DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Internal Revenue Service

26 CFR Part 1

[REG—107101–00]

RIN 1545–AY13

Treaty Guidance Regarding Payments With Respect to Domestic Reverse Hybrid Entities; Correction

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Correction to notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This document contains a correction to a notice of proposed rulemaking that was published in the Federal Register on Tuesday, February 27, 2001 (66 FR 12445), relating to treaty guidance regarding payments with respect to domestic reverse hybrid entities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth U. Karzon or Karen Rennie-Quarrie at (202) 622-3030.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The notice of proposed rulemaking (REG—107101–00) that is the subject of this correction is under section 894 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Need for Correction

As published the notice of proposed rulemaking contains an error that may prove to be misleading and is in need of clarification.

Correction of Publication

Accordingly, the publication of the notice of proposed rulemaking which was the subject of FR Doc. 01–1687, is corrected as follows:

PART 1—INCOME TAXES

On page 12447, column 2, following amendingatory instruction Paragraph 1, correct the authority citation to read as follows:

Authority: 26 U.S.C. 7805 * * *
Section 1.894–1(d)(2) also issued under 26 U.S.C. 894 and 7701(i). * * *

Cynthia E. Grigsby,
Chief, Regulations Unit, Office of Special Counsel (Modernization & Strategic Planning).

[FR Doc. 01–5098 Filed 3–9–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830–01–P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 63

[FRL–6882–3]

Approval of the Clean Air Act, Section 112(l), Authority for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Perchloroethylene Air Emission Standards for Dry Cleaning Facilities; State of Washington; Puget Sound Clean Air Agency

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: EPA proposes to approve Puget Sound Clean Air Agency’s (Puget Sound Clean Air) request for approval to implement and enforce its Regulation III, section 3.03, Perchloroethylene Dry Cleaners in place of federal National Perchloroethylene Air Emission Standards for Dry Cleaning Facilities (“Drycleaning NESHAP”), as it applies to area sources. Approval of this request would make Puget Sound Clean Air’s rules federally enforceable and would reduce the burden on area sources within Puget Sound Clean Air’s jurisdiction such that they would only have one rule with which they must comply. Major sources would remain subject to the federal drycleaning NESHAP, as adopted into Puget Sound Clean Air Regulation III, section 2.02.

In the final rules section of this Federal Register, EPA is approving Puget Sound Clean Air’s request as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the Agency views this as a noncontroversial action and anticipates no relevant adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no relevant adverse comments are received in response to this action, EPA will not take action on this proposed rule. If the EPA receives relevant adverse comments, EPA will withdraw the direct final rule and it will not take effect. EPA will then address all public comments received in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. The EPA will not institute a second comment period on this action.

DATES: Written comments must be received by April 11, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be mailed concurrently to the addresses below:

Doug Hardesty, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region X, Office of Air Quality (OAQ–107), 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101.

Denise McLerran, Director, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, 110 Union Street, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98101.

Copies of the requests for approval are available for public inspection at EPA’s Region X office during normal business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Doug Hardesty, Office of Air Quality (OAQ–107), US EPA, Region X, 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101, (206) 553–6641.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For additional information see the direct final action which is published in the Rules section of this Federal Register.


Charles E. Findley,
Acting Regional Administrator, Region X.

[FR Doc. 01–1344 Filed 3–9–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–U

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 18

RIN 1018–AH86

Marine Mammals: Incidental Take During Specified Activities

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Advance notice of proposed rulemaking and request for comments.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act we, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, intend to develop a rule that would allow authorization for the incidental, unintentional take of small numbers of Florida manatees (Trichechus manatus latirostris) that results from government activities related to watercraft and watercraft access facilities within the geographic area of the species’ range in Florida for a period of not more than 5 years.

Under provisions of the MMPA, it is unlawful for any person to take a Florida manatee in waters or on lands under the jurisdiction of the United States. Nonetheless, incidental take shall be allowed if we find, based on the best available scientific information, that the total taking during the specified time period will have a negligible impact on the species and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species for subsistence uses. In making these findings, we would establish specific regulations for the activities that set forth permissible methods of taking and means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact on the species and their habitat; and requirements for monitoring and reporting.
The rule-making process will determine if watercraft-related incidental, unintentional take by us and other entities that choose to seek coverage will have a negligible impact on manatees, and allow authorization of take caused by activities permitted, funded, or carried out by participants in the rule-making process that has no more than a negligible impact on manatees.

DATES: You must submit comments to us by April 11, 2001.

ADDRESSES: You should submit written comments by mail to Field Supervisor, Jacksonville Field Office, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 6620 Southpoint Drive, South, Suite 310, Jacksonville, Florida 32216. You may also submit written comments by FACSIMILE MAIL to (904) 232–2404 (Attn: Peter Benjamin), or INTERNET to FW4esjacksonville@fws.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter Benjamin, Jacksonville Field Office, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 6620 Southpoint Drive, South, Suite 310, Jacksonville, Florida 32216, Telephone: (904) 232–2580 extension 106; Facsimile Mail to (904) 232–2404, or Internet to FW4esjacksonville@fws.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361–1421h), sets a general moratorium on the taking and importation of marine mammals. Section 102 of the MMPA makes it unlawful for any person to take, possess, transport, purchase, sell, export, or offer to purchase, sell, or export any marine mammal or marine mammal product unless otherwise allowed. “Take,” as defined by section 3(13) of the MMPA “means to harass, hunt, capture, or kill, or attempt to harass, hunt, capture, or kill any marine mammal.” Our implementing regulations at 50 CFR 18.3 further define take as follows: To harass, hunt, capture, collect, or kill, or attempt to harass, hunt, capture, collect, or kill any marine mammal, including, without limitation, any of the following: The collection of dead animals or parts thereof; the restraint or detention of a marine mammal, no matter how temporary; tagging a marine mammal; or the negligent or intentional operation of an aircraft or vessel, or the doing of any other negligent or intentional act which results in the disturbing or molesting of a marine mammal.

“Harassment” is defined under the MMPA as any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance which—(i) has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild; or (ii) has the potential to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering. You can find other definitions relevant to our proposed action at 50 CFR 18.27(c).

Nonetheless, the MMPA contains exceptions to the moratorium, including section 101(a)(5)(A) which allows us, on request, to authorize for a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) in a specified geographical region the incidental, but not intentional, take of small numbers of a species or stock of marine mammal if certain findings are made and regulations prescribed. We must find that the total of such taking during the specified time period (of up to five years) will have a negligible impact on the species or stock and will not have an unmitigable impact on the availability of such species or stock for subsistence uses.

If we make these findings, we must set forth permissible methods of taking and other means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact on the species and its habitat, and requirements pertaining to the monitoring and reporting of such taking. The subsistence provision requiring that the total taking not have an unmitigable impact on the availability of the species or stock for subsistence uses is not applicable to Florida manatees.

Following a determination of incidental take regulations, a Letter of Authorization, which may be issued by us to U.S. Citizens (including government agencies), would authorize incidental take associated with an applicant’s activities. Procedures for obtaining a Letter of Authorization are set forth in section 18.27(f).

The manatee is protected under the MMPA and is also listed as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. The largest known human-related cause of manatee deaths is collisions with watercraft. Between 1976 and 1999, watercraft-related deaths increased at an average of 7.2 percent per year. From 1996 to 2000, watercraft-related deaths have been the highest on record, ranging from 54 to 82.

In the State of Florida, County, State, and Federal agencies engage in a variety of activities that may result in the incidental, unintentional take of manatees by watercraft. Many of these activities relate to the use and regulation of watercraft accessed in Florida waters accessible to manatees, including: (1) Regulating boater behavior on the water (e.g., speed zones and vessel registration); (2) permitting construction of watercraft access facilities (marinas, docks, boat ramps); (3) funding construction of watercraft access facilities; (4) operating watercraft access facilities; and (5) operating watercraft.

To date, there is no authorization for the incidental, unintentional death, injury, or harassment of manatees caused by these otherwise legal activities.

We engage in, or have the authority to engage in, each of the above five categories of activities; therefore, Service activities could result in the incidental, unintentional take of manatees. As such, we will request development of incidental take regulations for our own activities and initiate promulgating such regulations to allow authorization of take associated with government activities related to watercraft in Florida. Through this rulemaking we will determine whether take associated with watercraft use and regulation in Florida will have a negligible impact on manatees, after taking into account mitigating measures that would render the impact negligible when it may not otherwise meet that standard.

Other Federal, State, and local agencies involved in these same types of activities are encouraged to join us in this rulemaking effort in order to gain authorization and liability coverage for take that is otherwise prohibited under the MMPA. Persons wishing to provide relevant information and comments regarding this activity should submit these to the address listed above. For further information, please contact the individual identified above in the section entitled FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

Public Comments Solicited

Interested persons are invited to submit comments relating to our projected development of incidental take regulations for manatees in Florida. We request suggestions, materials, and recommendations to assist and guide us in this endeavor.

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours.

Individual respondents may request that we withhold their name and home address from the rulemaking record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. However, we will not consider unsigned comments. We will make all submissions from organizations or
business, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Dated: March 6, 2001.

Joseph E. Doddridge,
Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

[FR Doc. 01–6041 Filed 3–9–01; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4310–55–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 660
[I.D. 030701C]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Notice of Availability of Draft Biological Opinion

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

ACTION: Notice of availability of the draft biological opinion on authorization of the pelagic fisheries under the Fishery Management Plan for the Pelagics Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the availability of a draft biological opinion on authorization of the pelagic fisheries under the Fishery Management Plan for the Pelagics Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region.

DATES: The draft document is now available.

ADDRESSES: For copies of the document contact Dr. Charles Karnella, NMFS, Pacific Islands Area Office (PIAO), 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814–4700.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Charles Karnella, PIAO, at 808–973–2937.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Endangered Species Act draft biological opinion on authorization of the pelagic fisheries under the Fishery Management Plan for the Pelagics Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region is now available for review. The document is available from the NMFS Southwest Region at http://swr.ucsd.edu/; hard copies are available upon request (see ADDRESSES).

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.


William T. Hogarth,
Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 01–6108 Filed 3–9–01; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–22–S