SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Science Foundation, as directed by the Antarctic Conservation Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95–541), as amended by the Antarctic Science, Tourism and Conservation Act of 1996, has developed regulations for the establishment of a permit system for various activities in Antarctica and designation of certain animals and certain geographic areas requiring special protection. The regulations establish such a permit system to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

The applications received are as follows:


1. Applicant: Ron Naveen, Oceanites, Inc., P.O. Box 15259, Chevy Chase, MD 20825.

Activity for Which Permit Is Requested

Enter Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPA’s). The applicant intends to conduct censusing/surveying visitor sites and penguin/seabird breeding locations in the Antarctic Peninsula. Various sites are censused/surveyed each austral spring/summer and may involve infrequent and minimal disturbances to resident fauna such as: Adelie, Chinstrap, Gentoo penguins, Southern giant petrels, Southern Fulmars, Cape Petrels, Antarctic blue-eyed shags, Antarctic Brown skuas, South polar skuas, Kelp gulls, and Antarctic Terns. Analyses flowing from the Antarctic Site Inventory (ASI) fieldwork encompass the entire Antarctic Peninsula. Antarctic Site Inventory censuses/surveys may also include occasional visits to Antarctica Specially Protected Areas such as: ASPA 107-Emperor Island, ASPA 108-Green Island, ASPA 109-Moe Island, ASPA 110-Lynch Island, ASPA 111-Powell Island, ASPA 112-Coppermine Peninsula, ASPA 113-Litchfield Island, ASPA 114-Northern Coronation Island, ASPA 115-Lagotellerie Island, ASPA 116-Shirreff Island, ASPA 118-Western Shore of Admiralty Bay, ASPA 120-Shirreff and San Telmo Island, ASPA 121-Admiralty Island, ASPA 122-Stromness Bay, ASPA 123-South Bay, ASPA 124-Port Foster, ASPA 125-Fildes Peninsula, ASPA 126-Byers Peninsula, ASPA 128-Western Shore of Admiralty Bay, ASPA 129-Rothera Point, ASPA 130-Potter Peninsula, ASPA 131-Cdr. Matthew H. Norgaard, ASPA 132-Potter Peninsula, ASPA 133-Whitmore Island, ASPA 134-Cierva Point, ASPA 136-Adelie Land, ASPA 137-Parry Peninsula, ASPA 138-Queens Island, ASPA 139-Biscoe Point, ASPA 140-Parts of Harmony Point, ASPA 141-Cape Shirreff and San Telmo Island, ASPA 142-Admiralty Island, ASPA 143-Byers Peninsula, ASPA 144-Chile Bay (Discovery Bay), ASPA 145-Port Foster, ASPA 146-South Bay, ASPA 147-Orne Harbour, ASPA 148-Mount Flora, ASPA 149-Cape Shirreff and San Telmo Island, ASPA 150-Ardley Island, ASPA 151-Lions Rump, ASPA 152-Western Bransfield Strait, and/or ASPA 153-Eastern Dallmann Bay.

Location


NUMERICAL VALUES:

The following numerical values have been rounded to the nearest whole number:

- Number of penguin species: 10
- Number of seabird species: 5
- Number of species listed under the Antarctic Conservation Act: 19
- Total number of identified sites: 45

SUMMARY:

The applicant intends to conduct censusing/surveying visitor sites and penguin/seabird breeding locations in the Antarctic Peninsula. Various sites are censused/surveyed each austral spring/summer and may involve infrequent and minimal disturbances to resident fauna such as: Adelie, Chinstrap, Gentoo penguins, Southern giant petrels, Southern Fulmars, Cape Petrels, Antarctic blue-eyed shags, Antarctic Brown skuas, South polar skuas, Kelp gulls, and Antarctic Terns. Analyses flowing from the Antarctic Site Inventory (ASI) fieldwork encompass the entire Antarctic Peninsula. Antarctic Site Inventory censuses/surveys may also include occasional visits to Antarctica Specially Protected Areas.
temporary price and classification changes associated with offering a Technology Credit Promotion. This notice informs the public of the Postal Service’s filing and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: Comment Date: May 6, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission’s Filing Online system at http://www.prc.gov. Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Table of Contents
I. Overview
II. Administrative Actions
III. Ordering Paragraphs

I. Overview

On April 16, 2013, the Postal Service filed notice, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3622 and 39 CFR part 3010, of plans to implement temporary price and classification changes associated with offering a Technology Credit Promotion. The promotion is planned to begin on June 1, 2013, and expire on May 31, 2014.

Technology Credit Promotion description. The Technology Credit Promotion provides mailers with a one-time credit towards future mailings that employ Full Service Intelligent Mail barcodes (IMb). The total value of the promotion will be approximately $66 million. The amount of the credit will be based on a mailer’s FY 2012 mail volume. The purpose of the promotion is to encourage adoption of Full Service IMb by offsetting a portion of a mailer’s investment in hardware and software necessary to support Full Service IMb. Notice at 1.

The Technology Credit Promotion applies to mail sent as First-Class Mail Presorted Letters/Postcards, First-Class Mail Flats, Standard Mail Carrier Route, Standard Mail Flats, In-County Periodicals, Outside County Periodicals, and Package Services Bound Printed Matter Flats (collectively, Qualifying Mail). Id. at 3.

To be eligible for the promotion, mailers must have mailed more than 125,000 Qualifying Mail pieces per business location (i.e., each Customer Registration ID or CRID) in FY 2012. Id. In March 2013, the Postal Service informed these customers of their eligibility for the promotion. Id. at 2.

The amount of the promotional credit is based on the volume of mail associated with each CRID as shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRID volume</th>
<th>Eligible credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>125,001–500,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500,001–2,000,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 2,000,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The credit is granted to any qualifying CRID for future mailings containing 90 percent or more mailpieces meeting Full Service IMb requirements. The credit is automatically applied as a postage credit to a mailer’s postage statement upon submission of an eligible mailing. The credit is applied in an amount up to the total amount of the mailing statement. Any remaining credit is available for subsequent mailings. Unused credits expire on May 31, 2014. Id. at 3–4.

The Postal Service notes that some CRIDs belong to mail service providers that do not have their own permit imprints. To include them in the promotion, the Postal Service intends to allow the mail service providers to apply for a permit imprint without paying the application fee. Id. at 4.

Price cap compliance. The Postal Service notes that it plans to implement the Technology Credit Promotion roughly mid-point between two annual market dominant price adjustments. It contends that Commission rules 3010.20 et seq. do not appear to address the calculation and use of pricing authority in such a situation. Id.

The Postal Service proposes to treat the Technology Credit Promotion as a decrease in rates resulting in price authority, and delay the use of that pricing authority until the next market dominant price adjustment. Id. at 5, 6. It does not wish to “bank” the amount of the authority if the banked authority could be used only after it uses all previously banked authority. Id. at 5, n.3.

The Postal Service attached an Excel file to its Notice which provides a preliminary calculation of price adjustment authority associated with the Technology Credit Promotion as summarized below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of mail</th>
<th>Pricing authority (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First-Class Mail</td>
<td>0.077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Mail</td>
<td>0.158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodicals</td>
<td>0.244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Package Services</td>
<td>0.014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Workshare discounts and preferred rates. The Postal Service asserts the Technology Credit Promotion does not affect workshare discounts. Id. at 10. Apart from volume thresholds, it also asserts the promotion does not exclude any mailer and will therefore not affect compliance with any preferred price requirement. Id. at 11.

Mail Classification Schedule. Proposed changes to the Mail Classification Schedule, which describe the Technology Credit Program, appear in Attachment A of the Postal Service’s Notice.

II. Administrative Actions

Initiation of proceedings. The Commission hereby establishes Docket No. R2013–6, Notice of Price Adjustment (Technology Credit Promotion), to conduct the review of the Postal Service’s planned price adjustments associated with the Technology Credit Promotion. The Postal Service’s Notice and any subsequent filings in this docket will be posted to the Commission’s Web site at http://www.prc.gov.

Public comment period. The Commission’s rules provide a period of 20 days from the date of the Postal Service’s filing for public comment. 39 CFR 3010.13(a)(5). Comments by interested persons are due no later than May 6, 2013.

Appointment of Public Representative. In conformance with 39 U.S.C. 505, the Commission appoints Robert N. Sidman to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

III. Ordering Paragraphs

It is ordered:

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. R2013–6 to consider the temporary adjustment of prices associated with the Technology Credit Promotion identified in the Postal Service’s April 16, 2013 Notice.

2. Comments by interested persons on the planned price adjustments are due no later than May 6, 2013.

3. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, the Commission appoints Robert N. Sidman to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

4. The Commission directs the Secretary of the Commission to arrange for publication of this notice in the Federal Register.

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove, Secretary.

includes citation: [FR Doc. 2013–09597 Filed 4–23–13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710–FW–P

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1 United States Postal Service Notice of Market-Dominant Price Adjustment (Technology Credit Promotion), April 16, 2013 [Notice].