

NOTICE OF OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET ACTION

Date 01/23/2012

Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
FOR CERTIFYING OFFICIAL: Simon Szykman  
FOR CLEARANCE OFFICER: Diana Hynek

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act, OMB has taken action on your request received 10/27/2011

ACTION REQUESTED: Revision of a currently approved collection  
TYPE OF REVIEW REQUESTED: Regular  
ICR REFERENCE NUMBER: 201110-0648-013  
AGENCY ICR TRACKING NUMBER:  
TITLE: Protocol for Access to Tissue Specimen Samples from the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank  
LIST OF INFORMATION COLLECTIONS: See next page

OMB ACTION: Approved without change  
OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0648-0468  
The agency is required to display the OMB Control Number and inform respondents of its legal significance in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.5(b).

EXPIRATION DATE: 01/31/2015 DISCONTINUE DATE:

BURDEN:	RESPONSES	HOURS	COSTS
Previous	140	155	152
New	140	155	162
Difference			
Change due to New Statute	0	0	0
Change due to Agency Discretion	0	0	0
Change due to Agency Adjustment	0	0	10
Change Due to Potential Violation of the PRA	0	0	0

TERMS OF CLEARANCE:

OMB Authorizing Official: Kevin F. Neyland  
Deputy Administrator,  
Office Of Information And Regulatory Affairs

List of ICs

IC Title	Form No.	Form Name	CFR Citation
Application ffor Tissue Samples from the Marine Mammal Tissue Bank and reports on research	NA	NMMTB Tissue Request Form	50 CFR 216.47
Submission of Information on Specimen Samples	NA	NMMTB form	

# PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSION

**Please read the instructions before completing this form. For additional forms or assistance in completing this form, contact your agency's Paperwork Clearance Officer. Send two copies of this form, the collection instrument to be reviewed, the supporting statement, and any additional documentation to: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503.**

1. Agency/Subagency originating request	2. OMB control number <span style="float: right;">b. <input type="checkbox"/> None</span> a. _____ - _____
3. Type of information collection ( <i>check one</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> New Collection b. <input type="checkbox"/> Revision of a currently approved collection c. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of a currently approved collection d. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired e. <input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement, with change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired f. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing collection in use without an OMB control number For b-f, note Item A2 of Supporting Statement instructions	4. Type of review requested ( <i>check one</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Regular submission b. <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency - Approval requested by _____ / _____ / _____ c. <input type="checkbox"/> Delegated
7. Title	5. Small entities Will this information collection have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8. Agency form number(s) ( <i>if applicable</i> )	6. Requested expiration date a. <input type="checkbox"/> Three years from approval date b. <input type="checkbox"/> Other Specify: _____ / _____
9. Keywords	
10. Abstract	
11. Affected public ( <i>Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "x"</i> ) a. ___ Individuals or households d. ___ Farms b. ___ Business or other for-profit e. ___ Federal Government c. ___ Not-for-profit institutions f. ___ State, Local or Tribal Government	12. Obligation to respond ( <i>check one</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary b. <input type="checkbox"/> Required to obtain or retain benefits c. <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory
13. Annual recordkeeping and reporting burden a. Number of respondents _____ b. Total annual responses _____ 1. Percentage of these responses collected electronically _____ % c. Total annual hours requested _____ d. Current OMB inventory _____ e. Difference _____ f. Explanation of difference 1. Program change _____ 2. Adjustment _____	14. Annual reporting and recordkeeping cost burden ( <i>in thousands of dollars</i> ) a. Total annualized capital/startup costs _____ b. Total annual costs (O&M) _____ c. Total annualized cost requested _____ d. Current OMB inventory _____ e. Difference _____ f. Explanation of difference 1. Program change _____ 2. Adjustment _____
15. Purpose of information collection ( <i>Mark primary with "P" and all others that apply with "X"</i> ) a. ___ Application for benefits e. ___ Program planning or management b. ___ Program evaluation f. ___ Research c. ___ General purpose statistics g. ___ Regulatory or compliance d. ___ Audit	16. Frequency of recordkeeping or reporting ( <i>check all that apply</i> ) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Recordkeeping b. <input type="checkbox"/> Third party disclosure c. <input type="checkbox"/> Reporting 1. <input type="checkbox"/> On occasion 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-annually 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Annually 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Biennially 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) _____
17. Statistical methods Does this information collection employ statistical methods <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	18. Agency Contact (person who can best answer questions regarding the content of this submission)  Name: _____ Phone: _____

## 19. Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions

On behalf of this Federal Agency, I certify that the collection of information encompassed by this request complies with 5 CFR 1320.9

**NOTE:** The text of 5 CFR 1320.9, and the related provisions of 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3), appear at the end of the instructions. *The certification is to be made with reference to those regulatory provisions as set forth in the instructions.*

The following is a summary of the topics, regarding the proposed collection of information, that the certification covers:

- (a) It is necessary for the proper performance of agency functions;
- (b) It avoids unnecessary duplication;
- (c) It reduces burden on small entities;
- (d) It used plain, coherent, and unambiguous terminology that is understandable to respondents;
- (e) Its implementation will be consistent and compatible with current reporting and recordkeeping practices;
- (f) It indicates the retention period for recordkeeping requirements;
- (g) It informs respondents of the information called for under 5 CFR 1320.8(b)(3):
  - (i) Why the information is being collected;
  - (ii) Use of information;
  - (iii) Burden estimate;
  - (iv) Nature of response (voluntary, required for a benefit, mandatory);
  - (v) Nature and extent of confidentiality; and
  - (vi) Need to display currently valid OMB control number;
- (h) It was developed by an office that has planned and allocated resources for the efficient and effective management and use of the information to be collected (see note in Item 19 of instructions);
- (i) It uses effective and efficient statistical survey methodology; and
- (j) It makes appropriate use of information technology.

If you are unable to certify compliance with any of the provisions, identify the item below and explain the reason in Item 18 of the Supporting Statement.

Signature of Senior Official or designee

Date

Agency Certification (signature of Assistant Administrator, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Line Office Chief Information Officer, head of MB staff for L.O.s, or of the Director of a Program or StaffOffice)

Signature

Date

Signature of NOAA Clearance Officer

Signature

Date

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT  
PROTOCOL FOR ACCESS TO TISSUE SPECIMEN SAMPLES FROM THE  
NATIONAL MARINE MAMMAL TISSUE BANK  
OMB CONTROL NO. 0648-0468**

**A. JUSTIFICATION**

**1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary.**

This request is for revision and extension of the information collection (there is now a tissue bank request form, where previously there was only a protocol with instructions).

The purposes of this collection of information are: 1) to enable National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to allow the scientific community the opportunity to request tissue specimen samples from the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank (NMMTB) and 2) to enable the Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program (MMHSRP) of NOAA to assemble information on all specimens submitted to the National Biomonitoring Specimen Bank (Bank), which includes the NMMTB.

Analysis of biological samples and dissemination of research findings fulfills four of the primary goals of the MMHSRP. The MMHSRP was established in the late 1980s in response to growing concern about marine mammals washing ashore in United States (U.S.) waters. The MMHSRP goals are: 1) to facilitate collection and dissemination of data, 2) to assess health trends in marine mammals, 3) to correlate health with available data on physical, chemical, environmental, and biological parameters, and 4) to coordinate effective responses to unusual mortality events.

The MMHSRP was formalized by the 1992 Amendments to the [Marine Mammal Protection Act](#), and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) was designated as the lead agency to coordinate related activities. The program has the following components: 1) stranding networks, 2) responses/investigations of mortality events, 3) biomonitoring, 4) tissue/serum banking and 5) analytical quality assurance.

The NMMTB was established in 1992 as a component of the National Biomonitoring Specimen Bank and provides protocols, techniques, and physical facilities for the long-term storage of tissues from marine mammals. Scientists can request tissues from this repository for retrospective analyses to determine environmental trends of contaminants and other analytes of interest. The NMMTB collects, processes, and stores tissues from specific indicator species (e.g., Atlantic bottlenose dolphins, Atlantic white sided dolphins, pilot whales and harbor porpoise), animals from mass strandings, animals that have been obtained incidental to commercial fisheries, animals taken for subsistence purposes, biopsies, and animals from unusual mortality events.

Under 16 U.S.C. 1421f section 407(d)(1) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act, the NMFS must establish criteria for access to marine mammal tissues in the NMMTB and make those available for public comment and review. This was accomplished through the proposed rule RIN 0648-AQ51, published on 11/12/2002, and codified in [50 CFR 216.47](#).

There is only a very limited amount of samples available and the NMMTB emphasizes that the intended use of these tissue specimens be for retrospective analysis. Priority will be given to requests that fulfill the goals of the NMMTB, MMHSRP and to research that could otherwise not be accomplished.

**2. Explain how, by whom, how frequently, and for what purpose the information will be used. If the information collected will be disseminated to the public or used to support information that will be disseminated to the public, then explain how the collection complies with applicable NOAA Information Quality Guidelines.**

**A. INFORMATION ON REQUESTING SAMPLES FROM THE BANK**

Requestors can apply as many times as they wish, but NMFS expects to receive only 20 applications per year.

1. Requestors must submit a written request, using the form included in this request and attaching a study plan to the MMHSRP Coordinator, NMFS/Office of Protected Resources.
2. The following specific information must be included in the request:
  - a. A clear and concise statement of the proposed use of the banked tissue specimen. The applicant must demonstrate that the proposed use is consistent with the goals of the MMHSRP and the NMMTB.
  - b. A copy of the applicant's scientific research permit. The applicant must demonstrate that the proposed use of the banked tissue is authorized by the permit.
  - c. Name of principal investigator, official title, and affiliated research or academic organization.
  - d. Specific tissue sample and quantity desired.
  - e. Justification for use of the banked tissue.
  - f. Research facility where analyses will be conducted must follow the Analytical Quality Assurance program which was designed to ensure the accuracy, precision, level of detection, and intercompatibility of data resulting from chemical analyses of marine mammal tissues. Standard reference materials for use in the analysis of marine mammal tissues can be purchased from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).
  - g. Estimated date for completion of research, and schedule/date of subsequent reports.
  - h. Agreement that all requests/findings will be reported to the NMMTB and the MMHSRP Program Manager.
  - i. Agreement that credit and acknowledgment will be given to NMFS, U.S. Geologic Service, NIST, U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, the NMMTB, and the collector

- j. for use of banked tissues. The applicant shall insert the following acknowledgment in all publications, abstracts or presentations:

The specimens used in this study were provided by the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank, which is maintained in the National Biomonitoring Specimen Bank at NIST and which is operated under the direction of NMFS with the collaboration of United States Coast Guard (USCG), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and NIST through the Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program [and the Alaska Marine Mammal Tissue Archival Project if the samples are from Alaska].

3. Upon submission, the MMHSRP Program Manager will send the request and attached study plan to the following entities which will function as the review committee:
  - a. Appropriate marine mammal management office for that particular species,
  - b. Representatives of the NMMTB Collaborating Agencies, and
  - c. Contributor, if applicable.
4. The applicant shall report to the MMHSRP Program Manager all research findings based on use of the banked tissue in accordance with the schedule submitted with the application.

## B. INFORMATION ON SUBMITTING SAMPLES TO THE BANK

The information on the NMMTB form will be collected whenever specimens are prepared for submission to the Bank. The required form asks for basic information on the submitted sample such as gender, age, common and species name of the animal sampled. (Indicator species include: harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina*), California sea lion (*Zalophus californianus*), northern fur seal (*Callorhinus ursinus*), ringed seal (*P. hispida*), pilot whale (*Globicephala melas*), harbor porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*), Atlantic white-sided dolphin (*Lagenorhynchus acutus*), pygmy sperm whale (*Kogia breviceps*), bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), rough-toothed dolphin (*Steno bredanensis*), common dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*), beluga whale (*Delphinapterus leucas*), bowhead whale (*Balaena mysticetus*), polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*). Additional species have also been included. See Table 1 in the instructions for a list of all species collected as a part of the NMMTB.) These data sheets should be shipped with all samples to the Bank. The information is made available to the scientific community, aquariums, universities, government personnel, native Alaskans and any other partner organization of the MMHSRP. Sources of specimens include freshly-dead stranded animals, incidental takes in fishing activities, animals obtained through live capture and release programs, captive animals, animals taken by Alaskan natives for subsistence, and animals taken through aboriginal subsistence hunts according to treaty rights. The information is used to determine environmental trends of contaminants, establish baseline data on the health of marine animal populations, and correlate health with available data on physical, chemical, and environmental parameters and other analyses of interest.

It is anticipated that the information collected on the samples will be disseminated to the public or used to support publicly disseminated information. Although the information collected for sample requests is not expected to be disseminated directly to the public, results may be used in scientific, management, technical or general informational publications. As explained in the

receding paragraph, the information gathered has utility. NMFS will retain control over the information and safeguard it from improper access, modification, and destruction, consistent with NOAA standards for confidentiality, privacy, and electronic information. See response to Question 10 of this Supporting Statement for more information on confidentiality and privacy. The information collection is designed to yield data that meet all applicable information quality guidelines. Prior to dissemination, the information will be subjected to quality control measures and a pre-dissemination review pursuant to [Section 515 of Public Law 106-554](#).

**3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological techniques or other forms of information technology.**

The specimen banking information sheets will be available electronically (downloadable and fillable) through the MMHSRP website (<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/health/tissue/>); Tissue bank request forms are available at [http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/health/tissue\\_request.pdf](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/health/tissue_request.pdf). Respondents do not need electronic access to fill out and submit the informational data sheets. They may also be obtained by calling The National Institute of Science and Technology, Hollings Marine Lab (843-762-8952).

**4. Describe efforts to identify duplication.**

There is only one National Biomonitoring Specimen Bank and only one NMMTB, so researchers and stranding network participants can only submit and/or request specimens to/from this bank. Since many of the animals on which information will be submitted have been stranded and stranding report (“Level A”) forms have been completed under OMB Control No. 0648-0178, the two databases will retrieve duplicate information from the other forms.

**5. If the collection of information involves small businesses or other small entities, describe the methods used to minimize burden.**

This collection of information affects the scientific community. Part of the scientific community is composed of small businesses. However, the burden is not considered to be significant, since only about 20 applicants will be applying for a tissue specimen sample and the estimated time for each request or report is two hours.

In order to minimize burden to small entities, the federal program pays for collection of specimens by small entities through contracts. Additionally, Prescott Grant recipients are paid for their sample collection work through the grant or subcontract. The Prescott Grant Program is conducted by the Secretary of Commerce to provide grants or cooperative agreements to eligible stranding network participants for 1) recovery and treatment (e.g., rehabilitation) of stranded marine mammals, 2) data collection from living or dead stranded marine mammals, and 3) facility upgrades, operation costs and staffing needs directly related to the recovery and treatment of stranded marine mammals and collection of data from living or dead stranded marine mammals. Shipping costs for tissue samples are borne by a collaborating agency, the National Institute of Standards (NIST). Copying costs should be minimal.

**6. Describe the consequences to the Federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently.**

If this information collection is not conducted, the specimens will be of minimal use to the scientific community or to the statutory requirements of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The Bank provides researchers specimens that have been collected in a systematic and well-documented manner for comparing results over time to identify whether environmental and health trends exist. Scientists cannot conduct comparative and retrospective analyses or interpretation on archived marine mammal tissues without background information on all specimens submitted to the Bank.

**7. Explain any special circumstances that require the collection to be conducted in a manner inconsistent with OMB guidelines.**

The collection is consistent with OMB guidelines.

**8. Provide information on the PRA Federal Register Notice that solicited public comments on the information collection prior to this submission. Summarize the public comments received in response to that notice and describe the actions taken by the agency in response to those comments. Describe the efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported.**

A Federal Register Notice, published on May 3, 2011 (76 FR 24862), solicited public comments. One comment was received requesting instructions on how to comment. We did not receive a comment after the explanation via e-mail.

The MMHSRP has consulted with scientists from the U.S. Geologic Service, NIST, and the USFWS regarding the availability of data to requesters. These collaborating agencies are also principal representatives of the NMMTB.

**9. Explain any decisions to provide payments or gifts to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.**

There is no provision to provide any payment or gift to participants in this request for tissue specimen samples.

**10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.**

No confidentiality is promised or provided.

**11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.**

There are no sensitive questions.

**12. Provide an estimate in hours of the burden of the collection of information.**

Burden hours for requesting tissue specimen samples: NMFS estimates that approximately 20 applicants will be requesting tissue specimen samples and reporting on their projects (two responses per respondent). The estimated time required to fill out the application is 2 hours. The estimated time to report research findings is 2 hours.

20 applicants x 2 hours x 2 times per year = 40 responses and 80 hours.

Burden hours for submitting specimen samples: NMFS estimates that the total number of respondents is 30 people, with an average of a little over 3 times per year. The annual average of submissions is 100. The estimated time to fill out the informational data sheet is 45 minutes.

100 submissions x 45 minutes/60 minutes = 100 responses and 75 hours.

Total for both information collections is 140 responses and 155 hours.

**13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to the respondents or record-keepers resulting from the collection (excluding the value of the burden hours in Question 12 above).**

The total annual cost to the applicant for requesting tissue specimen samples and reporting research findings is:

Postage and copying: \$4.08 per applicant  
Total cost: 20 x \$4.08 = \$82.

Shipping and sample homogenization\* costs for tissue samples are borne by a collaborating agency, the National Institute of Standards (NIST). Thus, the only cost for tissue sample submission is for copying the Tissue Bank Submission Form enclosed with each sample:

Copying: 5 pages x \$0.16 = \$0.80 per tissue sample  
100 submissions per year = 100 x \$0.80 = \$80 total annual cost burden.

Total costs for all information collection requirements: \$82 + \$80 = \$162.

**14. Provide estimates of annualized cost to the Federal government.**

There will be no annualized cost to the Federal government other than for regular staff time.

**15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments.**

Adjustment: Increased postage costs added \$10 to the total recordkeeping/reporting cost.

\*All samples are homogenized before shipping.

**16. For collections whose results will be published, outline the plans for tabulation and publication.**

Results of analyses and studies assessing marine animal health and environmental trends utilizing the archived specimens from the Bank will be published by researchers and scientists. These results will be presented in scientific conferences and peer-reviewed journals and books.

The NIST will publish reports on trends in marine mammal health and environmental parameters. Collectors or submitters will be acknowledged or offered co-authorship in all public documents. NOAA has no plans at this time to make the results of the information collection available to the public over the Internet.

**17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons why display would be inappropriate.**

Not Applicable.

**18. Explain each exception to the certification statement.**

There are no exceptions.

**B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS**

This collection of information does not employ statistical methods.

**National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank**  
**Tissue Request Form**

Principle Investigator(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Investigator(s) Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliated Institution(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Requirements for Samples:**

Total Number of Samples Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Animals Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of Each Sample Type Requested: Liver \_\_\_\_\_ Blubber \_\_\_\_\_

Kidney \_\_\_\_\_ Blood \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

List other type: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Project: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Research Location: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Type of Research: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Date of Completion: \_\_\_\_\_

**Attach the following items:**

- 1) A description of the proposed research including a justification as to the use of the banked tissues and how this is consistent with the goals of the NMMTB and the MMHSRP;
- 2) Copy of the scientific research permit;
- 3) Verification that funding is available to conduct the research;
- 4) Table 1 filled out completely;
- 5) A signed copy of the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank Agreement Form

**Table 1. Individual Sample Information for Tissues Requested from the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank.**

	<b>Field ID</b>	<b>NMMTB Storage ID</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Tissue Requested</b>	<b>Year Collected</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Age Class</b>	<b>Pregnant or Lactating</b>	<b># of samples (4-6g ea.) requested</b>
ex.	MMES2004100SC	NM10L101C	Tursiops truncatus	Bottlenose dolphin	Liver	2004	F	Adult	No	1
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										
11										
12										
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24										
25										

## National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank Agreement Form

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to the following conditions upon acceptance of my proposed research on tissues taken from the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank:

- 1) Research/findings based on use of the banked tissue will be reported to the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank, Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program Manager, and the specimen contributor;
- 2) Tissue specimen samples that are used/released for genetic analyses (DNA sequencing) are required to archive sequences in the National Center for Biotechnology Information's GenBank. Sequence accessions in GenBank should document the source, citing the NMMTB Field ID number that identifies the animal;
- 3) Credit and acknowledgment will be given to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the Mineral Management Service (MMS), the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank (NMMTB), and the specimen collector for use of the banked tissues. I shall insert the following acknowledgment in all publications, abstracts or presentations based on research using the banked tissue:

*The specimens used in this study were collected by the contributor and provided by the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank, which is maintained in the National Biomonitoring Specimen Bank at NIST, and which is operated under the direction of NMFS with the collaboration of USGS, USFWS, MMS, and NIST through the Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program (and the Alaska Marine Mammal Tissue Archival Project [if the samples are from Alaska]).*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Affiliation

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# National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank Form

Field ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Other ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Common Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Genus species: \_\_\_\_\_

Stranding Type:  Single  Incidental Take.....  Fisheries  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
(choose all that apply)  Mass  Live Capture.....  Rescue  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
 UME  Subsistence Add'l. Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Condition:  Alive  Fresh Dead  Euthanized  
(choose one)  
If euthanized, with what and how much: \_\_\_\_\_  
Was animal in rehabilitation?  Yes  No If yes: \_\_\_\_\_ Where: \_\_\_\_\_ From: dd / mm / yy  
(choose one) (please attach clinical/medical records) To: dd / mm / yy

Animal Location: State: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Island/Community: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ocean/Bay/Sea: \_\_\_\_\_  
Locality Details: \_\_\_\_\_  
Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ N Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_ W

Time of death (Zulu)..... dd / mm / yy hr Place of Death: \_\_\_\_\_  
Internal body temp. of animal:  C  F Rigor?  Yes  No

If transported before tissue removal: Vehicle Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Transport: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ambient weather condition: \_\_\_\_\_  
Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Time of tissue removal (Zulu).... dd / mm / yy hr Place of tissue removal: \_\_\_\_\_

If transported before processing: Transportation storage:  Dry ice  Wet ice Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ambient weather condition: \_\_\_\_\_  
Interim storage of tissue:  Teflon bag  Teflon jar Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Time of tissue processing.... dd / mm / yy hr Place of tissue processing: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ambient temperature at processing: \_\_\_\_\_

Time of interim freezing..... dd / mm / yy hr Freezer type:  LN<sub>2</sub>  -80degC  -30degC Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Time shipped to MESB..... dd / mm / yy hr

Time received at MESB..... dd / mm / yy hr

Additional comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sample weights:	Blubber (g):	Liver (g):	Kidney (g):	Whole Blood (mL):	Plasma (mL)	Serum (mL):	Other:
A	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
B	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

# National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank Form

Field ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Genus species: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex:  Female  Male

Total length: \_\_\_\_\_

cm  in

Actual  Estimated

Total weight: \_\_\_\_\_

kg  lb

Actual  Estimated

Age Class:  
(choose one)

Adult  Subadult  Actual  
 Pup/calf  Yearling  Estimated  
 Unknown

Age: GLG's: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Method used: \_\_\_\_\_

Date aged: dd /mm / yy

By whom: \_\_\_\_\_

Epiphysis:

Open  Closed fused  Fused invis

Reproductive condition:

Sexually Mature  
 Pregnant  
 Lactating

Testis/Ovaries:  
(circle one)

Left: \_\_\_\_\_

Mid-Width: \_\_\_\_\_

Mid-depth: \_\_\_\_\_

Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

cm

kg

Right: \_\_\_\_\_

in

lb

Fetus length: \_\_\_\_\_

cm  
 in

Corpora lutea #: \_\_\_\_\_

Corpora albicantia #: \_\_\_\_\_

Corpora hemmorrhagicum #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Specify Units of Measurement:**

cm  in

**Cetaceans:**

Snout to ant. ins. of flipper: \_\_\_\_\_

Girth: \_\_\_\_\_

Axillary: \_\_\_\_\_

Snout to center of genital aperture: \_\_\_\_\_

Max: \_\_\_\_\_

Snout to center of anus: \_\_\_\_\_

Anal: \_\_\_\_\_ (Location)

Flipper length: \_\_\_\_\_

Blubber thickness: \_\_\_\_\_

Thoracic: \_\_\_\_\_

Fluke width: \_\_\_\_\_

Dorsal: \_\_\_\_\_

Fluke notch to anus: \_\_\_\_\_

Lateral: \_\_\_\_\_

Total counts: ..... UL/LL: \_\_\_\_\_ UR/LR: \_\_\_\_\_

Ventral: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pinnipeds:**

Nose to tail length: \_\_\_\_\_

Ant. length of hind flipper: \_\_\_\_\_

Ant. length of foreflipper: \_\_\_\_\_

Blubber thickness over post. end of sternum: \_\_\_\_\_

Axillary girth: \_\_\_\_\_

Other blubber thickness: \_\_\_\_\_ (Location)

Bacculum length: \_\_\_\_\_

**Polar Bears:**

Girth of neck of axis: \_\_\_\_\_

Skull length: \_\_\_\_\_

Girth of neck at shoulders: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sea Otters:**

Snout to angle of mouth: \_\_\_\_\_

Right forepaw width: \_\_\_\_\_

Skull length: \_\_\_\_\_

Skull width: \_\_\_\_\_

Axillary girth: \_\_\_\_\_

Tooth Wear:  Heavy  Med.  Light  None

Estimate of body fat stores: \_\_\_\_\_

None: Little: Average: Excessive:

Subcutaneous:

Groin: \_\_\_\_\_ cm

Kidneys:

Mesenteric:

# National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank

Field ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Genus species: \_\_\_\_\_

Was animal necropsied?  Yes  No

Necropsied by: \_\_\_\_\_ dd / mm / yy  
*(Please attach necropsy report)* Date

### **Samples collected:**

#### **Histological samples:**

Individual/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Final destination: \_\_\_\_\_

Tissues sampled:  Liver  Kidney  Blubber  Stomach  Heart  Intestine  
*(Choose all that apply)*  Lung  Pancreas  Adrenals  Brain  Muscle  Skin  
 Trachea  Spleen  Thymus  Colon  Thyroid  Esophagus

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please list)*

Lymph Nodes:  Submandibular  Prescapular  Axillary  Hilar  Mesenteric

Other l.n.: \_\_\_\_\_

Other samples collected: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of storage: \_\_\_\_\_

Where located (Ind./Org.): \_\_\_\_\_

*(Z-frozen, F-formalin, DMSO, ETOH)*

Teeth: \_\_\_\_\_

Genetics (skin): \_\_\_\_\_

Skull: \_\_\_\_\_

Reproductive tract: \_\_\_\_\_

Mammary tissue: \_\_\_\_\_

Ovaries: \_\_\_\_\_

Gonads/testes: \_\_\_\_\_

Parasites: \_\_\_\_\_

■ *List type and location: .....*

Stomach: \_\_\_\_\_

■ *List contents if applicable: .....*

Other contaminant samples: \_\_\_\_\_

*(List tissue type, storage type and where located)*

Additional samples: \_\_\_\_\_

*(List tissue type, purpose of collection, storage type and where located)*

# National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank

Field ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Genus species: \_\_\_\_\_

Photos taken:  Yes  No  Digital  Film If yes, how many? \_\_\_\_\_

Video taken:  Yes  No

*(send copy with samples for NIST archive)*

Disposition: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(primary location for photos and/or video)*

General comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Field notes)*

General appearance of individual: \_\_\_\_\_

General appearance of organs: \_\_\_\_\_

NMMTB Protocol:  Standard  Modified

Please note any modifications: \_\_\_\_\_

Form prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Affiliation

**A copy of this form and Level A Data Form should be shipped with samples to:**  
ATTN: Rebecca Pugh  
National Institute of Standards and Technology  
Hollings Marine Laboratory  
331 Fort Johnson Rd  
Charleston, SC 29412  
(843) 762-8952

**NMMTB's Chain of Custody**

Field ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Other ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

NMMTB Reference/Storage ID Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

1.	_____	_____	dd / mm / yy
	Collector's signature	Method of transfer to processing stage	Date
2.	_____	_____	dd / mm / yy
	Processor's signature	Method of transfer to shipping stage	Date
3.	_____	_____	dd / mm / yy
	Shipper to NMMTB's signature	Method of transfer to MESB	Date
4.	_____		dd / mm / yy
	Receiver's signature		Date

Each person in possession of the tissue must sign and date the form.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT INFORMATION

PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN FOR THE COLLECTION OF INFORMATION IS ESTIMATED TO AVERAGE 30 MINUTES PER RESPONSE, INCLUDING THE TIME FOR REVIEWING INSTRUCTIONS, SEARCHING EXISTING DATA SOURCES, GATHERING AND MAINTAINING THE DATA NEEDED, AND COMPLETING AND REVIEWING THE COLLECTION OF INFORMATION. SEND COMMENTS REGARDING THIS BURDEN ESTIMATE OR ANY OTHER ASPECT OF THE COLLECTION INFORMATION, INCLUDING SUGGESTIONS FOR REDUCING THE BURDEN TO: CHIEF, MARINE MAMMAL AND SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION DIVISION, OFFICE OF PROTECTED RESOURCES, NOAA FISHERIES, 1315 EAST-WEST HIGHWAY, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND 20910. NOT WITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THE LAW, NO PERSON IS REQUIRED TO RESPOND, NOR SHALL ANY PERSON BE SUBJECTED TO A PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH, A COLLECTION OF INFORMATION SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT, UNLESS THE COLLECTION OF INFORMATION DISPLAYS A CURRENTLY VALID OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (OMB) CONTROL NUMBER.

contain business confidential information must also file in a separate submission a public version of the comments. The file name of the public version of the comments should begin with the character "P". The "BC" and "P" should be followed by the name of the person or entity submitting the comments. If a comment contains no business confidential information, the file name should begin with the character "P", followed by the name of the person or entity submitting the comments.

Please do not attach separate cover letters to electronic submissions; rather, include any information that might appear in a cover letter in the comments themselves. Similarly, to the extent possible, please include any exhibits, annexes, or other attachments in the same file as the submission itself, not as separate files.

Dated: April 27, 2011.

**Michael C. Camuñez,**

*Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Market Access and Compliance.*

[FR Doc. 2011-10713 Filed 5-2-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DA-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Protocol for Access to Tissue Specimen Samples From the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), 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, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before July 5, 2011.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at [dHynek@doc.gov](mailto:dHynek@doc.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or

copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Patricia Lawson, 301-713-2289 or at [Patricia.Lawson@noaa.gov](mailto:Patricia.Lawson@noaa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

In 1989, the National Marine Mammal Tissue Bank (NMMTB) was established by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Office of Protected Resources in collaboration with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Minerals Management Service (MMS), and the US Geological Survey/Biological Resources Division (USGS/BRD). The NMMTB provides protocols, techniques, and physical facilities for the long-term storage of tissues from marine mammals. Scientists can request tissues from this repository for retrospective analyses to determine environmental trends of contaminants and other substances of interest. The NMMTB collects, processes, and stores tissues from specific indicator species (e.g., Atlantic bottlenose dolphins, Atlantic white porpoises, pilot whales, harbor porpoises), animals from mass strandings, animals that have been obtained incidental to commercial fisheries, animals taken for subsistence purposes, biopsies, and animals from unusual mortality events through two projects, the Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program (MMHSRP) and the Alaska Marine Mammal Tissue Archival Project (AMMTAP).

The purposes of this collection of information are: (1) To enable NOAA to allow the scientific community the opportunity to request tissue specimen samples from the NMMTB and, (2) to enable the MMHSRP of NOAA to assemble information on all specimens submitted to the Marine Environmental Specimen Bank (Marine ESB), which includes the NMMTB.

##### II. Method of Collection

Respondents must complete a specimen banking information sheet for every sample submitted to the Bank. Methods of submitting reports include the Internet, mail and facsimile transmission of paper forms. Those requesting samples send the information, and their research findings, mainly via email.

##### III. Data

*OMB Control Number:* 0648-0468.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Not-for-profit institutions; individuals or households;

business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 50.

*Estimated Time per Response:* Request for tissue sample, 2 hours; specimen submission form, 45 minutes.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 155.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$152.

##### IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) 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; (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.

Dated: April 27, 2011.

**Gwellnar Banks,**

*Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2011-10658 Filed 5-2-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Meeting of a Federal Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Defense Acquisition University, DoD.

**ACTION:** Meeting Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR 102-3.150, the Department of Defense announces that the following Federal advisory committee meeting of the Defense Acquisition University Board of Visitors will take place:

**DATES:** Tuesday, May 17, 2011, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Packard Conference Center, Defense Acquisition University, 9820 Belvoir Rd, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060.