

From 1:15 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., the Council will receive a report from the King and Spanish Mackerel Committee, approve Amendments 19 and 20 for public hearings, consider other Committee recommendations and take action as appropriate.

From 1:30 p.m. until 1:45 p.m., the Council will receive a report from the Advisory Panel Selection Committee, review applications and make appointments, consider other Committee recommendations and take action as appropriate.

From 1:45 p.m. until 2 p.m., the Council will receive a report from the SSC Selection Committee, review applications and make appointments, consider other Committee recommendations and take action as appropriate.

From 2 p.m. until 2:15 p.m., the Council will receive a report from the Law Enforcement Committee, select the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, consider other Committee recommendations and take action as appropriate.

From 2:15 p.m. until 2:30 p.m., the Council will receive a report from the SEDAR Committee, consider Committee recommendations and take action as appropriate.

From 2:30 p.m. until 4 p.m., the Council will receive presentations and status reports from the NOAA Southeast Regional Office (SERO) and the NMFS SEFSC, review agency and liaison reports, and discuss other business, including upcoming meetings.

Documents regarding these issues are available from the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**).

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subjects of formal final Council action during these meetings. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Except for advertised (scheduled) public hearings and public comment, the times and sequence specified on this agenda are subject to change.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) by June 5, 2012.

Dated: May 21, 2012.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC043

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) and its Research Set-Aside Committee, Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Committee, and its Surfclam, Ocean Quahog Committee will hold public meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held Monday June 11, 2012 through Thursday, June 14, 2012. See

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Hilton New York, 1335 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10019; telephone: (212) 586-7000.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N. State St., Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: 302-674-2331.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D. Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: (302) 526-5255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Monday, June 11, 2012

The Research Set-Aside Committee (RSA) and NMFS will meet in a closed session from 1 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.

The Research Set-Aside Committee will meet from 3:30 p.m. until 5 p.m.

Tuesday, June 12, 2012

The Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Committee will meet from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m.

The Council will convene at 1 p.m.

The Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Committee will meet as a Committee of the Whole from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. (2013 Specifications).

A NY Energy Initiatives Presentation will be held from 3 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Bureau of Energy Management (BOEM) presentations will be held from 3:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

A discussion of Monkfish Amendment 6 will be held from 4:30 p.m. until 5 p.m.

The Listening Session will be held from 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

Wednesday, June 13, 2012

Visioning will be discussed from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m.

The Mackerel, Squid and Butterfish Committee will meet as a Committee of the Whole (Amendment 14) from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m.

The Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Committee will meet as a Committee of the Whole from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m.

A Highly Migratory Species (HMS) presentation will be held from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m.

Thursday, June 14, 2012

A National Standard 1 Guidelines discussion will be held from 9 a.m. until 9:30 a.m.

A clean Ocean Action presentation will be held from 9:30 a.m. until 10 a.m.

A Standardized Bycatch Research Methodology (SBRM) presentation will be held from 10 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.

The Council will hold its regular Business Session from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. to approve the April minutes, receive Organizational Reports, the New England Council Liaison Report, Executive Director's Report, Science Report, Committee Reports, and conduct any continuing and/or new business.

Agenda items by day for the Council's Committees and the Council itself are:

On Monday, June 11—The RSA Committee and NMFS will meet in a closed session to review the 2013 RSA proposals. The RSA will review staff recommendations for changes to the RSA program.

On Tuesday, June 12—the Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Committee will select Amendment 14 Alternatives to recommend to the Council. The Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Committee will meet a Committee of the Whole to develop 2013 quota specifications and associated management measures and review Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) recommendations on 2012 butterfish Allowable Biological Catch (ABC) and take any needed actions. Greg Capobianco of the NY Department of State will provide a NY Energy Initiatives presentation. There will be two presentations by Kim Skrupsky of Bureau of Energy Management (BOEM) and Dr. Christopher Clark of Cornell on seismic testing impacts associated with

BOEM's Atlantic Geological and Geophysical Programmatic EIS. The Council will respond to a proposal to remove Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs) from Monkfish Amendment 6. During the Listening Session a presentation on the effects of climate on fisheries resources of the Mid-Atlantic region will be presented by Jon Hare of NMFS.

On Wednesday, June 13—Discussion on the background and context of the Visioning project, review the objectives and methods for stakeholder data gathering presentation and discussion of stakeholder data report, and the proposal for the next phase of the visioning and strategic plan. The Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Committee will meet as a Committee of the Whole to select Amendment 14 alternatives to recommend to NMFS for implementation. The Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Committee will meet as a Committee of the Whole to review and consider changes to the 2013 quota specifications for surfclams and ocean quahogs and update PSP, data collection, 2012 survey, and stock assessment. There will be a presentation by Tom Warren of NMFS on HMS Amendment 7 Scoping (Bluefin tuna management).

On Thursday, June 14—NMFS proposal to review/revise National Standard 1 Guidelines will be discussed. There will be a presentation by Cindy Zipf, regarding Clean Ocean Action. Doug Potts of NMFS will provide a presentation on SBRM alternatives. The Council will hold its regular Business Session to approve the April 2012 minutes, receive Organizational Reports, the New England Council Liaison Report, the Executive Director's Report, Science Report, Committee Reports, and conduct any continuing and/or new business.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid should be directed to M. Jan Saunders, (302) 526-5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: May 21, 2012.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2012-12684 Filed 5-24-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC024

Taking and Importing Marine Mammals: Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Navy Training Exercises in Three East Coast Range Complexes

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of three modified Letters of Authorization.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), as amended, and implementing regulations, notification is hereby given that NMFS has issued three Letters of Authorization (LOAs) to take marine mammals by harassment, incidental to the U.S. Navy's training activities within the Virginia Capes (VACAPES), Jacksonville (JAX), and Cherry Point (CHPT) Range Complexes to the Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, 1562 Mitscher Avenue, Suite 250, Norfolk, VA 23551-2487 and persons operating under his authority.

DATES: Effective from June 5, 2012, through June 4, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Navy's request for LOAs, the Navy's 2011-2012 marine mammal monitoring report and the Navy's 2011-2012 exercise report are available by writing to Tammy C. Adams, Acting Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, by telephoning the contact listed here (SEE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT), or online at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/permits/incidental.htm#applications>. Documents cited in this notice may be viewed, by appointment, during regular business hours, at the aforementioned address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shane Guan, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS (301) 724-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) directs the Secretary of Commerce to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional taking of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a military readiness activity if certain findings are made and either regulations are issued or, if the taking is limited to harassment, a notice of a

proposed authorization is provided to the public for review.

Authorization may be granted for periods of 5 years or less if NMFS finds that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s), and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for certain subsistence uses, and if the permissible methods of taking and requirements pertaining to the mitigation, monitoring and reporting of such taking are set forth.

Regulations governing the taking of marine mammals incidental to the U.S. Navy's training activities at the VACAPES, JAX, and CHPT Range Complexes were published on June 15, 2009 (VACAPES: 74 FR 28328; JAX: 74 FR 28349; CHPT: 74 FR 28370) and remain in effect through June 4, 2014. They are codified at 50 CFR part 218 subpart A (VACAPES), subpart B (JAX), and subpart C (CHPT). These regulations include mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements for the incidental taking of marine mammals by the Navy's range complex training exercises. For detailed information on these actions, please refer to the June 15, 2009 **Federal Register** Notices and 50 CFR part 218 subparts A, B, and C.

An interim final rule was issued on May 26, 2011 (76 FR 30552) to allow certain flexibilities concerning Navy's training activities at VACAPES and JAX, and LOAs were issued to the Navy on June 1, 2011 (76 FR 33266; June 8, 2011). These LOAs were subsequently modified on January 6, 2012, to allow takes of marine mammals by using time-delayed firing devices (*i.e.*, detonation is controlled by a time-delaying devices instead of being promptly executed) with improved monitoring and mitigation measures (77 FR 2040; January 13, 2012).

On February 12, 2012, NMFS published a final rule (77 FR 4917) that allows for the issuance of multi-year LOAs, as long as the regulations governing such LOAs are valid, and finalized the May 26, 2011 interim rule.

Summary of LOA Request

On January 19, 2012, the Navy submitted an application to take marine mammals incidental to training activities at VACAPES, JAX, and CHPT Range Complexes under the regulations issued on June 15, 2009 (VACAPES: 74 FR 28328; JAX: 74 FR 28349; CHPT: 74 FR 28370) and modified on February 12, 2012 (77 FR 4917). The application requested authorization for two years, to take marine mammals by harassment, incidental to proposed training activities that involve the use of