

(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 parts 222–226).

The applicant is requesting a 5-year research permit to study 35 cetacean species or stocks during vessel surveys in the Pacific Ocean and Gulf of Mexico to understand cetaceans' use of sound, their sensitivity to anthropogenic sound, and impacts of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The applicant requests authority to: (1) Photograph cetaceans for identification to determine abundance, movements and population structure; (2) collect biopsies and fecal samples to determine taxonomy, sex, relatedness and stock structure of cetaceans; and (3) suction-cup tag, track, and collect passive acoustic recordings to study cetacean diving behavior, calling behavior, feeding, and movements.

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 Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Documents may be reviewed in the following locations:

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;

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115–0700; phone (206)526–6150; fax (206)526–6426;

Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802–1668; phone (907)586–7221; fax (907)586–7249;

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802–4213; phone (562)980–4001; fax (562)980–4018;

Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814–4700; phone (808)944–2200; fax (808)973–2941; and

Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, Saint Petersburg, FL 33701; phone (727)824–5312; fax (727)824–5309.

Dated: April 16, 2013.

P. Michael Payne,

Chief, Permits and Conservation Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XC620

National Marine Fisheries Service, Pacific Fishery Management Council (Pacific Council); May 6 and 9–10, 2013 Council Coordination Committee Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Council will host a meeting of the Council Coordination Committee (CCC) consisting of the eight Regional Fishery Management Council (RFMC) chairs, vice chairs, and executive directors and its subcommittees in May 2013. The intent of this meeting is to discuss issues of relevance to the Councils, including: budget issues, CCC meeting protocols, Managing Our Nation's Fisheries 3 (MONF3) conference results, Endangered Species Act transparency, electronic monitoring, allocation review process, Department of Commerce Office of the Inspector General report action plan, new environmental review process, other topics of concern to the RFMC, and decisions and follow-up activities.

DATES: The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 6, 2013, and recess at 5:30 p.m. or when business is complete; reconvene at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 9, 2013 and recess at 5 p.m. or when business is complete; and reconvene at 9 a.m. on Friday, May 10, 2013 and adjourn by 5:30 p.m. or when business is complete.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Mayflower Renaissance Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Avenue NW., Washington DC 20036. The Pacific Council address is Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, Oregon 97220.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Donald O. McIsaac, Executive Director; telephone: 503–820–2280 or 866–806–7204 toll free; or access the Pacific Council Web site, <http://www.pcouncil.org>

for the current meeting location, proposed agenda, and meeting briefing materials.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act (MSRA) of 2006 established the Council Coordination Committee (CCC) by amending section 302 (16 U.S.C. 1852) of the MSA. The committee consists of the chairs, vice chairs, and executive directors of each of the eight Regional Fishery Management Councils authorized by the MSA or other Council members or staff. The meeting is being held before and after the MONF3 national conference being held in Washington, DC May 6–9, 2013. The meeting and subcommittee meetings are open to the public (Submit written comments to the Pacific Council (see **ADDRESSES**). There will be a short closed session of the CCC Monday morning. The Web site (found at <http://www.cvent.com/events/managing-our-nation-s-fisheries-3/event-summary-94ddf325198f4501996ccc62aa396aa2.aspx>) has materials relevant to discussions at the CCC meetings.

Agenda

Monday, May 6, 2013

10–11 a.m. Closed session.

11 a.m.–12 p.m.

Call to Order

Open Public Comment

Managing Our Nations Fisheries III Conference

12 p.m.–1:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30–4 p.m.

CCC Meeting Guidance

Budget Issues

4–5 p.m. The Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC) ESA Working Group Session

4–5 p.m. OIG Report Response: CCC Subcommittee and NMFS meeting

Thursday, May 9, 2013

1:30–5 p.m.

Consideration of Managing Our Nation's Fisheries 3 Conference Results

Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization and Associated Legislation Possibilities

Friday, May 10, 2013

9 a.m.–12 p.m.

ESA Transparency

Electronic Monitoring

Allocation Review Process

12–1:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30–5 p.m.

OIG Report Action Plan

New NEPA process

Discussion of Follow-up Activities

ADJOURN

The timing and order in which agenda items are addressed may change as required to effectively address the issues. The CCC will meet as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Carolyn Porter at 503-820-2280 at least five days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: April 15, 2013.

William D. Chappell,

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

[FR Doc. 2013-09188 Filed 4-18-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC613

General Advisory Committee and Scientific Advisory Subcommittee to the U.S. Section to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission; Meeting Announcement

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces a combined meeting of the Scientific Advisory Subcommittee (SAS) and the General Advisory Committee (GAC) to the U.S. Section to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) on May 15, 2013. Meeting topics are provided under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

DATES: The one-day combined meeting of the SAS and of the GAC will be held on May 15, 2013, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. PDT (or until business is concluded).

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the NMFS Long Beach office: 501 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802. Please notify Heidi Taylor prior to May 10, 2013, of your plans to attend either meeting, or interest in a teleconference option.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Heidi Taylor, Southwest Region, NMFS, at *Heidi.Taylor@noaa.gov*, or at (562) 980-4039.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Tuna Conventions

Act, 16 U.S.C. 953 the Department of State has appointed a General Advisory Committee (GAC) and a Scientific Advisory Subcommittee (SAS) to the U.S. Section to the IATTC. The U.S. Section consists of four U.S. Commissioners to the IATTC and a representative of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and Fisheries. The GAC and SAS support the U.S. Section to the IATTC in an advisory capacity; in particular, they provide advice on the development of U.S. policies and positions. NOAA Fisheries Southwest Regional Office administers the GAC and SAS in cooperation with the Department of State. The combined GAC and SAS meeting is open to the public and time provided for public comment will be at the discretion of the GAC and SAS chairmen.

The next annual meeting of the IATTC is scheduled from June 3 through June 14, 2013, in Veracruz, Mexico. For more information on the IATTC meeting, please visit the IATTC's Web site: <http://www.iattc.org/HomeENG.htm>.

Meeting Topics

The SAS meeting topics will include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) Relevant stock status updates, including yellowfin, bigeye, skipjack, and Pacific bluefin tunas; (2) updates on bycatch mitigation measures; (3) evaluation of the IATTC's recommended conservation measures, U.S. proposals, and proposals from other IATTC members; (4) input to the GAC; and (5) other issues that arise.

The GAC meeting topics will include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) Relevant stock status updates, including yellowfin, bigeye, skipjack, and Pacific bluefin tunas; (2) U.S. regulatory changes that could affect tuna fisheries in the eastern Pacific Ocean; (3) the status of U.S. legislation to implement the Antigua Convention; (4) input from the SAS; (5) formulation of advice on issues that may arise at the upcoming 2013 IATTC meeting, including the IATTC's recommended conservation measures, potential U.S. proposals, and potential proposals from other IATTC members; and (6) other issues as they arise.

Special Accommodations

The meeting location is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Heidi Taylor at (562) 980-4039 by May 10, 2013.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: April 15, 2013.

Kara Meckley,

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

[FR Doc. 2013-09251 Filed 4-18-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC629

Fisheries in the Western Pacific; American Samoa Pelagic Longline Limited Entry Program

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

ACTION: Notice; availability of permits.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the availability of, and is soliciting applications for, American Samoa pelagic longline limited entry fishing permits. At least 12 permits in two size classes are available for 2013.

DATES: NMFS must receive completed permit applications by August 19, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Request a blank application form from the NMFS Pacific Islands Region (PIR), 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4733, or the PIR Web site www.fpir.noaa.gov. Mail completed applications and payment to NMFS PIR, ATTN: ASLE Permits, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4733.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Walter Ikehara, Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS PIR, tel 808-944-2275, fax 808-973-2940, or email *PIRO-permits@noaa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Federal regulations at 50 CFR 665.816 require NMFS to issue new permits for the American Samoa pelagic longline limited entry program if the number of permits in a size class falls below the maximum allowed. At least 12 permits are available for issuance, as follows: 11 in Class A (vessels less than or equal to 40 ft) and one in Class B (over 40 ft to 50 ft). Note that the number of available permits may change before the application period closes.

Complete applications must include the completed and signed application form, evidence of documented participation in the American Samoa pelagic longline fishery, and payment for the non-refundable application processing fee in accordance with the regulations at 50 CFR 665.13. Applicants must specify the permit