additional time is necessary to make the preliminary determination. Therefore, pursuant to section 703(c)(1) of the Act, we are postponing the preliminary determination in this investigation to no later than February 12, 1999.

This notice is published pursuant to section 703(c)(2) of the Act.

Dated: January 22, 1999.

Robert. S. LaRussa,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 99–2221 Filed 1–28–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Government Owned Inventions

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of government owned inventions available for licensing.

SUMMARY: The inventions listed below are owned in whole or in part by the U.S. Government, as represented by the Department of Commerce. The Department of Commerce's ownership interest in the inventions is available for licensing in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 207 and 37 CFR Part 404 to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of Federally funded research and development.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Technical and licensing information on these inventions may be obtained by writing to: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Office of Technology Partnerships, Building 820, Room 213, Gaithersburg, MD 20899; Fax 301–869–2751. Any request for information should include the NIST Docket No. and Title for the relevant invention as indicated below.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NIST may enter into a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (''CRADA'') with the licensee to perform further research on the inventions for purposes of commercialization. The inventions available for licensing are:

NIST Docket Number: 97–015US.

Title: Noise Reduction In Volume Holographic Memories.

Abstract: A method for improving the quality of holographic images by reducing local noise in a holographic memory system is disclosed. The method is characterized by: storing a white reference image and a black reference image in the memory system, storing a series of data images in the memory system, applying a simple model based on a point-to-point of linear interpolation to the series of data images, the white reference image and the black reference image to provide a series of corrected data images having reduced noise. The simple model is preferably in a form which is characterized by temporal stability for the series of data images for each set of the black and white reference images.

NIST Docket Number: 97–045US.

Title: Granting Assisted Acousto-Optic Tunable Filter and Method.

Abstract: Dense wavelength division multiplexing (D–WDM) is promising in future information networks to increase the communication bandwidth. The invention is an acousto-optic tunable filter that can increase the number of channels significantly by combining a diffraction grating with an acousto-optic spectrum analyzer. The novel grating-assisted acousto-optic tunable filter (GA–AOTF) allows a very narrow spectral bandwidth (only 5% of those of conventional AOTFs) resulting in a significant increase in bandwidth and available channels by a factor of approximately 20.

Robert E. Hebner,

Acting Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 99–2072 Filed 1–28–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–13–M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 011199E]

International Whaling Commission; Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: NOAA makes use of a public Interagency Committee to assist in preparing for meetings of the International Whaling Commission (IWC). This notice sets forth guidelines for participating on the Committee and a tentative schedule of meetings and of important dates.

DATES: The February 19, 1999, Interagency Meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for tentative 1999 meeting schedules.

ADDRESSES: The February 19, 1999, meeting will be held in Room 1863, Herbert C. Hoover Building, Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Catherine Corson, (301) 713–2322.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The February 19, 1999, Interagency Committee meeting will review recent events relating to the IWC and issues that will arise at the 1999 IWC annual meeting.

The Secretary of Commerce is charged with the responsibility of discharging the obligations of the United States under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, 1946. This authority has been delegated to the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, who is also the U.S. Commissioner to the IWC. The U.S. Commissioner has primary responsibility for the preparation and negotiation of U.S. positions on international issues concerning whaling and for all matters involving the IWC. He is staffed by the Department of Commerce and assisted by the Department of State, the Department of the Interior, the Marine Mammal Commission, and by other interested agencies.

Each year, NOAA conducts meetings and other activities to prepare for the annual meeting of the IWC. The major purpose of the preparatory meetings is to provide input in the development of policy by individuals and non-governmental organizations interested in whale conservation. NOAA believes that this participation is important for the effective development and implementation of U.S. policy concerning whaling. Any person with an identifiable interest in United States whale conservation policy may participate in the meetings, but NOAA reserves the authority to inquire about the interest of any person who appears at a meeting and to determine the appropriateness of that person's participation. Foreign nationals and persons who represent foreign governments may not attend. These stringent measures are necessary to promote the candid exchange of information and to establish the necessary basis for the relatively open process of preparing for IWC meetings that characterizes current practices.

Tentative Meeting Schedule

The schedule of additional meetings and deadlines, including those of the IWC, during 1999 follows. Specific locations and times will be published in the **Federal Register**.

April 9, 1999 (Department of Commerce, Herbert C. Hoover Building, Room 1863, Washington, D.C.): Interagency Committee meeting to review recent events relating to the IWC and to review U.S. positions for the 1998 IWC annual meeting.

April 30 to May 3, 1999 (Grenada): IWC Scientific Committee

Working Groups.

May 3 to 15, 1999 (Grenada): IWC Scientific Committee.

May 17 to 19, 1999 (Grenada): IWC Whale Killing Methods Workshop.

May 19 to 21, 1999 (Grenada): IWC Commission Committee, Sub-committees and Working Groups.

May 24 to 28, 1998 (Grenada): IWC 51st Annual Meeting.

Special Accommodations

Department of Commerce meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Catherine Corson at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: January 25, 1999.

Hilda Diaz-Soltero,

Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 99–2187 Filed 1–28–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–F

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Corps of Engineers

Notice of Availability of the Draft Supplement III to the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Manteo (Shallowbag) Bay Project, Dare County, North Carolina; Dated January 1999

AGENCY: Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has prepared Supplement No. 2 General Design Memorandum and a Draft Supplement III to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Manteo (Shallowbag) Bay project, located in Dare County, North Carolina. The project was originally authorized in 1970, and called for the deepening of the navigation channel from the Atlantic Ocean through Oregon Inlet to Wanchese, North Carolina. Because of the dynamic and hazardous nature of Oregon Inlet, dual jetties, combined with a means to bypass sand around the inlet, were authorized to provide safe navigation and reduce the frequency of maintenance dredging.

A range of jetty spacings was analyzed to determine the optimum for protecting navigation, channeling tidal flows, preventing sound side setup, and facilitating larval fish passage through the inlet. Based on this analysis, a jetty spacing of 3,000 feet was selected. Three alternative jetty designs were analyzed to determine whether cost effective measures are available to minimize potential impacts on larval fish: (a) The previously proposed project at a 3,000-foot spacing; (b) jetties along the same alignment which are 1,000 feet shorter; and (c) jetties which are 1,000 feet shorter along the same alignment and with a weir section in the north jetty to allow larval fish passage during mid to high tides. Refined modeling and offshore surveys have indicated that shorter jetties will be effective at intercepting littoral sands and capturing sediments in the ebb tide delta, therefore, shorter jetties are being recommended. Analysis of the weir jetty alternative indicates that movement of larval fishes into the inlet would be facilitated by the presence of a weir. Initial construction costs would be slightly lower and there would be unquantifiable fishery benefits. A weir jetty would allow for the movement of sand over the weir into the inlet where it could be readily bypassed during any season instead of the summer season bypassing required under the previously proposed plan. The dredging only plan has also been reexamined. It has been confirmed that, due to high rate of shoaling in Oregon Inlet, construction and maintenance of the authorized improved channel without jetties is not economically feasible. The no action alternative, which includes the continuation of year-round sidecast dredging supplemented by pipeline and hopper dredging in an effort to maintain the existing project, does not provide a safe, navigable channel in Oregon Inlet. The hazardous navigation conditions will continue to cause vessel losses and damages, injuries to crews, and occasional deaths. After consideration of the environmental consequences of the spacing changes and refinements to the jetty alternative, the dredging only alternative, and the no action alternative, the preferred alternative is to construct shortened jetties with a 3,000-foot spacing and a weir section in the north jetty.

The Supplement No. 2 General Design Memorandum and Draft Supplement III to the Final EIS are now being circulated to allow the public and other interested parties to comment on this sand management plan and other project features which have changed since the last EIS supplement, dated May 1985. All interested persons are invited to provide their views on any aspect of the proposed project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the Supplement No. 2 General Design Memorandum contact Mr. William Dennis, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, PO Box 1890, Wilmington, North Carolina 28402–1890, at (910) 251–4780; and for information on the DEIS supplement contact Mr. William Adams, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, P.O. Box 1890, Wilmington, North Carolina 28402–1890, at (910) 251–4748.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Lands on either side of the inlet are in public ownership, with Cape Hatteras National Seashore to the north and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge to the south. Without sand bypassing, jetties, which trap sand as it moves along the beach, can cause significant erosion of adjacent shorelines. During 1991, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of the Interior formed a Joint Task Force to develop a sand-bypassing plan that was agreeable to both parties. The outcome of this effort was the development of a Sand Management Plan which went beyond previous sand bypassing plans by predefining project related shoreline impacts and delineating shoreline reaches which will be managed as a project responsibility.

SCOPING: Individuals and agencies may present written comments relevant to the Draft EIS Supplement by sending the information to Mr. William Adams at the address above prior to March 18, 1999. Comments, suggestions, and requests to be placed on the mailing list for announcements and for the Final EIS Supplement are also welcome and can be furnished to Mr. Adams at the above address or via e-mail to: william.f.adams@saw02.usace.army.mil, or by FAX at (910) 251–4965.

Copies of the Draft EIS Supplement are available from Mr. William Adams at the address above. Review copies are also available in the library of the Wilmington District Headquarters located at 69 Darlington Avenue, Wilmington, North Carolina.

Dated: January 13, 1999.

Terry R. Youngbluth,

Colonel Corps of Engineers, District Engineer.

[FR Doc. 99–2186 Filed 1–28–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–GN–M