

downhole or during the oil/water separation process.

■ 3. Add § 435.34 to read as follows:

§ 435.34 Pretreatment standards of performance for new sources (PSNS).

(a) *PSNS for Wastewater from Conventional Oil and Gas Extraction.* [Reserved]

(b) *PSNS for Wastewater from Unconventional Oil and Gas Extraction.* Except as provided in 40 CFR 403.7 and 403.13, any new source with discharges subject to this section must achieve the following pretreatment standards for new sources (PSNS).

(1) There shall be no discharge of wastewater pollutants associated with production, field exploration, drilling, well completion, or well treatment for unconventional oil and gas extraction (e.g., drilling muds, drill cuttings, produced sand, produced water) into publicly owned treatment works.

(2) For the purposes of this section, the definitions of unconventional oil and gas, drill cuttings, drilling muds, produced sand, and produced water are as specified in § 435.33(b)(2)(i) through (v).

■ 4. Add subpart H to read as follows:

Subpart H—Coalbed Methane Subcategory [Reserved]

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BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

48 CFR Parts 1801, 1802, 1805, 1807, 1812, 1813, 1823, 1833, 1836, 1847, 1850, and 1852

RIN 2700-AE19

NASA FAR Supplement Regulatory Review No. 3

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: NASA is updating the NASA FAR Supplement (NFS) with the goal of eliminating unnecessary regulation, streamlining overly-burdensome regulation, clarifying language, and simplifying processes where possible. This proposed rule is the third and final in a series and includes updates and revisions to 10 parts of the NFS. On January 18, 2011, President Obama signed Executive Order (E.O.) 13563, Improving Regulations and Regulatory Review, directing agencies to develop a plan for a retrospective analysis of existing regulations. The revisions to this proposed rule are part of NASA's

retrospective plan under E.O. 13563 completed in August 2011.

DATES: Interested parties should submit comments to NASA at the address below on or before June 8, 2015 to be considered in formulation of the final rule.

ADDRESSES: Interested parties may submit comments, identified by RIN number 2700-AE19 via the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments. Comments may also be submitted to Cynthia Boots via email at cynthia.d.boots@nasa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cynthia Boots, NASA, Office of Procurement, email: cynthia.d.boots@nasa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

The NASA FAR Supplement (NFS) is codified at 48 CFR part 1800. Periodically, NASA performs a comprehensive review and analysis of the regulation, makes updates and corrections, and reissues the NASA FAR Supplement. The last reissue was in 2004. The goal of the review and analysis is to reduce regulatory burden where justified and appropriate and make the NFS content and processes more efficient and effective, faster and simpler, in support of NASA's mission. Consistent with Executive Order (E.O.) 13563, Improving Regulations and Regulatory Review, NASA is currently reviewing and revising the NFS with an emphasis on streamlining it and reducing associated burdens. Due to the volume of the NFS, these revisions are being made in increments. This proposed rule is the third and final rule. The three rules together will constitute the NFS update and reissue. This proposed rule includes regulatory revisions to the following ten parts of the NFS:

1801—Federal Acquisition Regulations Systems
 1802—Definitions
 1805—Publicizing Contract Actions
 1807—Acquisition Planning
 1812—Acquisition of Commercial Items
 1813—Simplified Acquisition Procedures
 1823—Environment, Energy and Water Efficiency, Renewable Energy Technologies, Occupational Safety, and Drug-Free Workplace
 1833—Protests, Disputes and Appeals
 1836—Construction and Architect-Engineer Contracts
 1847—Transportation
 1850—Extraordinary Contractual Actions and the Safety Act
 1852—Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses

Further, this proposed rule provides notice that no regulatory changes will be made to the following ten parts of the NFS:

1803—Improper Business Practices and Personal Conflicts of Interest
 1804—Administrative Matters
 1808—Required Sources of Supplies and Services
 1811—Describing Agency Needs
 1825—Foreign Acquisition
 1839—Acquisition of Information Technology
 1835—Research and Development Contracting
 1845—Government Property
 1848—Value Engineering
 1872—Acquisition of Investigations

NASA analyzed the existing regulation to determine whether any portions should be modified, streamlined, expanded, or repealed in order to make the regulation more efficient and effective. Special emphasis was placed on identifying and eliminating or simplifying overly burdensome processes that could be streamlined without jeopardizing Agency mission effectiveness. Additionally, NASA sought to identify current regulatory coverage that is not regulatory in nature, and to remove or relocate such coverage to internal guidance. In addition to substantive changes, this proposed rule includes administrative changes necessary to make minor corrections and updates.

Specifically, the changes in this proposed rule are summarized as follows:

1801.106 is revised to reflect currently approved OMB Information Collection Requests

1802.101 is revised to update the definition of Head of Contracting Activity to reflect internal organizational changes.

1805.303(a)(i) is revised to delete the dollar figure of \$3.5 million but retain the reference to the threshold at FAR 5.303(a). Consequently, if the threshold at FAR 5.303(a) changes at any time, NFS 1805.303(a)(i) will continue to be correct and will not require rule-making to reflect the FAR change.

1807.107 and 1807.107-70 are deleted from the regulation. These sections provide NASA-internal direction to contracting officers and are not regulatory in nature. These sections, with minor edits, will remain non-codified internal guidance.

1807.7200 is revised to reflect a change to a Web site address.

1807.7201, the definition of "contract opportunity" is revised to delete "\$25,000" and replace it with "the simplified acquisition threshold".

1812.301, the list of NFS clauses authorized for use in acquisition of

commercial items updated through additions and deletions to reflect the list of currently approved clauses.

1813.000 is deleted. This section is internal guidance. This cite stated that simplified acquisition procedures were not applicable to R&D contracts for which proposals were solicited via a NASA Research Announcement (NRA) or an Announcement of Opportunity (OA). Removing the text from the regulation removes unnecessary regulation and it permits NASA to utilize simplified acquisition procedures for R&D contracting, as appropriate.

1823.7001, NASA solicitation provisions and contract clauses, is revised to specify that a safety and health plan may be required for acquisitions above the simplified acquisition threshold when the work will be conducted completely or partly on a Federally-controlled facility. The revision also provides three options to the contracting officer concerning the requirement for a safety and health plan. The contracting officer may use the clause at 1852.223-70, Safety and Health, when the safety and health plan will be evaluated as part of proposal evaluation. The contracting officer may use the FAR clause 52.236-13, Accident Prevention, and its Alternate I, when the safety and health plan will submitted after contract award for approval. The contracting officer may use the clause at 1852.223-72, Safety and Health (Short Form), when a safety and health plan is not required to be submitted under the contract. Additionally, when using the FAR clause at 52.236-13 with its Alternate I, the contracting officer is authorized to modify the wording in paragraph (f) of Alternate I to specify: (1) When the proposed plan is due and (2) Whether the contractor may commence work prior to approval of the plan; or (3) To what extent the contractor may commence work before the plan is approved.

1833.103 is revised to clarify that bidders or offerors may either protest directly to the contracting officer, or alternatively, request an independent review by the Assistant Administrator of Procurement, consistent with FAR 33.103.

Likewise, the corresponding clause at 1852.233 is revised to reflect the same clarification.

1833.106-70 and 1833.215 are revised to correct capitalization and lower case usage, consistent with FAR convention.

1836.513, Accident prevention, is revised to allow the use of FAR clause 52.236-13, Accident Prevention in certain circumstances, as specified at 1823.7001, when a safety and health

plan is required under the contract but will not be evaluated with proposals.

1847, The clause at 1852.247-71, Protection of the Florida Manatee, is revised to reflect current technical requirements and organizational points of contact in order to ensure that information essential to protecting the endangered manatee will be properly conveyed to contractors working on-site at NASA Kennedy Space Center (KSC). The clause was previously published as a proposed rule 73 FR 63420.

1850.104, Several administrative changes are made to the processing of contractor requests under the Safety Act. Although most of these changes involve internal NASA operations, the coverage will remain in the NFS because it is important for offerors to have a full understanding of agency activities related to the unique authority of the Safety Act.

1850.104-70 is deleted. This section assigned cognizance for indemnification applications to the NASA installation with the highest dollar value of contracts. The administrative changes to 1850.104 described immediately above clarify that all indemnity applications will be made to NASA HQ, with the NASA Administrator as the approval authority.

B. Executive Orders 12866 and 13563

Executive Orders (E.O.s) 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). E.O. 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, of reducing costs, of harmonizing rules, and of promoting flexibility. This proposed rule is not a “significant regulatory action” under section 3(f) of E.O. 12866. This proposed rule is not a major rule under 5 U.S.C. 804.

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act

NASA does not expect this proposed rule to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.* because it mainly clarifies or updates existing regulations. In several instances, this proposed rule deletes existing requirements which eases the regulatory burden on all entities, minimizing the number of resources used to collect the data and report it to the government.

D. Paperwork Reduction Act

The proposed rule contains no new information collection requirements that require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).

List of Subjects in 48 CFR 1801, 1802, 1805, 1807, 1812, 1813, 1823, 1833, 1836, 1847, 1850, and 1852

Government procurement.

Cynthia Boots,

Alternate Federal Register Liaison.

Accordingly, 48 CFR parts 1801, 1802, 1805, 1807, 1812, 1813, 1823, 1833, 1836, 1847, 1850, and 1852 are proposed to be amended as follows:

PART 1801—FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATIONS SYSTEM

■ 1. The authority citation for part 1801 is revised to read as follows

Authority: 51 U.S.C. 20113(a).

■ 2. Section 1801.106 is revised to read as follows:

1801.106 OMB approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

(1) *NFS requirements.* The following OMB control numbers apply:

NFS Segment	OMB Control No.
1823	2700-0089
1827	2700-0052
1843	2700-0054
NF 533	2700-0003
NF 1018	2700-0017

PART 1802—DEFINITIONS OF WORDS AND TERMS

■ 3. The authority citation for part 1802 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 51 U.S.C. 20113(a).

■ 4. In section 1802.101, the definition for “Head of the contracting activity (HCA)” is revised to read as follow:

1802.101 Definitions.

* * * * *

Head of the contracting activity (HCA) means, for field installations, the Director or other head, and for NASA Headquarters, the Director for Headquarters Operations. For Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate (HEOMD) contracts, the HCA is the Associate Administrator for HEOMD in lieu of the field Center Director(s). For NASA Shared Services Center (NSSC) contracts, the HCA is the Executive Director of the NSSC in lieu of the field Center Director(s).

* * * * *

PART 1805—PUBLICIZING CONTRACT ACTIONS

■ 5. The authority citation for part 1805 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 51 U.S.C. 20113(a).

■ 6. Section 1805.303 is revised to read as follows:

1805.303 Announcement of contract awards.

(a)(i) In lieu of the threshold cited in FAR 5.303(a), a NASA Headquarters public announcement is required for award of contract actions that have a total anticipated value, including unexercised options, of \$5 million or greater.

PART 1807—ACQUISITION PLANNING

■ 7. The authority citation for part 1807 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 51 U.S.C. 20113(a).

Subpart 1807.1 [Removed]

■ 8. Subpart 1807.01, consisting of sections 1807.107 and 1807.107–70, is removed.

■ 9. In section 1807.7200, paragraph (b) is revised to read as follows:

1807.7200 Policy.

* * * * *

(b) The annual forecast and semiannual update are available on the NASA Acquisition Internet Service (<http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/procurement/forecast/index.html>).

■ 10. In section 1807.7201, the definition for “Contract opportunity” is revised to read as follows:

1807.7201 Definitions.

* * * * *

Contract opportunity means planned new contract awards exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold (SAT).

PART 1812—ACQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS

■ 11. The authority citation for part 1812 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 51 U.S.C. 20113(a).

■ 12. Section 1812.301 is revised to read as follows:

1812.301 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses for the acquisition of commercial items.

(f)(i) The following clauses are authorized for use in acquisitions of commercial items when required by the clause prescription:

(A) 1852.204–75, Security Classification Requirements.

(B) 1852.204–76, Security Requirements for Unclassified Information Technology Resources.

(C) 1852.215–84, Ombudsman.

(D) 1852.216–80, Task Order Procedures (Alternate I).

(E) 1852.216–88, Performance Incentive.

(F) 1852.219–73, Small Business Subcontracting Plan.

(G) 1852.219–75, Small Business Subcontracting Reporting.

(H) 1852.223–70, Safety and Health.

(I) 1852.223–71, Frequency Authorization.

(J) 1852.223–72, Safety and Health (Short Form).

(K) 1852.223–73, Safety and Health Plan.

(L) 1852.223–75, Major Breach of Safety and Security (Alternate I).

(M) 1852.225–70, Export Licenses.

(N) 1852.228–76, Cross-Waiver of Liability for International Space Station Activities.

(O) 1852.228–78, Cross-Waiver of Liability for Science or Space Exploration Activities Unrelated to the International Space Station.

(P) 1852.237–70, Emergency Evacuation Procedures.

(Q) 1852.237–72, Access to Sensitive Information.

(R) 1852.237–73, Release of Sensitive Information.

(S) 1852.246–72, Material Inspection and Receiving Report.

(T) 1852.247.71, Protection of the Florida Manatee.

■ 13. In section 1812.7000:

■ a. Paragraphs (d) is removed;

■ b. Paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) are redesignated as paragraph (b), (c), and (d), respectively; and

■ c. Paragraph (a) is added.

The addition reads as follows:

1812.7000 Anchor tenancy contracts.

(a) The term “anchor tenancy” means an arrangement in which the United States Government agrees to procure sufficient quantities of a commercial space product or service needed to meet Government mission requirements so that a commercial venture is made viable.

* * * * *

PART 1813—SIMPLIFIED ACQUISITION PROCEDURES

■ 14. The authority citation for part 1813 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 51 U.S.C. 20113(a).

1813.000 [Removed]

■ 15. Section 1813.000 is removed.

PART 1823—ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY, RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, AND DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

■ 16. The authority citation for part 1823 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 51 U.S.C. 20113(a).

■ 17. In section 1823.7001:

■ a. Paragraph (c) is revised;

■ b. Paragraphs (d) and (e) are redesignated as paragraphs (e) and (f), respectively, and newly redesignated paragraph (f) is revised; and

■ c. Paragraph (d) is added.

The revisions and addition read as follows:

1823.7001 NASA solicitation provisions and contract clauses.

* * * * *

(c) The contracting officer shall insert the clause at 1852.223–73, Safety and Health Plan, in solicitations above the simplified acquisition threshold when the work will be conducted completely or partly on a Federally-controlled facility and the safety and health plan will be evaluated in source selection as approved by the source selection authority. This clause may be modified to identify specific information that is to be included in the plan. After receiving the concurrence of the center safety and occupational health official(s), the contracting officer shall incorporate the plan as an attachment into any resulting contract. The contracting officer shall insert the clause, with its Alternate I, in Invitations for Bid.

(d) The contracting officer shall insert FAR clause at 52.236–13 with its Alternate I in solicitations and contracts when the work will be conducted completely or partly on a Federally-controlled facility and a Safety and Health Plan will be reviewed after award as a contract deliverable. The contracting officer may modify the wording in paragraph (f) of Alternate I to specify:

(1) When the proposed plan is due; and

(2) Whether the contractor may commence work prior to approval of the plan; or

(3) To what extent the contractor may commence work before the plan is approved.

The requiring activity, in consultation with the cognizant health and safety official(s), will identify the data deliverable requirements for the safety and health plan. After receiving the concurrence of the center safety and occupational health official(s), the

contracting officer shall incorporate the plan as an attachment into the contract.

* * * * *

(f) The contracting officer shall insert the clause at 1852.223-72, Safety and Health (Short Form) in solicitations and contracts above the simplified acquisition threshold when work will be conducted completely or partly on Federally-controlled facilities and that do not contain the clause at 1852.223-73 or the FAR clause at 52.236-13 with its Alternate I.

PART 1833—PROTESTS, DISPUTES, AND APPEALS

■ 18. The authority citation for part 1833 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 51 U.S.C. 20113(a).

■ 19. Section 1833.103 is revised to read as follows:

1833.103 Protests to the agency.

(d)(4) The provision at 1852.233-70 provides for an alternative to a protest to the United States Government Accountability Office (GAO). This alternative gives bidders or offerors the ability to protest directly to the contracting officer (CO) or to request an independent review by the Assistant Administrator for Procurement (or designee). The Agency review shall be deemed to be at the CO level when the request is silent as to the level of review desired. The Agency review shall be deemed to be at the level of the Assistant Administrator for Procurement (or designee) when the request specifies a level above the CO, even if the request doesn't specifically request an independent review by the Assistant Administrator for Procurement. Such reviews are separate and distinct from the Ombudsman Program described at 1815.7001.

(e) NASA shall summarily dismiss and take no further action upon any protest to the Agency if the substance of the protest is pending in judicial proceedings or the protester has filed a protest on the same acquisition with the GAO prior to receipt of an Agency protest decision.

(4) When a bidder or offeror submits an Agency protest to the CO or alternatively requests an independent review by the Assistant Administrator for Procurement, the decision of the CO or the Assistant Administrator for Procurement shall be final and is not subject to any appeal or reconsideration within NASA.

1833.106-70 [Amended]

■ 20. In section 1833.106-70, remove the words "Contracting officers" and

add in their place the words "The contracting officer".

1833.215 [Amended]

■ 21. In section 1833.215, remove the word "agency" and add in its place the word "Agency".

PART 1836—CONSTRUCTION AND ARCHITECT-ENGINEER CONTRACTS

■ 22. The authority citation for part 1836 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 51 U.S.C. 20113(a).

■ 23. Section 1836.513 is revised to read as follows:

1836.513 Accident prevention.

For additional guidance on the use of FAR clause 52.236-13, Accident Prevention, and its Alternate I in NASA contracts, see 1823.7001(d).

PART 1850—EXTRAORDINARY CONTRACTUAL ACTIONS AND THE SAFETY ACT

■ 24. The authority citation for part 1850 is added to read as follows:

Authority: 51 U.S.C. 20113(a).

1850.103-570 [Amended]

■ 25. In section 1850.103-570, paragraph (a), remove the words "Associate General Counsel for General Law" and add in their place the words "Associate General Counsel for Contracts and Procurement Law".

1850.103-670 [Amended]

■ 26. In section 1850.103-670, paragraph (b), remove the words "Associate General Counsel for General Law" and add in their place the words "Associate General Counsel for Contracts and Procurement Law".

■ 27. Section 1850.104-2 is added to read as follows:

1850.104-2 General.

(a) Requests for the exercise of residual powers shall be sent to the Headquarters Office of Procurement, Program Operations Division for review and processing. The NASA Administrator is the approval authority for the Memorandum of Decision.

■ 28. Section 1850.104-3 is revised to read as follows:

1850.104-3 Special procedures for unusually hazardous or nuclear risks.

(a) *Indemnification requests.* (1) Contractor indemnification requests must be submitted to the cognizant contracting officer for the contract for which the indemnification clause is requested. The request shall be submitted six (6) months in advance of the desired effective date of the

requested indemnification in order to allow sufficient time for the request to be reviewed, analyzed, and approved by the Agency. Contractors shall submit a single request and shall ensure that duplicate requests are not submitted by associated divisions, subsidiaries, or central offices of the contractor.

(ii) The Contractor's request for indemnification must identify a sufficient factual basis for indemnification by explaining specifically what work activities under the contract create the unusually hazardous or nuclear risk and identifying the timeframes in which the risk would be incurred.

(iii) The contractor shall also provide evidence, such as a certificate of insurance or other customary proof of insurance, that such insurance is either in force or is available and will be in force during the indemnified period.

(b) *Action on indemnification requests.* (1) If recommending approval, the contracting officer shall forward the required information to the NASA Headquarters Office of Procurement, Program Operations Division, along with the following:

(i) For contracts of five years duration or longer, a determination, with supporting rationale, whether the indemnification approval and insurance coverage and premiums should be reviewed for adequacy and continued validity at points in time within the extended contract period.

(ii) The specific definition of the unusually hazardous risk to which the contractor is exposed in the performance of the contract(s), including specificity about which activities present such risk and the anticipated timeframes in which the risk will be incurred;

(iv) A complete discussion of the contractor's financial protection program; and

(vi) The extent to, and conditions under, which indemnification is being approved for subcontracts.

(2) The NASA Administrator is the approval authority for using the indemnification clause in a contract by a Memorandum of Decision.

(4)(ii) If approving subcontractor indemnification, the contracting officer shall document the file with a memorandum for record addressing the items set forth in FAR 50.104-3(b) and include an analysis of the subcontractor's financial protection program. In performing this analysis, the contracting officer shall take into consideration the availability, cost, terms and conditions of insurance in relation to the unusually hazardous risk.

■ 29. Section 1850.104–4 is added to read as follows:

1850.104–4 Contract clause.

The contracting officer shall obtain the NASA Administrator's approval prior to including clause 52.250–1 in a contract.

1850.104–70 [Removed]

■ 30. Section 1850.104–70 is removed.

PART 1852—SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES

■ 31. The authority citation for part 1852 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 51 U.S.C. 20113(a).

■ 32. Sections 1852.223–72 and 1852.223–73 are revised to read as follows:

1852.223–72 Safety and Health (Short Form).

As prescribed in 1823.7001(f), insert the following clause:

SAFETY AND HEALTH (SHORT FORM) (XX/XX)

(a) Safety is the freedom from those conditions that can cause death, injury, occupational illness; damage to or loss of equipment or property, or damage to the environment. NASA is committed to protecting the safety and health of the public, our team members, and those assets that the Nation entrusts to the Agency.

(b) The Contractor shall have a documented, comprehensive and effective health and safety program with a proactive process to identify, assess, and control hazards and take all reasonable safety and occupational health measures consistent with standard industry practice in performing this contract.

(c) The Contractor shall insert the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (c) in subcontracts that exceed the simplified acquisition threshold where work will be conducted completely or partly on Federally-controlled facilities.

(End of clause)

1852.223–73 Safety and Health Plan.

As prescribed in 1823.7001(c), insert the following clause:

SAFETY AND HEALTH PLAN (XX/XX)

(a) The offeror shall submit a detailed safety and occupational health plan as part of its proposal. The plan shall include a detailed discussion of the policies, procedures, and techniques that will be used to ensure the safety and occupational health of Contractor employees and to ensure the safety of all working conditions throughout the performance of the contract.

(b) The plan shall similarly address subcontractor employee safety and occupational health for those proposed subcontracts or subcontract effort where the work will be conducted completely or partly on a Federally-controlled facility

(d) This plan, as approved by the Contracting Officer, will be incorporated into any resulting contract.

(End of clause)

ALTERNATE I (XX/XX)

As prescribed in 1823.7001(c)(1), delete the first sentence in paragraph (a) of the basic provision and substitute the following:

The apparent low bidder, upon request by the Contracting Officer, shall submit a detailed safety and occupational health plan. The plan shall be submitted within the time specified by the Contracting Officer. Failure to submit an acceptable plan shall make the bidder ineligible for the award of a contract.

■ 33. Section 1852.233–70 is revised to read as follows:

1852.233–70 Protests to NASA.

As prescribed in 1833.106–70, insert the following provision:

PROTESTS TO NASA (XX/XX)

(a) In lieu of a protest to the United States Government Accountability Office (GAO), bidders or offerors may submit a protest under 48 CFR part 33 (FAR part 33) directly to the Contracting Officer for consideration by the Agency. Alternatively, bidders or offerors may request an independent review by the Assistant Administrator for Procurement, who will serve as or designate the official responsible for conducting an independent review. Such reviews are separate and distinct from the Ombudsman Program described at 1815.7001.

(b) Bidders or offerors shall specify whether they are submitting a protest to the Contracting Officer or requesting an independent review by the Assistant Administrator for Procurement.

(c) Protests to the Contracting Officer shall be submitted to the address or email specified in the solicitation (email is an acceptable means for submitting a protest to the Contracting Officer). Alternatively, requests for independent review by the Assistant Administrator for Procurement shall be addressed to the Assistant Administrator for Procurement, NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC 20456–0001.

(End of provision)

■ 34. Section 1852.247–71 is revised to read as follows:

1852.247–71 Protection of the Florida Manatee.

As prescribed in 1847.7001, insert the following clause:

PROTECTION OF THE FLORIDA MANATEE (XX/XX)

(a) Pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Pub. L. 93–205), as amended, and the Marine Mammals Protection Act of 1972 (Pub. L. 92–522), the Florida Manatee (*Trichechus Manatus*) has been designated an endangered species, and the Indian River Lagoon system within and adjacent to National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA's) Kennedy Space Center (KSC) has been designated as a critical

habitat of the Florida Manatee. The KSC Environmental Management Branch will advise all personnel associated with the project of the potential presence of manatees in the work area, and the need to avoid collisions and/or harassment of the manatees. Contractors shall ensure that all employees, subcontractors, and other individuals associated with this contract and who are involved in vessel operations, dockside work, and selected disassembly functions are aware of the civil and criminal penalties for harming, harassing, or killing manatees.

(b) All contractor personnel shall be responsible for complying with all applicable Federal and/or state permits (e.g., Florida Department of Environmental Protection, St. Johns River Water Management District, Fish & Wildlife Service) in performing water-related activities within the contract. Where no Federal and/or state permits are required for said contract, and the contract scope requires activities within waters at KSC, the Contractor shall obtain a KSC Manatee Protection Permit from the Environmental Management Branch. All conditions of Federal, state, and/or KSC regulations and permits for manatee protection shall be binding to the contract. Notification and coordination of all water related activities at KSC will be done through the Environmental Management Branch.

(c) The Contractor shall incorporate the provisions of this clause in applicable subcontracts.

(End of clause)

[FR Doc. 2015–07737 Filed 4–6–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 229

[Docket No. 150122067–5229–01]

RIN 0648–BE83

Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations; Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan Regulations; Correction

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

ACTION: Proposed rule; request for comments; correction.

SUMMARY: NMFS published a proposed rule in the **Federal Register** on March 19, 2015, to amend the regulations implementing the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan. This action proposed to change the minimum number of traps per trawl to allow fishing with a single trap in certain Massachusetts and Rhode Island state waters; and proposed to modify the