

available to the Department relevant to these publications were reviewed by NIST. On the basis of this review, NIST recommended that the Secretary approve the withdrawal of the sixteen FIPS Publications, and prepared a detailed justification document for the Secretary's review in support of that recommendation.

Because of comments received, NIST will delay the withdrawal of three FIPS that had been proposed for withdrawal in the February 24, 1998, notice. FIPS 183, Integration Definition for Function Modeling (IDEFO), and FIPS 184, Integration Definition for Information Modeling (IDEFIX), will be retained until voluntary industry standards are available. FIPS 160, C (ANSI/ISO 9899:1992), will be retained until NIST's validation program for the C programming language ends later this year, and then the FIPS will be withdrawn at that time. NIST will publish a **Federal Register** notice announcing the withdrawal of FIPS 160 before December 31, 1998.

The detailed justification document which was presented to the Secretary is part of the public record and is available for inspection and copying in the Department's Central Reference and Records Inspection Facility, Room 6020, Herbert C. Hoover Building, 14th Street between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Authority: Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) are issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology after approval by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to Section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 and the Computer Security Act of 1987, Public Law 104-106.

Dated: November 12, 1998.

Robert E. Hebner,

Acting Deputy Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Initiation of Review of Management Plan/Regulations of the Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary; Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Management Plan; Public Scoping Meetings

AGENCY: Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM), National Ocean Service (NOS) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare environmental impact statement; notice of scoping meetings.

SUMMARY: The Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (SBNMS or Sanctuary) was designated in November 1992, and consists of 638 square nautical miles of open ocean over and surrounding Stellwagen Bank, occurring between Cape Ann and Cape Cod, Massachusetts. The present management plan for the Sanctuary was completed in July 1993. In accordance with Section 304(e) of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, as amended, (NMSA) (16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.*), the Marine Sanctuaries Division (MSD) of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is initiating review of the management plan, to evaluate substantive progress toward implementing goals for the Sanctuary, and to make revisions to the plan and regulations as necessary to fulfill the purposes and policies of the NMSA.

The revised management plan will likely involve changes to existing policies and regulations of the Sanctuary, to address contemporary issues and challenges, and to better protect and manage the Sanctuary's resources and qualities. The review process is composed of four major stages: information collection and characterization; preparation and release of a draft management plan/environmental impact statement, and any proposed amendments to the regulations; public review and comment; and preparation and release of a final management plan/environmental impact statement, and any final amendments to the regulations. NOAA anticipates completion of the revised management plan and concomitant documents will require approximately eighteen months.

NOAA will conduct public scoping meetings to gather information and other comments from individuals, organizations, and government agencies on the scope, types and significance of issues related to the Sanctuary's management plan and regulations. The scoping meetings are scheduled for the second week in December 1998, as detailed below. All interested persons are invited to attend, and to provide oral comments. Interested persons may also submit written comments at the scoping meetings, or to the address below. Written comments should be received by January 15, 1999.

DATES AND ADDRESSES: Scoping meetings will be held at:

(1) Cape Cod Community College, Commons Building, Upper Commons Room, 2240 Iyanough Road, West

Barnstable, MA, Tuesday, December 8, 1998, 7-9 p.m.;

(2) National Marine Fisheries Service (New England Region), 1st Floor Conference Room, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA, Wednesday, December 9, 1998, 7-9 p.m.; and

(3) New England Aquarium, Education Center, Central Wharf, Boston, MA, Thursday, December 10, 1998, 7-9 p.m.

Written comments may be sent to Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary (Management Plan Review), Scituate Coast Guard Station, 175 Edward Foster Road, Scituate, MA 02066. Comments will be available for public review at the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brad Barr, Sanctuary Manager, at (508) 747-1691. The Sanctuary office is located at 14 Union Street, Plymouth, MA. Following December 15, 1998, the Sanctuary office will be located at the Scituate address listed above.

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: November 13, 1998.

Capt Evelyn Fields,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 111298C]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of applications for a scientific research permit (1184) and modifications to scientific research permits (1074, 1124).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of scientific research and/or enhancement: NMFS has received a permit application from Garcia and Associates (GAA) in San Anselmo, CA (1184); NMFS has received applications for modifications to existing permits from: Pacific Lumber Company in Scotia, CA (PALCo) (1074), and Idaho Department of Fish and Game at Boise, ID (IDFG) (1124).

DATES: Written comments or requests for a public hearing on any of the applications must be received on or before December 18, 1998.