

Secretary Ken Salazar on September 16, 2011. There will be no ISAC business conducted during the orientation session, which is closed to the public.

**DATES:** ISAC New Member Orientation (CLOSED): Monday, December 5, 2011; 9 a.m.–1:45 p.m. Meeting of the Invasive Species Advisory Committee (OPEN): Tuesday, December 6, 2011 through Thursday, December 8, 2011. The meeting will be held 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, December 6, 2011 and Wednesday, December 7, 2011. On Thursday, December 8, 2011, the meeting will begin at 8 a.m., and adjourn at 12 noon.

**ADDRESSES:** The new member orientation will be held at the NISC offices at 1201 Eye Street NW., Washington, DC 20005. The ISAC meeting will be held at the U.S. Department of Commerce (Herbert C. Hoover Building), 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230. The general session will be held in Room 4830. *Note:* All meeting participants and interested members of the public must be cleared through building security prior to being escorted to the meeting.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kelsey Brantley, National Invasive Species Council Program Specialist and ISAC Coordinator, (202) 513–7243; *Fax:* (202) 371–1751,

Dated: October 31, 2011.

**Lori Williams,**  
*Executive Director, National Invasive Species Council.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**[FWS–R7–FHC–2011–N188; FF07CAMM00–FXFR13370700000L5–123]**

**Letters of Authorization To Take Marine Mammals**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of issuance.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA), we, the Fish and Wildlife Service, have issued letters of authorization for the nonlethal take of polar bears and Pacific walrus incidental to oil and gas industry exploration, development, and production activities in the Beaufort Sea and the adjacent northern coast of Alaska and incidental to oil and gas industry exploration activities in the Chukchi Sea and the adjacent western coast of Alaska.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Craig Perham at the Fish and Wildlife Service, Marine Mammals Management Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503; (800) 362–5148 or (907) 786–3810.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On August 2, 2006, we published in the **Federal Register** a final rule (71 FR 43926) establishing regulations that allow us to authorize the nonlethal, incidental, unintentional take of small numbers of polar bears and Pacific walrus during year-round oil and gas industry exploration, development, and production activities in the Beaufort Sea and adjacent northern coast of Alaska. The rule established subpart J in part 18 of title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and was effective until August 2, 2011. New regulations were issued on August 3, 2011 (76 FR 47010), effective through August 3, 2016. The rule prescribed a process under which we issue Letters of Authorization (LOAs) to applicants conducting activities as described under the provisions of the regulations. In accordance with section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and our regulations at 50 CFR 18, subpart J, we issued an LOA to each of the following companies in the Beaufort Sea and adjacent northern coast of Alaska:

**BEAUFORT SEA LETTERS OF AUTHORIZATION**

Company	Activity	Project	Date issued
BP Exploration Alaska, Inc ...	Development .....	Liberty Development Project .....	January 20, 2011.
BP Exploration Alaska, Inc ...	Development .....	Red Dog #1 Plug and Abandonment Project .....	January 20, 2011.
Brooks Range Petroleum Corporation.	Exploration .....	North Tarn Exploration Program .....	January 1, 2011.
Brooks Range Petroleum Corporation.	Exploration .....	North Tarn Summer Clean Up and Field Studies .....	July 22, 2011.
ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc ...	Exploration .....	Hydrate Production Test, Ignik Sikumi I, Prudhoe Bay Unit.	January 3, 2011.
ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc ...	Exploration .....	West Kuparuk 3D Seismic Exploration Program .....	January 3, 2011.
ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc ...	Development .....	Puviaq #1 Plug and Abandonment Program .....	January 10, 2011.
Eni US Operating Co., Inc ...	Development .....	Nikaitchuq Development Program .....	May 15, 2011.
ExxonMobil Production Company.	Development .....	Point Thomson .....	February 1, 2011.
ExxonMobil Production Company.	Exploration .....	Seafloor Sediment Sampling Program .....	July 11, 2011.
FEX L.P .....	Development .....	Plug and Abandonment Project, Aklaqyaaq #1, Aklaq #2, and Aklaq #6 Wells.	January 10, 2011.
Marsh Creek, LLC .....	Development .....	Corrective Action Activities, Umiat Test Well No. 9 .....	February 11, 2011.
North Slope Borough .....	Development .....	Gas Fields Well Drilling Program .....	April 15, 2011.
Olgoonik Fairweather, LLC ...	Exploration .....	Beaufort Sea Acoustic Monitoring Recorder Deployment and Retrieval Project.	July 15, 2011.
Olgoonik Fairweather, LLC ...	Exploration .....	Central Beaufort Sea Fisheries Cruise Environmental Studies Program.	July 15, 2011.
Pioneer Natural Resources Alaska, Inc.	Development .....	Nuna Pre-Development Project .....	April 15, 2011.
Savant Alaska, LLC .....	Development .....	Badami Unit Redevelopment Project .....	February 7, 2011.
Shell Offshore, Inc .....	Development .....	Beaufort Sea Ice Observation and On-Ice Argos Data Buoy Deployment Program.	January 10, 2011.
Shell Offshore, Inc .....	Exploration .....	Beaufort Sea Open Water Marine Survey Program and Onshore Environmental Baseline Study Activities.	June 10, 2011.

On June 11, 2008, we published in the **Federal Register** a final rule (73 FR 33212) establishing regulations that allow us to authorize the nonlethal, incidental, unintentional take of small numbers of polar bears and Pacific walrus during year-round oil and gas

industry exploration activities in the Chukchi Sea and adjacent western coast of Alaska. The rule established subpart I of 50 CFR part 18 and is effective until June 11, 2013. The rule prescribed a process under which we issue LOAs to applicants conducting activities as

described under the provisions of the regulations. In accordance with section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA and our regulations at 50 CFR 18, subpart I, we issued an LOA to the following companies in the Chukchi Sea:

CHUKCHI SEA LETTERS OF AUTHORIZATION

Company	Activity	Project	Date issued
Shell Offshore, Inc .....	Exploration .....	Chukchi Sea Ice Observation Flights Program .....	January 10, 2011.
Shell Offshore, Inc .....	Exploration .....	Chukchi Sea Coastal Marine and Onshore Environmental Baseline Study.	May 15, 2011.
Shell Offshore, Inc .....	Exploration .....	Chukchi Sea Baseline Environmental Studies Program .....	July 29, 2011.
Statoil USA E&P, Inc .....	Exploration .....	Chukchi Sea Shallow Hazards Survey Project .....	June 20, 2011.

Dated: October 5, 2011.  
**E. LaVerne Smith,**  
*Acting Regional Director, Alaska Region.*  
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**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

[FWS-R9-IA-2011-0087; 96300-1671-0000 FY12-R4]

**Request for Information and Recommendations on Resolutions, Decisions, and Agenda Items for Consideration at the Sixteenth Regular Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.  
**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** To implement the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES or the Convention), the Parties to the Convention meet periodically to review what species in international trade should be regulated and other aspects of the implementation of CITES. The sixteenth regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES (CoP16) is tentatively scheduled to be held in March 2013 in Thailand. This is our second in a series of **Federal Register** notices that, together with an announced public meeting, provide you with an opportunity to participate in the development of the U.S. negotiating positions for CoP16. We published our first CoP16-related **Federal Register** notice on June 14, 2011, in which we requested information and recommendations on species proposals for the United States to consider submitting for consideration at CoP16. Further input from the public on species

proposals will be sought in a future notice. With this notice we are soliciting and invite you to provide us with information and recommendations on resolutions, decisions, and agenda items that the United States might consider submitting for discussion at CoP16. In addition, with this notice we provide preliminary information on how to request approved observer status for nongovernmental organizations that wish to attend the meeting.

**DATES:** We will consider all information and comments we receive on or before January 6, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments pertaining to recommendations for resolutions, decisions, and agenda items for discussion at CoP16 by one of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments on Docket No. FWS-R9-IA-2011-0087.
- *U.S. mail or hand-delivery:* Public Comments Processing, *Attn:* FWS-R9-IA-2011-0087; Division of Policy and Directives Management; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042-PDM; Arlington, VA 22203.

We will not consider comments sent by email or fax or to an address not listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. We will post all comments on <http://www.regulations.gov>. This generally means that we will post any personal information you provide us. If you submit a comment via <http://www.regulations.gov>, your entire comment—including any personal identifying information—will be posted on the Web site. If you submit a hardcopy comment that includes personal identifying information, you may request at the top of your document that we withhold this information from public review. However, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. We will post all hardcopy comments on <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Comments and materials we receive in response to this notice will be available for public inspection on <http://www.regulations.gov>, or by appointment, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays, at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Management Authority, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 212, Arlington, VA 22203; telephone (703) 358-1908.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information pertaining to resolutions, decisions, and agenda items contact: Robert R. Gabel, Chief, Division of Management Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Room 212, Arlington, VA 22203; telephone (703) 358-2095; facsimile (703) 358-2298. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at (800) 877-8339. For information pertaining to species proposals contact: Rosemarie Gnam, Chief, Division of Scientific Authority, phone (703) 358-1708, fax (703) 358-2276, email: [scientificauthority@fws.gov](mailto:scientificauthority@fws.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, hereinafter referred to as CITES or the Convention, is an international treaty designed to regulate international trade in certain animal and plant species that are now, or potentially may become, threatened with extinction. These species are listed in the Appendices to CITES, which are available on the CITES Secretariat's Web site at <http://www.cites.org/eng/app/index.shtml>.

Currently, 175 countries, including the United States, are Parties to CITES. The Convention calls for regular biennial meetings of the Conference of the Parties, unless the Conference