DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

[Docket Number 170412386–7386–01]

2020 Census Redistricting Data Program Commencement of Phase 2: The Voting District Project

AGENCY: Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of program.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the commencement of Phase 2 of the 2020 Census Redistricting Data Program: The Voting District Project. This second phase specifically provides States the opportunity to provide the Census Bureau with their voting district boundaries (election precincts, wards, etc.). In addition, States have the opportunity to suggest to the Census Bureau legal boundary updates. State participation in Phase 2 of the Redistricting Data Program is voluntary.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by July 28, 2017. The deadline for States to notify the Census Bureau that they wish to participate in Phase 2: The Voting District Project is December 15, 2017.

ADDRESSES: Please address all written comments to James Whitehorne, Chief of the Census Redistricting and Voting Rights Data Office, U.S. Census Bureau, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Room 4H057, Washington, DC 20233.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James Whitehorne, Chief of the Census Redistricting and Voting Rights Data Office, U.S. Census Bureau, Room 4H057, Washington, DC 20233, telephone (301) 763–4039.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the provisions of Public Law 94–171, as amended (Title 13, United States Code (U.S.C.), Section 141(c)), the Director of the Census Bureau is required to provide the “officers or public bodies with initial responsibility for legislative apportionment or redistricting of each state . . .” with the opportunity to specify small geographic areas (e.g., voting districts, wards, and election precincts) for which they wish to receive decennial census population totals for the purpose of reapportionment and redistricting.

By April 1 of the year following the census, the Secretary is required to furnish those State officials or their designees with population counts for counties, cities, census blocks, and State-specified congressional districts, legislative districts, and voting districts. In accordance with the provisions of Title 13, U.S.C. Section 141(c), and on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce, the Director announces the commencement of Phase 2 of the 2020 Census Redistricting Data Program. The purpose of this notice is to provide further information on the commencement of the 2020 Census Redistricting Data Program, Phase 2—The Voting District Project. Future Federal Register notices will address the other phases of the 2020 Program.

The 2020 Census Redistricting Data Program was initially announced on July 15, 2014, in the Federal Register (79 FR 41258). This notice describes the program that the Census Bureau proposed to adopt for the 2020 Census. As seen in the 1990, 2000, and 2010 censuses, the 2020 Census Redistricting Data Program is partitioned into several phases. Phase 1: The Block Boundary Suggestion Project was announced in a Federal Register notice on June 26, 2015 (80 FR 36765). This notice described the procedures for the States to provide the Census Bureau with their suggestions for the 2020 Census tabulation block inventory.

Beginning in late summer of 2017, and by separate letter, the Census Bureau will invite each state to participate in Phase 2, the Voting District Project, through their previously designated liaison. This phase will include an opportunity to submit voting districts and then verify the submitted voting districts prior to release of the 2020 redistricting data tabulations in Phase 3. For each State responding by December 15, 2017, that wishes to participate in Phase 2, the Census Bureau will provide data from the Master Address File/Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing system (MAF/TIGER), an optional software tool (Geographic Update Partnership Software (GUPS)), and the procedures necessary for each State to begin work on Phase 2. States are not required to use the GUPS; however, they are required to provide their Phase 2 submission to the Census Bureau electronically in Census Bureau specified formats. During the submission period, the Census Bureau will provide training in the use of the GUPS and assist the states in understanding the procedures necessary for processing files for their submission.

The Census Bureau will continue to communicate with each State to ensure they are well informed on the benefits of working with the Census Bureau towards a successful 2020 Census. In addition, the Redistricting Data Office will continue to work with each State to ensure they are prepared to participate in all phases of the Redistricting Data Program. Every State, regardless of their
participation in Phase 1 or Phase 2, will receive the official redistricting data sets, as required by Public Law 94–171, in Phase 3 of the Redistricting Data Program.

John H. Thompson,
Director, Bureau of the Census.
[FR Doc. 2017–13506 Filed 6–27–17; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–07–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–xe009

Marine Mammals; File No. 19425

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application for permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Melissa McKinney, Ph.D., University of Connecticut, Center for Environmental Sciences and Engineering, 3107 Horsebarn Hill Road, U–4210, Storrs, CT 06269, has applied for an amendment to Scientific Research Permit No. 19425.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before July 28, 2017.

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 home page, https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov, and then selecting File No. 19425 from the list of available applications.

These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 427–8401; fax (301) 713–0376.

Written comments on this application should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, at the address listed above. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile to (301)713–0376, or by email to NMFS.PrtComments@noaa.gov. Please include the File No. in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division at the address listed above. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carrie Hubard or Jennifer Skidmore, (301) 427–8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment to Permit No. 19425 is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 et seq.).

Permit No. 19425, issued on July 31, 2015 (80 FR 52453), authorizes the permit holder to analyze marine mammal samples to study contaminant levels, specifically using fatty acid and table isotope values to examine diet and contaminant loads and how they are affected by climate change. Cetacean and pinniped tissue samples come from remote biopsy sampling, captured animals, and animals collected during subsistence harvests and originate in the United States, Canada, and Greenland/Denmark. No live animals are harassed or taken, lethally or otherwise, under the permit. The permit holder is requesting the permit be amended to increase the number of samples from 50 per year to 300 per year, for both pinniped and cetacean species. The additional samples would increase the robustness of the analyses. The permit is valid through August 1, 2020.

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.


Catherine Marzin,
Acting Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 2017–13529 Filed 6–27–17; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID DOD–2017–OS–0030]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by August 28, 2017.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:


Mail: Department of Defense, Office of the Deputy Chief Management Officer, Directorate for Oversight and Compliance, Regulatory and Advisory Committee Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Mailbox #24, Suite 08D09B, Alexandria, VA 22350–1700.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this Federal Register document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the Internet at http://www.regulations.gov as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

Any associated form(s) for this collection may be located within this same electronic docket and downloaded for review/testing. Follow the instructions at http://www.regulations.gov for submitting