

determination in a countervailing duty investigation within 65 days after the date on which Commerce initiated the investigation. However, section 703(c)(1) of the Act permits Commerce to postpone the preliminary determination until no later than 130 days after the date on which Commerce initiated the investigation if: (A) The petitioner makes a timely request for a postponement; or (B) Commerce concludes that the parties concerned are cooperating, that the investigation is extraordinarily complicated, and that additional time is necessary to make a preliminary determination. Under 19 CFR 351.205(e), the petitioner must submit a request for postponement 25 days or more before the scheduled date of the preliminary determination and must state the reasons for the request. Commerce will grant the request unless it finds compelling reasons to deny the request.

On June 11, 2018, the petitioner, Cambria Company LLC, submitted a timely request that we postpone the preliminary CVD determination because: (1) Commerce was not able to issue its respondent selection memorandum until June 8, 2018; and (2) as a result, responses to the CVD questionnaire are not due until July 16, 2018 (*i.e.*, after the statutory deadline for the preliminary determination). Moreover, the petitioner noted that, because Commerce just identified the mandatory respondents, it has only now begun its research to identify any additional subsidy benefits not addressed in the Petition. Accordingly, the petitioner maintains that, because this investigation is likely to be more complicated than usual, additional time is necessary to ensure that Commerce can conduct a full investigation regarding the subsidy benefits received by Chinese producers and exporters of quartz surface products.<sup>2</sup>

In accordance with 19 CFR 351.205(e), the petitioner has stated the reasons for requesting a postponement of the preliminary determination, and Commerce finds no compelling reason to deny the request. Therefore, pursuant to section 703(c)(1)(A) of the Act, we are extending the due date for the preliminary determination to no later than 130 days after the date on which this investigation was initiated, *i.e.*, to September 14, 2018. Pursuant to section 705(a)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.210(b)(1), the deadline for the final determination will continue to be 75

days after the date of the preliminary determination.

This notice is issued and published pursuant to section 703(c)(2) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.205(f)(1).

Dated: June 20, 2018.

**Gary Taverman,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.*

[FR Doc. 2018-13694 Filed 6-28-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Institute of Standards and Technology

#### Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Analysis of Exoskeleton-Use for Enhancing Human Performance Data Collection

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before August 28, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the internet at [PRAComments@doc.gov](mailto:PRAComments@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Elizabeth Reinhart, NIST Management and Organization Office, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20899; 301-975-8707; [elizabeth.reinhart@nist.gov](mailto:elizabeth.reinhart@nist.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### I. Abstract

Exoskeletons—sometimes called wearable robots—are a very rapidly expanding domain with a range of applications and a broad diversity of designs. NIST's Engineering Laboratory will be developing methods to evaluate performance of exoskeletons in two key areas (1) The fit and motion of the exoskeleton device with respect to the

users' body and (2) The impact that using an exoskeleton has on the performance of users executing tasks that are representative of activities in industrial settings. The results of these experiments will inform future test method development at NIST, other organizations, and under the purview of the new American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) Committee F48 on Exoskeletons and Exosuits.

For the first research topic, NIST will evaluate the usefulness of a NIST prototype apparatus for measuring the difference in performance of a person wearing an exoskeleton versus the person's baseline without the exoskeleton while positioning loads and tools. The NIST Position and Load Test Apparatus for Exoskeletons (PoLoTAE), which presents abstractions of industrial task challenges, will be evaluated in this research.

For the second research topic, NIST will evaluate a method for measuring the alignment of an exoskeleton to human joint (knee) and any relative movement between the exoskeleton and user. Measurement methods prototyped by NIST for evaluating exoskeleton on mannequin position and motion will be applied to human subjects to verify the usefulness of optical tracking system and designed artifacts worn by users as measurement methods.

Participants will be chosen from volunteers within NIST and adult NIST visitors to participate in the study. Gender and size diversity will be sought in the population of participants. No personally identifiable information (PII) will be recorded unless subject consent for PII disclosure is received. NIST intends to publish information on the analysis and results.

#### II. Method of Collection

Participants will give informed consent prior to participating in the research. Information may be collected via a paper background questionnaire which may include disclosure of health information which may be relevant for safety and research reasons. Data will be collected using a combination of heart rate monitor, and video and still cameras to collect time and subject activity to correlate heart rate with activity and an optical tracking system which detects markers. Participants will be asked to complete a paper survey once data is collected for the research.

#### III. Data

*OMB Control Number:* 0693-XXXX.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*Type of Review:* New information collection.

<sup>2</sup> See Letter from the petitioner, "Certain Quartz Surface Products from the People's Republic of China: Request to Postpone Preliminary Determination," dated June 11, 2018.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 250.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 1.5 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 375 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$0.

#### IV. Request for Comments

NIST invites comments on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Departmental Lead PRA Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2018-14047 Filed 6-28-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-13-P**

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

##### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XG288**

##### Marine Mammals; File No. 21485

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

**ACTION:** Notice; receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Jooke Robbins, Ph.D., Center for Coastal Studies, 5 Holway Avenue, Provincetown, MA 02657, has applied in due form for a permit to conduct research on cetaceans.

**DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before July 30, 2018.

**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. 21485 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.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@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 Hubbard or Amy Hapeman, (301) 427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 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 (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

The applicant proposes to continue a long-term study of large whales in the Western Atlantic Ocean. The focus of the research would be on humpback (*Megaptera novaengliae*) and fin (*Balaenoptera physalus*) whales, but six other whale species would be studied if observed. Research would occur in three study areas: (1) Gulf of Maine and adjacent waters, (2) waters off U.S. mid-Atlantic and southeastern states, and (3) humpback breeding grounds, including U.S. waters off Puerto Rico. Research would occur during vessel surveys and include photo-identification, photogrammetry, behavioral observations, and sampling of exhaled air, skin, blubber, and feces. An additional 11 species of small cetaceans, two species of pinnipeds, and North Atlantic right whales (*Eubalena glacialis*) may be incidentally harassed during research. The objectives of the

research are to study the biology and ecology of these whale species by examining population dynamics, movement and habitat use patterns, molecular genetics, reproduction, aging, toxicology, foraging ecology, health, entanglement, and other human interactions. The permit would be valid for five years.

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 the application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: June 25, 2018.

**Amy Sloan,**

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

[FR Doc. 2018-13997 Filed 6-28-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

##### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XF530**

##### Marine Mammals; File No. 21006

**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 Linnea Pearson, California Polytechnic State University, 1 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo, CA 93407, has applied for an amendment to Scientific Research Permit No. 21006.

**DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before July 30, 2018.

**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. 21006 from the list of available applications.

These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the Permits and Conservation