

DATES: Applications must be received on or before January 22, 2014, via mail or email.

ADDRESSES: Applications should be sent to Danielle Rioux, Recreational Fisheries Policy Specialist, NMFS SF-13336, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 or *Danielle.Rioux@noaa.gov*.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Danielle Rioux, Recreational Fisheries Policy Specialist; (301) 427-8516; email: *Danielle.Rioux@noaa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: MAFAC is the only federal advisory committee with the responsibility to advise the Secretary of Commerce on all matters concerning living marine resources that are the responsibility of the Department of Commerce. MAFAC established a Recreational Fisheries Working Group (RFGW) in 2010, to assist it in the development of recommendations to the Secretary on regulations, policies and programs critical to the mission and goals of the NMFS. The RFGW is composed of people with a specific interest and qualification related to NOAA's recreational fisheries-related activities. The RFGW is composed of up to 25 members who are selected to achieve a balance of the diverse national and regional recreational fisheries sector and community perspectives. With this solicitation up to 16 seats on the RFGW will be filled.

MAFAC established the RFGW to advise MAFAC on issues of importance to the recreational fishing community, such as, but not limited to: (1) Review and possible revision of the NOAA National and Regional Recreational Fisheries Action Agendas, (2) planning for and participation in a National Saltwater Recreational Fishing Summit, and (3) such other recreational fisheries issues and activities identified as appropriate by MAFAC.

The RFGW members cannot be employed by NOAA or a member of a Regional Fishery Management Council or have been registered as a lobbyist with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives within two years of the date of appointment. Membership is voluntary, and except for reimbursable travel and related expenses, service is without pay.

Each submission should provide the applicant's name and affiliation (i.e., private angler, charterboat, trade association, etc.); contact information including address, phone number, fax number, and email address (if available); and should describe the applicant's qualifying experience in the following areas:

1. Expertise in the management or business of recreational fishing, and/or fisheries science;

2. Informed background in recreational fisheries issues; and

3. Operational knowledge of federal agencies and interactions with the Fishery Management Councils and/or regional and state partners.

Letters of support will be accepted and may be submitted with the application or separately. Applications and letter(s) of support should be sent to (see **ADDRESSES**) and must be received by (see **DATES**). The full text of the MAFAC Charter and its current membership can be viewed at the NMFS Web page at *www.nmfs.noaa.gov/mafac.htm*.

Dated: December 17, 2013.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, performing the functions and duties of the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2013-30523 Filed 12-20-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Bait and Tackle Store Cost-Earnings Survey

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 21, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at *Jjessup@doc.gov*).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Cliff Hutt, (301) 427-8588 or *cliff.hutt@noaa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This request is for a new collection of information.

The objective of the survey is to collect information on the operational structure of bait and tackle stores that cater to marine recreational anglers. The survey will ask store owners to characterize and quantify their operational costs and sales revenues in addition to describing their clientele. As specified in the Magnuson-Stevenson Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996 (and reauthorized in 2007), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is required to enumerate the economic impacts of the policies it implements on fishing participants and coastal communities. The cost and earnings data collected in this survey will be used to estimate the economic contributions and impacts of bait and tackle stores regionally and nationwide.

II. Method of Collection

The primary data collection vehicle will be mail or internet-based surveys, but telephone and personal interviews may be employed to supplement and verify mail survey responses.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: None.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission (request for a new information collection).

Affected Public: Individual store owners and/or managers.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,500.

Estimated Time per Response: 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,250.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 17, 2013.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2013-30456 Filed 12-20-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC893

Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Rocky Intertidal Monitoring Surveys Along the Oregon and California Coasts

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

ACTION: Notice; proposed incidental harassment authorization; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS has received an application from the Partnership for Interdisciplinary Study of Coastal Oceans (PISCO) at the University of California (UC) Santa Cruz for an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) to take marine mammals, by harassment, incidental to rocky intertidal monitoring surveys. Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposal to issue an IHA to PISCO to incidentally take, by Level B harassment only, marine mammals during the specified activity.

DATES: Comments and information must be received no later than January 22, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the application should be addressed to Michael Payne, Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The mailbox address for providing email comments is ITP.Nachman@noaa.gov. NMFS is not responsible for email comments sent to addresses other than the one provided here. Comments sent via email, including all attachments, must not exceed a 25-megabyte file size.

Instructions: All comments received are a part of the public record and will

generally be posted to <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/permits/incidental.htm> without change. All Personal Identifying Information (e.g., name, address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

An electronic copy of the application containing a list of the references used in this document and associated Environmental Assessment (EA) may be obtained by writing to the address specified above, telephoning the contact listed below (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**), or visiting the internet at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/permits/incidental.htm>. PISCO's 2012-2013 monitoring report can also be found at this Web site. Documents cited in this notice may also be viewed, by appointment, during regular business hours, at the aforementioned address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Candace Nachman, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) direct the Secretary of Commerce to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region 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 for incidental takings shall be granted if NMFS finds that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s), will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for subsistence uses (where relevant), and if the permissible methods of taking, other means of effecting the least practicable impact on the species or stock and its habitat, and requirements pertaining to the mitigation, monitoring and reporting of such takings are set forth. NMFS has defined "negligible impact" in 50 CFR 216.103 as "... an impact resulting from the specified activity that cannot be reasonably expected to, and is not reasonably likely to, adversely affect the species or stock through effects on annual rates of recruitment or survival."

Section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA established an expedited process by which citizens of the United States can apply for an authorization to

incidentally take small numbers of marine mammals by harassment. Section 101(a)(5)(D) establishes a 45-day time limit for NMFS review of an application followed by a 30-day public notice and comment period on any proposed authorizations for the incidental harassment of marine mammals. Within 45 days of the close of the comment period, NMFS must either issue or deny the authorization. Except with respect to certain activities not pertinent here, the MMPA defines "harassment" as: "any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance which (i) has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild [Level A harassment]; or (ii) has the potential to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering [Level B harassment]."

Summary of Request

On July 10, 2013, NMFS received an application from PISCO for the taking of marine mammals incidental to rocky intertidal monitoring surveys along the Oregon and California coasts. NMFS determined that the application was adequate and complete on July 31, 2013. In December 2012, NMFS issued a 1-year IHA to PISCO to take marine mammals incidental to these same proposed activities (77 FR 72327, December 5, 2012). This IHA will expire on December 2, 2013.

The research group at UC Santa Cruz operates in collaboration with two large-scale marine research programs: PISCO and the Multi-agency Rocky Intertidal Network. The research group at UC Santa Cruz (PISCO) is responsible for many of the ongoing rocky intertidal monitoring programs along the Pacific coast. Monitoring occurs at rocky intertidal sites, often large bedrock benches, from the high intertidal to the water's edge. Long-term monitoring projects include Community Structure Monitoring, Intertidal Biodiversity Surveys, Marine Protected Area Baseline Monitoring, Intertidal Recruitment Monitoring, and Ocean Acidification. Research is conducted throughout the year along the California and Oregon coasts and will continue indefinitely. Most sites are sampled one to two times per year over a 4-6 hour period during a negative low tide series. This IHA, if issued, though, would only be effective for a 12-month period from the date of its issuance. The following specific aspects of the proposed activities are likely to result in the take of marine mammals: Presence of survey personnel near pinned haulout sites