating to reducing such incidental taking and evaluating its effects.

All documentation, including the application, reports, and any other associated documents are considered public information and as such, are subject to the Freedom of Information Act. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

OMB No. 0648-0151

Expires: February 28, 2014

# How long does it take to get an authorization once the application is complete?

Please note that decisions on **LOA** applications (includes two comment periods, possible public hearings, and consultations) may take from 8-18 months. **IHA** decisions normally involve one comment period and, depending on the issues and species involved, can take anywhere from 4-8 months.

#### **Endangered Species Act Authorizations Involving Marine Mammals**

The 1986 MMPA Amendments provided for an authorization to incidentally take ESA-listed marine mammals provided the taking (including mortality) was authorized under section 101(a)(5) of the MMPA.

Any takings of marine mammals listed as threatened or endangered under the ESA must be authorized under both the ESA and MMPA. The ESA takes are authorized by either an Incidental Take Statement or ITS under Section 7 (for Federal agency actions) or a Section 10 permit (for private citizens).

#### **Federal Agency Actions**

with NMFS on any actions that might affect listed species. If the agency or NMFS determines an action is likely to adversely affect a species (this would include any taking actions under the MMPA), formal consultation is required. Here, NMFS prepares a "Biological Opinion" (BO) which assesses whether the action is likely to jeopardize the existence of the species. The BO may include binding and/or discretionary recommendations to reduce impact. An ITS is attached to the BO as an appendix, and it is this statement which allows the incidental take. An ITS cannot be authorized for a listed marine mammal until the MMPA authorization is completed.

#### **Non-Federal Actions**

A private citizen or State action not involving a Federal agency which would result in an incidental taking of a listed species must be authorized under section 10 of the ESA. The applicant is required to develop a <u>conservation plan</u> which describes the action, evaluates the effect of the take, and establishes the level of take. The Federal action of NMFS issuing a permit under section 10 is considered an action which itself requires section 7 consultation (in which case NMFS consults with itself).

LOA/IHA Applications for Public Review

Applicant	Application	EA/EIS	Documents
2014-2015 Deepwater Wind Block Island Transmission System (BITS) Construction	IHA Application [pdf]		Federal Register  Notice of Proposed IHA
2014-2019 U.S. Navy Missile Launches from San Nicolas Island	LOA Application [pdf]		Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA; Open for Comment through  04/21/2014  Federal Register Notice of Receipt
2014 U.S. Coast Guard Station Monterey Waterfront Improvement Project	IHA Application [pdf]	USCG EA [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA; Open for Comment through 04/11/2014  Marine Mammal Monitoring Plan [pdf]  Acoustic Monitoring Plan [pdf]
2014 Sonoma County Water Agency's Russian River Estuary Management project	IHA Application [pdf]	EA (2010) [pdf] FONSI (2010) [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA: Open for Comment through 04/04/2014  Monitoring Report [pdf] Pinniped

			Monitoring Plan [pdf]  Jetty Study Plan [pdf]  Outlet Channel Adaptive Mangement Plan [pdf]
			Biological Opinion (2008) [pdf]
2014 NSF / L-DEO Marine Seismic Survey in Atlantic Ocean off New Jersey	IHA Application [pdf]	<u>Draft EA</u> [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA; Open for Comment through 04/16/2014
2014 Furie Operating Alaska LLC Seismic Survey in Cook Inlet	IHA Application [pdf]		Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA; Open for Comment through 04/03/2014
2014 San Nicolas Island, CA, Roads and Airfield Repairs Project	IHA Application [pdf]	<u>EA</u> [pdf]	<u>FRN</u>
2014 St. George Reef Lighthouse Preservation Society Restoration Project in Del Norte, CA	IHA Application [pdf]		Federal Register  Notice of Proposed IHA
2011-14 Cape Wind Associates' High Resolution Geophysical Survey in Nantucket Sound, MA	2014 IHA Application [pdf]  2013 Issued IHA [pdf]  2013 IHA Renewal Application [pdf]  2011 IHA Application [pdf] [1.8 MB]	FONSI (2011)	2014 Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  2013 Federal Register Notice of Issuance  2013 Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  Monitoring Plan (2012) [pdf]  Comments Received on 2011 Proposed IHA [pdf] [1.3 MB]  2011 Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA [pdf]

2015-2020 Navy's Mariana Islands Training and Testing (MITT)	LOA Application [pdf]		Federal Register Proposed Rule  Federal Register Notice of Receipt
2014 U.S. Navy Northwest Training and Testing Activities	LOA Application [pdf]		Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA
2014-2015 Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project off New York	IHA Application [pdf]		<u>Federal Register</u> <u>Notice of</u> <u>Proposed IHA</u>
2014 NSF Marine Low-Energy Seismic Survey off the Antarctic East Coast	Issued IHA [pdf]  Revised IHA Application [pdf]  Addendum to IHA Application [pdf]  Original IHA Application [pdf]	Revised IEE/EA [pdf]  Initial Environmental Evaluation/ Environmental Assessment (IEE/EA) [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA
2014 Apache Alaska Corp. Seismic Survey in Cook Inlet Alaska	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]		Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Comments Received [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA
2014-5 WSDOT Bremerton Ferry Terminal Wingwall Replacement Project  2013-4 WSDOT Mukilteo Ferry Terminal Construction Work  2014-2019 U.S. Navy Target and	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	EA [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Comments from MMC [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA
Missile Launch Activities at San Nicolas Island, CA  2013-4 Northeast Gateway LNG Port	[par]  IHA Application [pdf]	EIS [pdf]	Notice of Proposed IHA  Marine Mammal Monitoring and

Operations and Maintenance/ Repair			Mitigation Plan [pdf]  Federal Register  Notice of Proposed IHA
2014-2015 Point Blue Seabird and Pinniped Research Activities in Central California	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	-	Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  2011-2012 Monitoring Report [pdf]
2013-2014 UCSC PISCO Rocky Intertidal Monitoring	Issued IHA [pdf] IHA Application [pdf]		Comments Received [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA
2013-4 CALTRANS San Francisco- Oakland Bay Bridge East Span Seismic Safety Project	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Renewal Application memo [pdf]		Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Marine Mammal Monitoring Report: Foundation C3 Demolition [pdf]  Marine Mammal Monitoring Report: Vibratory Driving of Temporary Test Piles [pdf]
2013-4 Naval Base Kitsap Pier 6 Pile Replacement	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application (Revised) [pdf]	EA [pdf] FONSI [pdf] Draft EA [pdf]	Comments Received [pdf]  Adoption Memo [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  References Cited
2013-4 Wharf Recapitalization Project at Naval Station Mayport, FL	IHA Application [pdf]	<u>Draft EA</u> [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  Monitoring Plan [pdf]  References [pdf]
2014-2019 VAFB	LOA Application	FA	Federal Register

Launch and Harbor Maintenance Activities	[pdf]	[pdf]  FONSI [pdf]	Notice of Issuance  Comments Received [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Proposed LOA
2013 SAE Marine Seismic Survey in the Beaufort Sea, AK	IHA Application [pdf]		Correction to FR Notice  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA
2013 TGS 2D seismic survey in the Chukchi Sea, AK	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	EA [pdf] FONSI [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Biological Opinion [pdf]  Public Comments Received [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  Plan of Cooperation [pdf] [31.8 MB]  Marine Mammal Monitoring and Mitigation Plan [pdf]
2012-3 Testing AN/AQS-20A Mine Reconnaissance Sonar System in the Navy's NSWC PCD Testing Range	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Renewal Application [pdf]  2012 IHA Application [pdf] [1.5 MB]	EA (Aug 2012)	Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  Mission Activities Report [pdf]  Species Monitoring Report [pdf]
2013 Scripps Institution of Oceanography's Iow-energy marine geophysical survey in the tropical western Pacific	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	Environmental Analysis (Draft) [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA

Ocean, Sept-Oct			
2013 Maritime Strike Operations at Eglin Air Force Base	Issued IHA [pdf] IHA Application [pdf]		Federal Register Notice of Issuance Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA
2013 Naval Base Point Loma Fuel Pier Replacement Project	Final IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	EA [pdf] FONSI [pdf] Draft EA [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Adoption Memo [pdf]  Final Monitoring Plan [pdf]  Comments from Marine Mammal Commission [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  References/ Literature Cited [pdf]
2013 Naval Base Kitsap Bangor Barge Mooring Project	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	EA [pdf] FONSI [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Comments from Marine Mammal Commission [pdf]  Adoption Memo [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  References/ Literature Cited [pdf]
2013 Naval Base Kitsap Bangor Wharf Construction Project (Year 2)	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	Record of Decision (ROD) [pdf]  Decision Memo [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Incidental Take Statement (ITS) [pdf]  Comments from Marine Mammal Commission [pdf]  References/

			Literature Cited
2013 Shell Marine Seismic Survey in the Chukchi Sea, AK	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	EA [pdf] FONSI [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Comments Received [pdf]  Biological Opinion [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  Peer Review [pdf]
2013-4 City of San Diego's demolition and construction activities at the Children's Pool Lifeguard Station in La Jolla, CA	IHA Renewal Request [pdf] Issued IHA [pdf] IHA Application [pdf]	EA [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA Renewal; open for comment through 03/13/2014  2013 Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Comments Received [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  BCME [pdf] Monitoring Plan (Draft) [pdf]  Maps of Construction and Haul Out Sites [pdf]

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2013 NMFS SWFSC's Fisheries and Ecosystem Research Activities	LOA Application [pdf]	<u>Draft EA</u> [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Receipt  Federal Register Notice of Availability of Draft EA
2013 NE Gateway Deepwater Port Operations and Maintenance	IHA Application [pdf]		
2013 US Navy Training Conducted within the Silver Strand Training Complex	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]		Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Comments from Marine Mammal Commission [pdf]  Federal Register notice
2013 Office of Naval Research Acoustic Technology Experiments	Issued IHA [pdf] IHA Application [pdf]		Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Comments Received [pdf]  Federal Register notice
2014-2019 U.S. Marine Corps Training Activities in Pamlico Sound, NC	LOA Application [pdf]		
2013 U.S. Marine Corps Training Activities in Pamlico Sound, NC	Issued IHA [pdf] IHA Application [pdf]	EA (2009) [pdf] [9.3 MB]  FONSI (2009) [pdf]	Federal Register notice of issuance  Public Comments Received [pdf]  Federal Register notice of proposed IHA  Monitoring Report (2010) [pdf]
2013 L-DEO Marine Seismic Survey in the Northeast Atlantic Ocean (June-July)	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	Environemental Assessment (NMFS) [pdf]  Environmental Analysis [pdf]	90-day monitoring report [pdf]  Federal Register notice of issuance Federal Register notice of

			proposed IHA
2013 Sonoma County Water Agency's Russian River Estuary Management project	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Renewal Application [pdf]	EA (2010) [pdf] FONSI (2010) [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA  Adaptive Mangement Plan [pdf]
			Biological Opinion (2008) [pdf]  Monitoring Report [pdf]
2013-4 Conoco Phillips Chukchi Sea Exploratory Drilling Program	IHA Application [pdf]		Federal Register notice of withdrawal  Plan of Cooperation [pdf]  Federal Register notice of proposed IHA
2013 Bremerton Ferry Terminal Construction by the Washington State Department of Transportation	Issued IHA [pdf] IHA Application [pdf]		Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Federal Register notice of proposed IHA
2013 USGS Low- Energy Marine Seismic Survey in the deep water of the Gulf of Mexico	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	USGS FONSI [pdf]  USGS EA [pdf]  Draft EA [pdf]  Draft NEPA Determination [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Monitoring Report [pdf]  Public Comments Received [pdf]  Federal Register notice of proposed IHA
2013 L-DEO Seismic Survey on the Mid- Atlantic Ridge	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	NMFS EA [pdf]  NMFS FONSI [pdf]  NSF Analysis [pdf]	Public Comments (MMC) [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Issuance
2013 WSDOT Orcas Island and Friday Harbor ferry	Issued IHA [pdf]		Federal Register Notice of Issuance

terminals construction	IHA Application [pdf]		Federal Register  Notice of Proposed IHA
2013-2018 NOAA Office of Coast Survey Hydrographic Surveys	LOA Application [pdf]		<u>Federal Register</u> <u>notice</u>
2013 St. George Reef Lighthouse Preservation Society Restoration Project in Del Norte, CA	IHA Application [pdf]		Comments Received (MMC) [pdf]  Federal Register notice
2013 Apache Alaska Corp. Seismic Survey in Cook Inlet Alaska	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	EA [pdf] FONSI [pdf]	Federal Register notice of issuance  Federal Register notice  2012 Monthly Monitoring Reports  May 2012 Jun 2012 Jun 2012 Jul 2012 Aug 2012 Sep 2012
2012-2013 Gulf of the Farallones NMS Abalone Survey	Issued IHA [pdf] IHA Application [pdf]	<u>EA</u> [pdf] <u>FONSI</u> [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance  Biological Opinion [pdf] [8.7 MB]  Federal Register Notice
2009-2013 Naval Air Warfare Center Target and Missile Launch Activities	Request for LOA (2012) [pdf]  LOA Application (2010) [pdf]  Issued LOA [pdf]  LOA Application (2008) [pdf] [2.0 MB]	EA [pdf] [1.6 MB] FONSI [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance (2012)  Monitoring Report (2012) [pdf]  Federal Register notice [pdf]  Proposed Monitoring Plan [pdf] [1.0 MB]
2013-8 Elliott Bay Seawall Project in Seattle, WA	LOA Application [pdf]	EA [pdf] FONSI	Federal Register Final Rule  Federal Register

	ĺ	[par]	<u> Proposed Rule</u>
			<u>Federal Register</u> notice of receipt
2012-2013 UCSC PISCO Rocky	<u>Issued IHA</u> [pdf]	<u>EA</u> [pdf]	Monitoring Report [pdf]
Intertidal Monitoring	IHA Application [pdf]	<u>FONSI</u> [pdf]	Public comment letter (MMC) [pdf]
			<u>Federal Register</u> <u>Notice</u>
2012 U.S. Navy Atlantic Fleet Training and Testing	Testing LOA [pdf]		<u>Final Rule</u> [pdf]
Activities (AFTT)	Training LOA  [pdf]  Updated LOA Application [pdf]  LOA Application (original) [pdf]		Stranding  Response Plan [pdf]  Navy Strategic Planning Process for Monitoring [pdf]  Integrated Comprehensive Monitoring Program [pdf]  Press Release [pdf]  Proposed Rule in Federal Register
			<u>Federal Register</u> notice of receipt
2012 Navy Training in the Northwest Training Range Complex (NWTRC)	LOA Renewal Application [pdf]  Issued LOA [pdf]		2012 Monitoring Report [pdf]  2012 Exercise Report [pdf]
2013-2018 U.S. Navy Hawaii Southern California Training and Testing Activities (HSTT)	Training LOA [pdf]  Testing LOA [pdf]  LOA Application [pdf]	Record of Decision (ROD) [pdf]	Final Rule [pdf]  California Stranding Response Plan [pdf]  Hawaii Stranding Response Plan [pdf]  HSTT Monitoring Projects [pdf]  Navy Strategic Planning Process

			for Monitoring [pdf]  Integrated Comprehensive Monitoring Program [pdf]  Press Release [pdf] Proposed Rule in Federal Register notice of receipt
2012-3 PRBO Seabird and Pinniped Research in Central California	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Renewal Application [pdf]		Comments Received [pdf]  Federal Register notice
2012 Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) Marine Geophysical Survey off the Central Coast of California (Diablo Canyon Power Plant), Nov-Dec 2012	Revised IHA Application (October 2012) [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	NSF Draft EA [pdf]  » Draft EA attachment [pdf]	Federal Register notice of withdrawal (Feb 2013)  Comments received [pdf] [21.3 MB]  Additional comments received (California Coastal Commission) [pdf]  Federal Register notice  Stranding Response Plan (DRAFT) [pdf]
2013-2018 Port Dolphin Florida LNG Construction and Operation	LOA Application [pdf] [2.6 MB]		Federal Register notice  Acoustic Monitoring Plan [pdf]
2012 Farallon Islands Bird Mitigation Research Trial	IHA Application [pdf]		Federal Register Notice
2012 ION Geophysical Project	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	<u>EA</u> [pdf] <u>FONSI</u> [pdf]	90-day monitoring report (and appendices) [pdf] [9.9 MB]

			Notice of Issuance  Biological Opinion [pdf]  Comments Received [pdf]  Federal Register Notice  Conflict Avoidance Agreement [pdf]  Monitoring and Mitagation Plan [pdf]  Plan of Cooperation [pdf]
2012 Honolulu Seawater Air Conditioning Project	Issued IHA [pdf] IHA Application [pdf]	EA [pdf] FONSI [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance Federal Register Notice
2012 Washington DNR Woodard Bay	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	<u>EA</u> [pdf] <u>FONSI</u> [pdf]	Federal Register Notice  Monitoring Report [pdf]
2012 Washington State Ferries Transfer Span Replacement Project at the Port Townsend Ferry Terminal, WA	IHA Application [pdf]	· Fbail	Federal Register Notice
2014-19 Eglin AFB Precision Strike Weapons and Air- to-Surface Gunnery Exercises	Issued LOA [pdf]  LOA Application [pdf]		Federal Register Final Rule  Federal Register Proposed Rule  Federal Register Notice of Receipt
2012 United Launch Alliance (ULA) Delta IV Activities	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Renewal Application [pdf]		2012 Monitoring Report [pdf]  Federal Register Notice
2012 Navy's Training in the Mariana Islands Range Complex	LOA Renewal Application [pdf]		2012 Exercise Report [pdf]

(MIRC)	Proposed LOA [pdf]	 	2012 Monitoring   Report [pdf]
2012 Activities for the America's Cup in San Francisco Bay	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	FONSI [pdf] EA [pdf]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance  USCG Special Local Regulations area map [pdf]  Visitation Analysis [pdf]  Monitoring Report [pdf]  Federal Register Notice
2012 L-DEO Seismic Survey in the Northeast Pacific Ocean	Issued IHA for Cascadia Thrust Zone northern area and Cascadia Subduction Zone seismic survey [pdf]  Issued IHA for Cascadia Thrust Zone southern survey area [pdf]  Issued IHA for Juan de Fuca Plate study area [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	Signed NSF EA [pdf] EA Attachment 1 [pdf] EA - NSF [pdf]  EA - LGL [pdf]	Cascadia Thrust Zone Structures Monitoring Report [pdf]  Cascadia Subduction Margin Geohazards Monitoring Report [pdf]  Juan de Fuca Monitoring Report [pdf]  Incidental Take Statement for Cascadia Thrust Zone northern area and Cascadia Subduction Zone seismic survey [pdf]  Letter to NSF on Cascadia Thrust Zone northern area and Cascadia Subduction Zone seismic survey [pdf]  Biological Opinion for Cascadia Thrust Zone northern area and Cascadia Subduction Zone seismic survey [pdf]  Biological Opinion for Cascadia Subduction Zone seismic survey [pdf]  Biological Opinion for Cascadia Subduction Zone seismic survey [pdf]  Biological Opinion for Cascadia Thrust Zone seismic survey [pdf]  Biological Opinion for Cascadia Thrust Zone

			southern survey area [pdf]  Letter to NSF on Cascadia Thrust Zone southern survey Biological Opinion [pdf]  Incidental Take Statement for Cascadia Thrust Zone southern survey [pdf]  Biological Opinion for Juan de Fuca Plate study area [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA [pdf]
2012 Shell Chukchi Sea Exploratory Drilling Program	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	Final EA [pdf]  FONSI [pdf]  Draft EA [pdf] [3.3 MB]	90-day Report [pdf] [11.3 MB] Appendices to 90- day report [pdf] [39.1 MB]  Biological Opinion [pdf]  Final Monitoring Plan [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Draft EA [pdf]  Comments  Received [pdf] [10.9 MB]  Federal Register Notice [pdf]
2012 Shell Beaufort Sea Exploratory Drilling Program	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	Final EA [pdf]  FONSI [pdf]  Draft EA [pdf] [3.3 MB]	90-day Report [pdf] [11.3 MB] Appendices to 90- day report [pdf] [39.1 MB]  Biological Opinion [pdf]  Final Monitoring Plan [pdf]

2012 Naval Base Kitsap Bangor Pile Replacement Program	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	FONSI (2012) [pdf]  Adoption Memo (2012) [pdf]  SEA [pdf]  Environmental Assessment (EA) [pdf] [15.9 MB]	Federal Register Notice of Draft EA [pdf]  Comments Received [pdf] [10.2 MB]  Federal Register Notice [pdf]  Acoustic Monitoring Report [pdf]  Marine Mammal Monitoring Plan (June 2012) [pdf]  Marine Mammal Plan (June 2012) [pdf]  Acoustic Monitoring Report [pdf]  Marine Mammal Plan (June 2012) [pdf]  Acoustic Monitoring Report (April 2012) [pdf]  Marine Mammal Plan (June 2012) [pdf]  Federal Register Notice [pdf]
2012 BP Open Water Seismic Survey	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]  Supplemental IHA Information [pdf]	EA [pdf]  FONSI [pdf]	Final 90-day report [pdf]  Federal Register Notice [pdf]  Plan of Corporation (POC) [doc]  Comments from the Marine Mammal Commission [pdf]  Comments from the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission [pdf]

			Comments from the public [pdf]  Federal Register Notice [pdf]  Conflict Avoidance Agreement [pdf]  Panel Report [pdf]
2013-18 Columbia River Crossing Bridge Construction	LOA Application [pdf] [16.6 MB]		Federal Register Notice [pdf]  Marine Mammal Monitoring Report [pdf]  Hydroacoustic Monitoring Report [pdf]  Pile Extraction Report [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Receipt [pdf]
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Gulf Sturgeon Research in the Gulf of Mexico	LOA Application [pdf]		<u>Federal Register</u> <u>notice</u> [pdf]
2012 Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) Fireworks Displays	Issued LOA: 2012-2017 [pdf]  Application [pdf]	FONSI [pdf] [1.5 MB] EA (2006) [pdf] [5.8 MB]	Federal Register notice [pdf]  2011 Fireworks Reporting [pdf]  Maps of Fireworks Launch Sites in MBNMS [pdf] [1.0 MB]  Assessment of Pyrotechnic Displays and Impacts within the MBNMS 1993- 2001 [pdf] » Appendix to Assessment [pdf] [1.3 MB]

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2012 L-DEO Marine Low-Energy Seismic Survey in the Pacific Ocean, Line Islands	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	NSF EA [pdf]	90-day monitoring report [pdf]  Comments Received [pdf]  Federal Register notice [pdf]  Federal Register
County Water Agency's Russian River Estuary Management project	[pdf]  IHA Renewal Application [pdf]	[pdf]  FONSI (2010) [pdf]	notice [pdf]  Monitoring Report [pdf]  Management Plan [pdf]
2012 Scripps	Signed IHA-	NSF EA	<u>Federal Register</u>
Institution of Oceanography low- energy marine seismic survey by the R/V Melville in the South-Eastern Pacific Ocean	Corrected (04/30/2012) [pdf]  Issued IHA [pdf]  Revised IHA Application [pdf]  IHA Application	[pdf] Attachment to NSF EA [pdf]  NMFS EA [pdf]  NSF Draft EA [pdf]  Draft EA	notice of issuance [pdf]  Federal Register notice of proposed IHA [pdf]
	[pdf]	Attachment [pdf]	<u> </u>
2012 Black Abalone Research by Dr. VanBlaricom on San Nicolas Island, CA	IHA Application [pdf]	EA (2005) [pdf] FONSI (2005) [pdf]	Federal Register notice [pdf]
2012 Pile Placement for Fishermen's Atlantic City Windfarm	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf] [4.1 MB]	<u>EA</u> [pdf] <u>FONSI</u> [pdf]	Federal Registernotice of issuance [pdf]  Federal Register notice [pdf]
Navy's Gulf of Mexico (GOMEX) Range Complex Training Exercises	Renewal Request for LOA [pdf]  Issued LOA [pdf]  LOA Application Addendum [pdf]  LOA		2011 Monitoring Report (East Coast and Gulf Range Complexes) [pdf] [6.3 MB]  2011 Exercise Report (East Coast and Gulf Range Complexes) [pdf]
I	[pdf] [1.8 MB]		Monitoring Plan

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			Final Rule [pdf]
			Proposed Rule [pdf]
Navy's Atlantic Fleet Active Sonar Training (AFAST)	2012 LOA Renewal Application [pdf]	Final Mitigation EA [pdf]	2011 AFAST Exercise Report [pdf]
	2012 LOA [pdf] [1.2 MB]	Final EIS [pdf] [13.6 MB]  Appendices to	Monitoring Report [pdf] [3.2 MB]
	2011 LOA [pdf] [1.2 MB]	Final EIS [pdf] [29.0 MB]	2010 AFAST Monitoring Report [pdf] [97.9 MB]
	2011 LOA Renewal Application [pdf]		2010 AFAST Exercise Report [pdf]
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	[pdf] [1.3 MB]  LOA [pdf] [4.1 MB]		2009 AFAST Exercise Report [pdf]
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			Final Monitoring Plan [pdf]
			Biological Opinion for AFAST regulations [pdf] [1.6 MB]
			Biological Opinion for AFAST 2009 LOA [pdf] [2.5 MB]
			After Action Reports (AARs) [pdf] [4.1 MB]
2012 L-DEO Marine Seismic Survey in	<u>Issued IHA</u> [pdf]	<u>NSF DEA</u> [pdf]	90-day monitoring report
the Pacific Ocean, off Shatsky Rise	IHA Application [pdf]	NSF Report (Attachment 1) [pdf]	[pdf]  Comments  Received

2012 Ocean Renewable Power Company (ORPC) Maine's Pile Placement in Cobscook Bay	IHA Application [pdf] [1.5 MB]	EA [pdf] FONSI [pdf]	[pdf]  Federal Register  Notice [pdf]  Federal Register  Notice of Issuance [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Receipt [pdf]
2012 Naval Base Kitsap Bangor Wharf Construction Project	Issued IHA [pdf] IHA Application [pdf]	Record of Decision (ROD) [pdf]  Decision Memo [pdf]	Acoustic Monitoring [pdf]  Marine Mammal Monitoring [pdf]  Federal Register Notice [pdf]
2011 St. George Reef Lighthouse Restoration in Del Norte, CA	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf]	Final EA [pdf] FONSI [pdf] [1.7 MB]	Comments Received (MMC)  [pdf]  Federal Register Notice [pdf]
2012 U.S. Navy's Southern California Range Complex (SOCAL)	2012 SOCAL Application [pdf] [3.8 MB]  2011 SOCAL LOA renewal application [pdf]  2010 SOCAL LOA renewal application [pdf] [1.3 MB]  2010 SOCAL LOA renewal application [pdf] [1.3 MB]  2010 SOCAL LOA renewal application addendum [pdf [1.3 MB]  SOCAL Final Rule [pdf]  2008 LOA application [pdf]	EIS Vol 1 [pdf] [51.9 MB]  EIS Vol 2 [pdf] [28.2 MB]  Final SOCAL Mitigation EA [pdf]	2012 Monitoring Report [pdf]  Federal Register Notice [pdf]  2011 SOCAL-HRC Exercise Report [pdf]  2011 SOCAL Monitoring Report [pdf] [64.4 MB]  2010 HRC-SOCAL Monitoring Report [pdf] [58.0 MB]  2011 LOA [pdf] [1.1 MB]  2010 HRC-SOCAL Exercise Report [pdf] [1.5 MB]  2009 HRC-SOCAL Exercise Report [pdf] [1.3 MB]

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Agulhas Return Current Research Project (ARC12)	[pdf]		[pdf]  Federal Register  Notice [pdf]

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			2011 Monitoring Report [pdf] [64.4 MB]
2011 Navy Training in the Northwest Training Range Complex	LOA Application [pdf]		Federal Register  Notice of Issuance [pdf]
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			Exercise Report [pdf]
2011 Apache Alaska Corp. Seismic Survey in Cook	Issued IHA [pdf]	Final EA [pdf]	<u>Federal Register</u> <u>Notice of</u> <u>Issuance</u>
Inlet, Alaska	IHA Application [pdf] [1.6 MB]	FONSI [pdf]	l [pdf] l   <u>Federal Register</u>
		<u>Draft EA</u> [pdf] [2.1 MB]	Notice of Proposed IHA [pdf]
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System Low Frequency Active (SURTASS LFA) Sonar	2013 Application [pdf] 2012 Issued	<u>Final EIS</u> ₩	Final Rule in the Federal Register (2012)
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2011 Port of Vancouver	IHA Application [pdf] [8.2 MB]	EA [pdf] FONSI [pdf]	Federal Register Notice [pdf]
2011 Scripps Institution of Oceanography Low- Energy Marine Seismic Survey in the Western Tropical Pacific Ocean	Issued IHA [pdf] [3.6 MB]  IHA Application [pdf] [1.2 MB]	NSF EA [pdf] [2.5 MB]  LGL EA [pdf] [1.3 MB]	Federal Register Notice of Issuance [pdf]  Comments Received [pdf] [12.1 MB]  Federal Register Notice of Receipt [pdf]
2011 Northeast Gateway Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Port Facility in Massachusetts Bay	IHA Application [pdf]		Federal Register Notice [pdf]
2011 Eglin AFB-	Issued IHA	<u>EA</u>	<u>Federal Register</u>
Gunnery Exercises	[pdf] [1.1 MB]  Application [pdf] [1.2 MB]	[pdf]  FONSI [pdf]	<u>Notice</u> [pdf]
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Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement (BOEMRE, formerly Minerals Management	2011 Application, including Appendices [pdf] [2.4 MB]  -2011 Application (without	2004 MMS PEA [pdf] [8.8 MB]	Comments Received [pdf] [20.4 MB]  2011 Federal Register Notice of Receipt (BOEMRE) [pdf]

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2011 USGS Marine Geophysical Survey in the Central- Western Bering Sea	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf] [1.3 MB]	Draft EA [pdf] [3.4 MB]	Mitigation and Monitoring Report [pdf]  Federal Register notice of issuance [pdf]  Federal Register notice [pdf]  *Correction to Federal Register notice [pdf]  *Correction to Federal Register notice [pdf]
2011 Statoil Shallow Hazards Survey in the Alaskan Chukchi Sea	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf] [1.6 MB]	FONSI [pdf]  Supplemental EA [pdf]	90-day Monitoring  Report [pdf] [5.8 MB]  Biological Opinion [pdf]  Plan of Cooperation [pdf] [17.6 MB]  Federal Register notice of issuance [pdf]

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2011 Pile-Driving and Renovation Operations on the Trinidad Pier by the Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community for the Trinidad Rancheria in Trinidad, CA	Issued IHA [pdf] [1.4 MB]  IHA Application [pdf]	<u>EA</u> [pdf]	Federal Register notice of issuance [pdf]  Federal Register notice [pdf]  Biological Assessment [pdf]  Monitoring Plan [pdf]  NMFS Letter: November 2009 [pdf]  NMFS Letter: October 2009 [pdf]
2011 Lamont- Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO) Marine Seismic Survey in Western Gulf of Alaska	Issued IHA [pdf] [1.7 MB]  IHA Application [pdf] [1.2 MB]	L-DEO EA [pdf] [3.5 MB]	90-day Monitoring Report [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Issuance [pdf]  MMC Comments [pdf]  Federal Register Notice [pdf]
2011 United Launch Alliance Harbor Activities Related to the Delta IV/EEL Vehicle at VAFB, CA	Issued IHA [pdf] [1.1 MB]  IHA Application [pdf]		Public Comment

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2011 USGS Marine Geophysical Survey in the Central Gulf of Alaska	Issued IHA [pdf] [4.5 MB]  IHA Application [pdf]	<u>Draft EA</u> [pdf] [2.2 MB]	90-day Monitoring Report [pdf] [1.2 MB]  Federal Register Notice of Issuance [pdf]  MMC Comments [pdf] [4.1 MB]  Federal Register Notice of Proposed IHA [pdf]
2011 Naval Base Kitsap Bangor Pile Replacement Program	IHA Application [pdf] [4.4 MB]	Environmental Assessment (EA) [pdf] [15.9 MB]  Draft EA [pdf] [8.2 MB]	Federal Register notice of issuance [pdf]  Federal Register notice of Proposed IHA [pdf]
2011 L-DEO Marine Seismic Survey in the Pacific Ocean, off Costa Rica	Issued IHA [pdf] [5.8 MB]  IHA Application [pdf] [1.3 MB]	NMFS EA [pdf]  NMFS FONSI [pdf] [7.8 MB]  NSF Report [pdf] [2.2 MB]  NSF FONSI [pdf] [3.2 MB]	90-day monitoring report [pdf]  MMC Comments [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Receipt and Information [pdf]
2011 Naval Base Kitsap Bangor Test Pile Program	Modified IHA [pdf]  Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf] [2.8 MB]  Issued IHA	Final EA [pdf] [17.3 MB]  FONSI (NMFS) [pdf]  Draft EA [pdf] [10.8 MB]  EA (final)	Acoustics Monitoring Report [pdf] [64.1 MB]  Marine Mammal Monitoring Report [pdf] [16.6 MB]  Federal Register
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2011-2016 Neptune Deepwater Port Operation and Maintenance/ Repair	Issued LOA [pdf] [2.1 MB]  LOA Application [pdf] [4.5 MB]		Correction to Federal Register Notice of Final Rule [pdf] Federal Register Notice of Final

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2010 St. George Reef Lighthouse Restoration in Del Norte, CA	Issued IHA [pdf] [4.5 MB]  IHA Application [pdf]	Final EA [pdf] FONSI [pdf] [1.7 MB]	MMC Comments [pdf] [1.3 MB]  Federal Register Notice of Receipt [pdf]  2010 Monitoring Report [pdf]
2010 US Navy Training Conducted within the Silver Strand Training Complex	LOA Addendum [pdf] [2.5 MB]  IHA Application [pdf] [6.9 MB]  IHA Application version 2 [pdf] [5.0 MB]  IHA Application version 3 [pdf] [6.8 MB]		Comments from the Marine Mammal Commission [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Receipt [pdf]
2010 Parsons Slough Sill Project in Monterey County, CA	IHA Application [pdf] [3.7 MB]		Federal Register  Notice of Issuance [pdf]  Federal Register Notice of Receipt [pdf]
2010 Knik Arm Crossing Project in Upper Cook Inlet, Alaska	LOA Application [pdf] [5.1 MB]		Federal Register Notice of Receipt [pdf]
2010 Exploratorium	IHA Application	Final EA	<u>Federal Register</u>

Relocation in San Francisco, CA	[pdf]	[pdf]	Notice of Issuance [pdf]  Federal Register
2010 Northeast Gateway for the operations of an LNG port facility in Massachusetts Bay	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf] [3.8 MB]		notice of receipt [pdf]  Comments from the Marine Mammal Commission [pdf] [2.1 MB]  Federal Register Notice of Issuance [pdf] Federal Register notice of receipt [pdf]
2010 Bluewater Meteorological Tower Installation, New Jersey/ Delaware	Issued IHA [pdf] [3.0 MB]  IHA Application: Delaware [pdf]  IHA Application: New Jersey [pdf]		Federal Register  Notice of Issuance [pdf]  Federal Register notice of receipt [pdf]
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2010 USGS Seismic Survey in the Arctic Ocean	Issued IHA [pdf] [4.5 MB]  IHA Application [pdf] [1.6 MB]  Addendum to IHA Application [pdf]	Final EA [pdf] [6.9 MB]  Draft EA [pdf] [1.7 MB]	USGS 2010 Monitoring Report [pdf] [7.8 MB]  Federal Register Notice of Issuance [pdf]  AEWC Comments [pdf]  Federal Register notice & [pdf]

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2010 Statoil 3D Marine Seismic Survey in Chukchi Sea, AK	Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf] [1.7 MB]	EA [pdf] [3.9 MB]  FONSI [pdf]	Peer Review Report [pdf]  Peer Review Rec Letter [pdf]  Comments Received [pdf] [2.9 MB]  Federal Register notice of receipt [pdf]  Biological Opinion for Shell and Statoil's Marine and Seismic Surveys [pdf] [1.7MB]  Statoil 90-day monitoring report [pdf] [13 MB] Addendum to the 90-day Report [pdf]
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			Oil Spill Response Plan [pdf]
			Peer Review Pane Report [pdf]
			<u>Federal Register</u> <u>Notice of</u>

			Proposed Rule [pdf]  Federal Register notice of receipt [pdf]
2010 NMFS Alaska Region Replacement and Repair of Fur Seal Research Observation Towers and Walkways on St. Paul Island, AK	Issued IHA [pdf] [1.1 MB]  IHA Application [pdf]	Final EA [pdf]  Draft EA [pdf]	90-Day Monitoring Report [pdf]  Federal Register notice of issuance [pdf]  MMC Comments [pdf]  Maps [pdf] [4.8 MB]  Photos [pdf]  Federal Register notice of receipt [pdf]
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Chukchi Sea	IHA Application [pdf] [1.8 MB]	<u>FONSI</u> [pdf]	Public Comments Received
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2008 L-DEO Taiger Southeast Asia Seismic	Modified IHA [pdf]  Issued IHA [pdf]  IHA Application [pdf] [2.7 MB]	Supplemental EA [pdf] [1.0 MB]  EA [pdf] [6.4 MB]	Monitoring Report [pdf] [14.2 MB]  Federal Register notice: Issuance of IHA [pdf]  Public Comments [pdf] [12.9 MB]  Public Comment Period Extended [pdf]  Federal Register notice: proposed IHA [pdf]
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