

disturbance, which may include turning head towards the disturbance, craning head and neck while holding the body rigid in a u-shaped position, or changing from a lying to a sitting position and/or slight movement of less than 1 m; “alert”; (2) Movements in response to or away from disturbance, typically over short distances (1–3 m) and including dramatic changes in direction or speed of locomotion for animals already in motion; “movement”; and (3) All flushes to the water as well as lengthier retreats (>.3 m); “flight”.

6. Reporting: The holder of this IHA is required to:

a. Report observations of unusual behaviors, numbers, or distributions of pinnipeds, or of tag-bearing carcasses, to Point Blue and NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC).

b. Submit a draft monitoring report to NMFS Office of Protected Resources within 60 days after the conclusion of the 2015 field season or 60 days prior to the start of the next field season if a new IHA will be requested. A final report shall be prepared and submitted within 30 days following resolution of any comments on the draft report from NMFS. This report must contain the informational elements described above, at minimum.

c. Reporting injured or dead marine mammals:

i. In the event that the specified activity clearly causes the take of a marine mammal in a manner prohibited by this IHA, such as an injury (Level A harassment), serious injury, or mortality, GFNMS shall immediately cease the specified activities and report the incident to the Office of Protected Resources (301–427–8401), NMFS, and the Southwest Regional Stranding Coordinator (562–980–3230), NMFS. The report must include the following information:

1. Time and date of the incident;
2. Description of the incident;
3. Environmental conditions (e.g., wind speed and direction, Beaufort sea state, cloud cover, and visibility);
4. Description of all marine mammal observations in the 24 hours preceding the incident;
5. Species identification or description of the animal(s) involved;
6. Fate of the animal(s); and
7. Photographs or video footage of the animal(s).

Activities shall not resume until NMFS is able to review the circumstances of the prohibited take. NMFS will work with GFNMS to determine what measures are necessary to minimize the likelihood of further prohibited take and ensure MMPA

compliance. PISCO may not resume the activities until notified by NMFS.

ii. In the event that an injured or dead marine mammal is discovered and it is determined that the cause of the injury or death is unknown and the death is relatively recent (e.g., in less than a moderate state of decomposition), GFNMS shall immediately report the incident to the Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, and the Southwest Regional Stranding Coordinator, NMFS. The report must include the same information identified in 6(c)(i) of this IHA. Activities may continue while NMFS reviews the circumstances of the incident. NMFS will work with GFNMS to determine whether additional mitigation measures or modifications to the activities are appropriate.

iii. In the event that an injured or dead marine mammal is discovered and it is determined that the injury or death is not associated with or related to the activities authorized in the IHA (e.g., previously wounded animal, carcass with moderate to advanced decomposition, or scavenger damage), GFNMS shall report the incident to the Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, and the Southwest Regional Stranding Coordinator, NMFS, within 24 hours of the discovery. GFNMS shall provide photographs or video footage or other documentation of the stranded animal sighting to NMFS. Activities may continue while NMFS reviews the circumstances of the incident.

7. This IHA may be modified, suspended or withdrawn if the holder fails to abide by the conditions prescribed herein or if NMFS determines the authorized taking is having more than a negligible impact on the species or stock of affected marine mammals.

#### Request for Public Comments

NMFS requests comment on our analysis, the draft authorization, and any other aspect of the Notice of Proposed IHA for GFNMS' proposed rocky intertidal monitoring program. Please include with your comments any supporting data or literature citations to help inform our final decision on GFNMS' request for an MMPA authorization.

Dated: November 26, 2014.

**Donna S. Wieting,**

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

[FR Doc. 2014–28391 Filed 12–1–14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

#### Recording Assignments

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), 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 the continuing information collection, 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 February 2, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- Email: [InformationCollection@uspto.gov](mailto:InformationCollection@uspto.gov). Include “0651–0027 comment” in the subject line of the message.
- Mail: Marcie Lovett, Records Management Division Director, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box
- Federal Rulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to Joyce R. Johnson, Manager, Assignment Division, Mail Stop 1450, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450; by telephone at 703–756–1265; or by email to [Joyce.Johnson@uspto.gov](mailto:Joyce.Johnson@uspto.gov). Additional information about this collection is also available at <http://www.reginfo.gov> under “Information Collection Review.”

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

This collection of information is required by 35 U.S.C. 261 and 262 for patents and 15 U.S.C. 1057 and 1060 for trademarks. These statutes authorize the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to record patent and trademark assignment documents, including transfers of properties (i.e. patents and trademarks), liens, licenses, assignments of interest, security interests, mergers, and explanations of transactions or other documents that record the transfer of ownership of a particular patent or trademark property from one party to another. Assignments are recorded for applications, patents, and trademark registrations.

The USPTO administers these statutes through 37 CFR 2.146, 2.171, and 37 CFR part 3. These rules permit the

public, corporations, other federal agencies, and Government-owned or Government-controlled corporations to submit patent and trademark assignment documents and other documents related to title transfers to the USPTO to be recorded. In accordance with 37 CFR 3.54, the recording of an assignment document by the USPTO is an administrative action and not a determination of the validity of the document or of the effect that the document has on the title to an application, patent, or trademark.

Once the assignment documents are recorded, they are available for public inspection. The only exceptions are those documents that are sealed under secrecy orders according to 37 CFR 3.58 or related to unpublished patent applications maintained in confidence under 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. The public uses these records to conduct ownership and chain-of-title searches. The public may view these records either at the USPTO Public Search Facilities or at the National Archives and Records Administration, depending on the date they were recorded. The public may also search patent and trademark assignment information online through the USPTO Web site.

In order to file a request to record an assignment, the respondent must submit an appropriate cover sheet along with copies of the assignment documents to be recorded. The USPTO provides two paper forms for this purpose, the Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO–1595) and the Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO–1594), which capture all of the necessary data for accurately recording various assignment documents. These forms may be downloaded in PDF format from the USPTO Web site.

Customers may also submit assignments online by using the Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS) and the Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS), which are available through the USPTO Web site. These systems allow customers to fill out the required cover sheet information online using web-based forms and then attach the electronic assignment documents to be submitted for recordation.

## II. Method of Collection

By mail, facsimile, hand delivery, or electronically to the USPTO.

## III. Data

OMB Number: 0651–0027.

*Form Number(s):* PTO–1594 and PTO–1595.

*Type of Review:* Revision of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; not-for-profit institutions; the Federal Government; and state, local or tribal governments.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 524,298 responses per year.

*Estimated Time per Response:* The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 30 minutes (0.5 hours) to prepare and submit a patent or trademark assignment recordation request.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours:* 262,150 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden:* 67,372,550 per year.

The USPTO expects that the information in this collection will be prepared by both attorneys and paralegals. Using the estimated rates of \$389 per hour for attorneys in private firms and \$125 per hour for paraprofessionals, the USPTO estimates that the average rate for respondents will be approximately \$257 per hour. Therefore, the estimated total respondent cost burden for this collection will be approximately \$67,372,550 per year.

| Item   | Estimated time for response (minutes) | Estimated annual responses | Estimated annual burden hours |
|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO–1595) .....           | 30                                    | 8,219                      | 4,110                         |
| Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO–1594) .....        | 30                                    | 1,430                      | 715                           |
| Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS) (PTO–1595) .....    | 30                                    | 480,804                    | 240,402                       |
| Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS) (PTO–1594) ..... | 30                                    | 33,845                     | 16,923                        |
| Totals .....   | .....                                 | 524,298                    | 262,150                       |

*Estimated Total Annual Non-hour Respondent Cost Burden:* \$2,954,726. This information collection has annual (non-hour) costs in the form of filing fees and postage costs.

This collection has filing fees associated with submitting patent and trademark assignment documents to be recorded. The filing fees for recording patent and trademark assignments are the same for both paper and electronic submissions. However, the filing cost

for recording patent or trademark assignments varies according to the number of properties involved in each submission.

The filing fee for submitting a patent assignment as indicated by 37 CFR 1.21(h) is \$40 per property for recording each document, while the filing fee for submitting a trademark assignment as indicated by 37 CFR 2.6(b)(6) is \$40 for recording the first property in a document and \$25 for each additional

property in the same document. The USPTO estimates that the average fee for a patent assignment recordation request is approximately \$80 and that the average fee for a trademark assignment recordation request is approximately \$65. As of January 1, 2014, the filing fee for electronically filled patent assignments was changed to no cost. Therefore, this collection has an estimated total of \$2,950,395 in filing fees per year.

| Item   | Estimated annual responses | Average fee amount | Estimated annual filing costs |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO–1595) .....           | 8,219                      | \$80.00            | \$657,520.00                  |
| Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO–1594) .....        | 1,430                      | 65.00              | 92,950.00                     |
| Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS) (PTO–1595) .....    | 480,804                    | 0.00               | 0.00                          |
| Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS) (PTO–1594) ..... | 33,845                     | 65.00              | 2,199,925.00                  |
| Totals .....   | 524,298                    | .....              | 2,950,395.00                  |

Customers may incur postage costs when submitting a patent or trademark assignment request to the USPTO by mail. The USPTO expects that some assignment requests will be submitted by fax but that approximately 4,921 (51%) of the 9,649 paper assignment requests per year will be submitted by mail. The USPTO estimates that the average first-class postage cost for a mailed Patent or Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet submission is 88 cents, resulting in a total postage cost of \$4,331 per year for this collection.

The total (non-hour) respondent cost burden for this collection in the form of filing fees and postage costs is estimated to be \$2,954,726 per year.

#### 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, e.g., the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

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

Dated: November 20, 2014.

**Marcie Lovett,**

*Records Management Division Director,  
USPTO, Office of the Chief Information  
Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2014-28428 Filed 12-1-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

#### National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nomination Application

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), 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 the extension of a continuing information collection, 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 February 2, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- Email: [InformationCollection@uspto.gov](mailto:InformationCollection@uspto.gov). Include "0651-0060 comment" in the subject line of the message.
- Mail: Marcie Lovett, Records Management Division Director, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
- Federal Rulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to the attention of John Palafoutas, Program Manager, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, by telephone at 571-272-8400, or by email to [nmti@uspto.gov](mailto:nmti@uspto.gov) with "Paperwork" in the subject line. Additional information about this collection is also available at <http://www.reginfo.gov> under "Information Collection Review."

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

The National Medal of Technology and Innovation is the highest honor for technological achievement bestowed by the President of the United States on America's leading innovators. Established by an Act of Congress in 1980, the Medal of Technology was first awarded in 1985. The Medal is awarded annually to individuals, teams (up to four individuals), companies or divisions of companies for their outstanding contributions to the Nation's economic, environmental and social well-being through the development and commercialization of technology products, processes and concepts, technological innovation, and development of the Nation's technological manpower.

The purpose of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation is to recognize those who have made lasting contributions to America's competitiveness, standard of living, and quality of life through technological innovation, and to recognize those who have made substantial contributions to strengthening the Nation's technological workforce. By highlighting the national importance of technological innovation, the Medal also seeks to inspire future generations of Americans to prepare for and pursue technical careers to keep

America at the forefront of global technology and economic leadership.

The National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nomination Evaluation Committee, a distinguished independent committee appointed by the Secretary of Commerce, reviews and evaluates the merit of all candidates nominated through an open, competitive solicitation process. The committee makes its recommendations for Medal candidates to the Secretary of Commerce who, in turn, makes recommendations to the President for final selection. The National Medal of Technology and Innovation Laureates are announced by the White House once the Medalists are notified of their selection.

The public uses the National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nomination Application to recognize through nomination an individual's, team's or company's extraordinary leadership and innovation in technological achievement and outstanding contributions to strengthening the nation's technological workforce. The application must be accompanied by six letters of recommendation or support from individuals who have first-hand knowledge of the cited achievement(s).

##### II. Method of collection

The nomination application and instructions can be downloaded from the USPTO Web site. Nomination files should be submitted by electronic mail to [NMTI@USPTO.gov](mailto:NMTI@USPTO.gov). Alternatively, letters of recommendation may be sent by electronic mail, fax, or overnight delivery.

##### III. Data

*OMB Number:* 0651-0060.

*Form Number(s):* None.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Affected Public:* Primarily business or other for-profit organizations; not-for-profit institutions; individuals or households.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 50 responses per year.

*Estimated Time per Response:* The USPTO estimates that it will take approximately 40 hours to gather the necessary information, prepare the nomination form, write the recommendations, and submit the request for the nomination to the USPTO.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours:* 2,000 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden:* \$75,000. The USPTO expects that private sector individuals of various occupations and professions will complete this information. The