

1917 (fax), or <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/index.htm>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Atlantic HMS are managed under the dual authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*, and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (ATCA), 16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.* Under the MSA, NMFS must ensure consistency with the National Standards and manage fisheries to maintain optimum yield, rebuild overfished fisheries, and prevent overfishing. ATCA authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to promulgate regulations, as may be necessary and appropriate, to implement the recommendations adopted by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). The authority to issue regulations under MSA and ATCA has been delegated from the Secretary to the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. The implementing regulations for Atlantic HMS are at 50 CFR part 635.

**Background**

The current regulations and infrastructure of the Atlantic HMS quota-monitoring systems result in a delay of several weeks or more before NMFS receives dealer data. This can affect management and monitoring of small Atlantic HMS quotas and short fishing seasons. As such, on June 28, 2011 (76 FR 37750), we published a proposed rule in the **Federal Register** that considered requiring, among other things, Federal Atlantic swordfish, shark, and tunas dealers (except for dealers reporting Atlantic bluefin tuna) to report commercially-harvested Atlantic sharks, swordfish, and BAYS tunas through one centralized electronic reporting system. Under this new system, dealers would submit HMS data electronically (instead of in a paper format) and include additional information that is necessary for management of HMS (e.g., vessel and logbook information). The electronic submission of data will eliminate the delay associated with mailing in hardcopy reports. In this manner, HMS landings data will be submitted on a

more real-time basis, allowing for timely and efficient data collection for management of Atlantic HMS.

In order to give sufficient time for dealers to adjust to implementation of the new system and the additional requirements, we proposed delaying implementation of the new HMS electronic reporting system for all federally-permitted HMS dealers until 2013. Additionally, we decided to conduct outreach to HMS dealers to train them how to use the new system and help ease the transition from the current paper format to the new HMS electronic reporting system. We conducted an initial training workshop for HMS dealers in St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. on December 14, 2011, and in this notice we are announcing additional training workshops in the Gulf of Mexico, Atlantic, and Caribbean regions. However, we are not holding a training workshop in St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. at this time; we are working on scheduling an additional training session in St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. in the future.

Date	Time	Meeting locations	Address
July 17, 2012 .....	4:30–7:30 p.m. ....	Centro de Recursos para la Información y Educación Marina.	Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Mayagüez, Edificio de Física, Salón 310, Mayagüez, PR 00681.
July 19, 2012 .....	5:00–8:00 p.m. ....	Center for Marine and Environmental Studies	University of the Virgin Islands, RR#1 Box 10,000, Evans Center, Theater/Room EVC 401, Kingshill, VI 00850–9781.
August 7, 2012 .....	5:00–8:00 p.m. ....	Belle Chasse Auditorium .....	8398 HWY. 23, Belle Chasse, LA 70037.
August 8, 2012 .....	5:00–8:00 p.m. ....	Grand Caillou Recreation Center .....	106 Badou Drive, Dulac, LA 70353.
August 15, 2012 .....	1:30–4:30 p.m. ....	Bay County Government Center .....	840 W. 11th Street, Room #1030, Panama City, FL 32401.
August 21, 2012 .....	3:30–6:30 p.m. ....	Port Orange Regional Library .....	1005 City Center Circle, Port Orange, FL 32129.
August 22, 2012 .....	4:30–7:30 p.m. ....	Seminole Community Library .....	9200 113th Street N., Seminole, FL 33772.
August 23, 2012 .....	4:30–7:30 p.m. ....	Tyrone Bryant Branch Library .....	2230 NW 21st Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311.
September 5, 2012 .....	6:30–9:30 p.m. ....	Marathon Government Center .....	2798 Overseas Highway, Milemarker 48.5, EOC BOCC Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Marathon, FL 33050.

These workshops will be physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Delisse Ortiz at (301) 425–8503 or Jackie Wilson at (240) 338–3936 at least 7 days prior to the workshop date. The public is reminded that NMFS expects participants at the workshop to conduct themselves appropriately. At the beginning of each workshop, a representative of NMFS will explain the ground rules (e.g., alcohol is prohibited from the hearing room; each attendee will have an opportunity to ask questions; and attendees should not interrupt one another). Attendees are expected to

respect the ground rules; if they do not, they will be asked to leave the workshop.

Dated: June 26, 2012.

**Emily H. Menashes,**

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

[FR Doc. 2012–16061 Filed 6–28–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of committee meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The North Pacific Fishery Management Council’s (Council) Steller Sea Lion Mitigation Committee (SSLMC) will meet July 16–17, 2012, in

Seattle, WA, 9 a.m. through 5 p.m. Pacific time.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Alaska Fishery Science Center, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., Seattle, WA.

*Council address:* North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steve MacLean, North Pacific Fishery Management Council; telephone: (907) 271-2809.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This public meeting will occur during the scoping period for the Steller Sea Lion Protection Measures EIS (77 FR 22750, April 17, 2012). Information on EIS development, potential alternatives, and issues for analysis may be discussed. The public is encouraged to attend in this meeting, however, comments specific to the EIS should be submitted in writing to NMFS before the close of the scoping period on October 15, 2012. More information on the EIS scoping process and instructions for submitting written public comments are available on the NMFS Alaska Region Web site at <http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/sslpm/eis/default.htm>.

Additional information is posted on the Council Web site: <http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/>.

The meeting will be webcast at <https://npfmc.webex.com/npfmc/onstage/g.php?t=a&d=991631167>.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. 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 Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Gail Bendixen, (907) 271-2809, at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: June 26, 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-XB160**

#### Marine Mammals; File No. 16193

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

**ACTION:** Notice; receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Todd Robeck, D.V.M, Ph.D., Sea World Parks and Entertainment Corp, 500 Sea World Drive, San Diego, CA 92109, has applied in due form for a permit to receive, import, and export specimens of marine mammals for scientific research.

**DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before July 30, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** The application and related documents are available for review by selecting "Records Open for Public Comment" from the *Features* box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species (APPS) home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 16193 from the list of available applications.

These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits and Conservation Division,  
Office of Protected Resources, NMFS,  
1315 East-West Highway, Room  
13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910;  
phone (301) 427-8401; fax (301) 713-0376; and Southwest Region, NMFS,  
501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200,  
Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone  
(562) 980-4001; fax (562) 980-4018.

Written comments on this application should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, at the address listed above. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile to (301) 713-0376, or by email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). Please include the File No. 16193 in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division at the address listed above. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Skidmore or Amy Sloan, (301) 427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject permit is requested under the

authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

The applicant is requesting authorization to receive, import, and export an unlimited number of cetacean and pinniped specimens (from several species of dolphin, pilot whales, beluga whales, killer whales, South American sea lions, Steller sea lions, and Hawaiian monk seals) including but not limited to reproductive cells and organs, urine, feces, teeth, skin, saliva, ocular and nasal secretions, and whole blood taken from dead or captive individuals to study reproductive physiology, including endocrinology, gamete biology, and cryophysiology.

Specimens from dead animals, located solely within the jurisdiction of the U.S.A. or Canada, would be collected under the following circumstances: Legal subsistence harvesting; killed incidentally to fishing or other operations; found dead at sea or beached; or that died of natural causes. No specimens would be imported from animals killed during high seas driftnet fisheries or during a direct fishery. From dead animals, samples from not more than 40 animals per species are anticipated to be collected per year. For captive animals, specimens would be collected from animals that are being housed in countries or situations where such activity is legal and from animals that have been behaviorally conditioned for specimen donation or during normal USDA approved animal husbandry procedures. For live animals, unlimited specimens would be collected for import or export from not more than 20 individual animals per species per year. Specimens may be taken at anytime of the year and in all areas worldwide where pinnipeds and cetaceans are found. The requested duration of the permit is five years.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the application to the Marine Mammal