

consistent with NEPA and other relevant considerations of national policy, to avoid or minimize any significant effects of the proposed action on the quality of the human environment. Following completion of the environmental review, the Services will publish a notice of availability and a request for comment on a draft EIS and the applicant's permit application, which will include a draft of the proposed HCP.

#### Public Comments

We request data, comments, new information, or suggestions from the public, other governmental agencies, the scientific community, Tribes, industry, or any other interested party on this notice. We will consider these comments in developing a draft EIS. We seek specific comments on:

1. Biological information and relevant data concerning the Covered Species;
2. Additional information concerning the range, distribution, population size, and population trends of the Covered Species;
3. Direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts that implementation of the proposed Covered Activities could have on endangered, threatened, and other Covered Species, and their communities and habitats;
4. Other possible alternatives that the Services should consider;
5. Other current or planned activities in the subject area and their possible impacts on the Covered Species;
6. The presence of archeological sites, buildings and structures, historic events, sacred and traditional areas, and other historic preservation concerns, which are required to be considered in project planning by the National Historic Preservation Act; and
7. Identification of any other environmental issues that should be considered with regard to the proposed HCP and permit action.

You may submit your comments and materials by one of the methods listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. Written comments also will be accepted at the scoping meeting.

#### Scoping Meeting

See **DATES** for the date and time of the public meeting. The scoping meeting is intended to provide the public with a general understanding of the background of the proposed HCP and activities it would cover, alternative proposals under consideration for the draft EIS, and the Services' role and steps to be taken to develop the draft EIS.

The primary purpose of the meeting and public comment period is to solicit

suggestions and information on the scope of issues and alternatives for the Services to consider when drafting the EIS. Written comments will be accepted at the meetings. Comments can also be submitted by the methods listed in the **ADDRESSES** section. Once the draft EIS and proposed HCP are complete and made available for review, there will be an opportunity for public comment on the content of those documents through an additional public comment period.

#### Meeting Location Accommodations

Persons needing reasonable accommodations to attend and participate in the public meeting should contact Darren Brumback at 562-980-4060 or David Simmons at 805-644-1766. To allow sufficient time to process requests, please call no later than 1 week before the public meeting. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf, please call the Federal Information Relay Service at 800-877-8339 or visit Federal Relay at <http://www.federalrelay.us/>. Information regarding this proposed action may be available in alternative formats upon request.

#### Authority

We provide this notice under section 10 of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and per NEPA Regulations (40 CFR 1501.7, 40 CFR 1506.6, and 1508.22).

Dated: November 5, 2013.

#### Angela Somma,

Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

Dated: November 5, 2013.

#### Alexandra Pitts,

Deputy Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento, California.

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee; Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of a meeting via web conference call of the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee (Committee). The

web conference calls are open to the public, and participants can dial in to the calls. Participants who choose to use the web conferencing feature in addition to the audio will be able to view the presentations as they are being given.

**DATES:** Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting must register in advance by December 2, 2013. The meeting will be held Tuesday, December 3, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. EST. These times and the agenda topics described below are subject to change. Refer to the Web page listed below for the most up-to-date meeting agenda.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held via web conference call. Register by contacting Lauren Wenzel at [lauren.wenzel@noaa.gov](mailto:lauren.wenzel@noaa.gov) or 301-713-7265. Webinar and teleconference capacity may be limited.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lauren Wenzel, Acting Designated Federal Officer, MPA FAC, National Marine Protected Areas Center, 1305 East West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. (Phone: 301-713-7265, Fax: 301-713-3110); email: [lauren.wenzel@noaa.gov](mailto:lauren.wenzel@noaa.gov); or visit the National MPA Center Web site at <http://www.marineprotectedareas.noaa.gov>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Committee, composed of external, knowledgeable representatives of stakeholder groups, was established by the Department of Commerce (DOC) to provide advice to the Secretaries of Commerce and the Interior on implementation of Section 4 of Executive Order 13158, on marine protected areas.

*Matters To Be Considered:* The focus of the Committee's meeting is the Subcommittee workplans and their implementation (Recreation and Tourism Subcommittee and Stakeholder Engagement Subcommittee). The Committee will also hear updates from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Department of the Interior. The agenda is subject to change. The latest version will be posted at <http://www.marineprotectedareas.noaa.gov>.

Dated: October 30, 2013.

#### Daniel J. Basta,

Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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