

access to intellectual property of many companies could present conflicts of interest for an organization that does not meet the provisions of FAR 35.017(a)(3).

Comment: One commenter stated that NIST has not adequately demonstrated that there are no existing contract vehicles or FFRDCs available to meet its needs.

Response: Through conducting market research, NIST determined that neither a standard services contractor nor an existing FFRDC can adequately meet NIST's requirement for supporting the NCCoE. Review of the 40 existing FFRDCs indicated that only one incorporated cybersecurity in its mission and vision statement, Carnegie Mellon Software Engineering Institute (SEI), sponsored by the U.S. Army. SEI's stated mission is to "advance the technologies and practices needed to acquire, develop, operate, and sustain software systems that are innovative, affordable, trustworthy, and enduring." SEI identifies its competencies as including software engineering and research, computer security, emerging software technologies, and acquisition solutions. SEI's mission statement and the focus of its current staff are significantly narrower than the NCCoE's requirement to execute applied research and collaborate with industry, academia, and government to accelerate the adoption of solutions based on existing commercial-off-the-shelf products. The use of SEI to support the mission of the NCCoE would result in a significant limitation on the range of services that could be performed and the range of use cases to be undertaken.

Comment: Two commenters stated that NIST has not clearly stated the basis, purpose and mission of the FFRDC.

Response: In the forthcoming draft RFP, NIST will articulate its requirement for the FFRDC with greater specificity, and prospective offerors will have the opportunity to ask questions and submit comments.

Comment: One commenter stated that creating a new FFRDC would expose NIST to significant cost vulnerabilities and potential criticism from Congress and others.

Response: The competition for an Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract, the contracting mechanism to be used for the FFRDC, occurs at the base contract level. The nature of an IDIQ contract does allow for future actions within the scope of the contract to be awarded without further competition. However, NIST will review the scope of work thoroughly to identify areas that require clarification prior to release of the RFP,

and the IDIQ contract will be competed to the maximum extent practicable. NIST will negotiate the cost, terms and conditions of all task orders with the FFRDC operator before performance commences. By using a task order based IDIQ contract, NIST will balance scope and cost control while allowing for the flexibility to address the needs of the NCCoE.

NIST has posted a notice to the Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) Web site with the official responses to each comment received in response to the previous three **Federal Register** notices, including those comments summarized above. The FBO Reference Number for this notice is *NCCoE_FFRDC-FRN_4*. NIST published portions of a draft Request for Proposals for public comment in December 2013.

Dated: January 6, 2014.

Willie E. May,

Associate Director for Laboratory Programs.

[FR Doc. 2014-00260 Filed 1-9-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XD042

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Online Webinar

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

ACTION: Notice of online webinar.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Pacific Council's) Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Groundfish Subcommittee will hold an online webinar to review data-poor overfishing limit (OFL) estimates for kelp greenling in Oregon and Washington, new OFL estimates for the Washington stock of cabezon, and other business in preparation for the SSC's March 2014 meeting. The online SSC Groundfish Subcommittee webinar is open to the public.

DATES: The SSC Groundfish Subcommittee webinar will commence at 1 p.m. PST, Thursday, January 30, 2014 and continue until 3 p.m. or as necessary to complete business for the day.

ADDRESSES: To attend the SSC Groundfish Subcommittee webinar, please join online at <https://www.joinwebinar.com> and enter the webinar ID: 701-764-215, as well as

your name and email address. Once you have joined the webinar, choose either your computer's audio or select "Use Telephone." To join the audio teleconference using a telephone, call the toll number 1 (646) 307-1721 and enter 799-773-093 when prompted for the audio code. If you do not select "Use Telephone," you will be connected to audio using your computer's microphone and speakers (VoIP). A headset is recommended. System requirements for PC-based attendees: Windows 7, Vista, or XP; for Mac-based attendees: Mac OS X 10.5 or newer; and for mobile attendees: iPhone, iPad, Android phone, or Android tablet (see the GoToMeeting Webinar Apps). If you experience technical difficulties and would like assistance, please contact Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt at (503) 820-2280. Public comments during the webinar will be received from attendees at the discretion of the SSC Groundfish Subcommittee chair.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. John DeVore, Pacific Council; telephone: (503) 820-2280.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The specific objectives of the SSC Groundfish Subcommittee webinar are to review data-poor OFL estimates for kelp greenling in Oregon and Washington, new OFL estimates for the Washington stock of cabezon, and review or discuss other items necessary to prepare for the March 2014 SSC meeting in Sacramento, CA. No management actions will be decided in this webinar.

Although non-emergency issues not identified in the webinar agenda may come before the webinar participants for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this webinar. Formal action at the webinar 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 webinar participants' intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt at (503) 820-2280 at least 5 days prior to the webinar date.

Dated: January 7, 2014.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2014-00241 Filed 1-9-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XD050

Fisheries of the South Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of SEDAR Steering Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The SEDAR Steering Committee will meet via webinar. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

DATES: The Steering Committee webinar will be held on January 30, 2014, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., EST.

ADDRESSES: The webinar will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact John Carmichael at SEDAR (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation providing webinar access information. Please request meeting information at least 24 hours in advance.

SEDAR address: 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Carmichael, SEDAR Program Manager; telephone: (843) 571-4366; email: john.carmichael@safmc.net. Andrea Grabman, SEDAR Administrative Assistant; telephone: (843) 571-4366; email: Andrea.Grabman@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meeting is being held to consider items discussed by the SEDAR Steering Committee at its prior meeting, held on October 1-2, 2013. Because several Steering Committee members were not allowed to attend that meeting due to the Federal Government shutdown, the Committee did not take final action on the agenda topics.

Items to discuss at this meeting:

1. SEDAR process: workshops, participation, and best practices.
2. SEDAR project scheduling: improving planning and scheduling efficiency.

3. SEDAR assessment schedule.

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 this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified 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 intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the SEDAR office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

Note: The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: January 7, 2014.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2014-00242 Filed 1-9-14; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA840

Marine Mammals; File No. 16479

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application for permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that The Pacific Whale Foundation [Responsible Party: Gregory Kaufman], 300 Maalaea Road, Suite 211, Wailuku, HI 96793, has applied for an amendment to Scientific Research Permit No. 16479-01.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before February 10, 2014.

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 home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 16479 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 Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808) 944-2200; fax (808) 973-2941.

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. Please include the File No. 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: Amy Hapeman or Kristy Beard, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment to Permit No. 16479-01 is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (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 (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).

Permit No. 16479, issued on September 18, 2012 (77 FR 59594), authorizes the permit holder to conduct vessel-based research on humpback whales in waters around Maui, Hawaii to quantify the potential for near misses between vessels and humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), and define the probability of 'surprise encounters' with humpback whales. Up to 567 humpback whales may be approached annually for photo-identification and behavioral observation and up to 240 Hawaiian insular false killer whales (*Pseudorca crassidens*) may be incidentally harassed during research. A minor amendment (No. 01) to the permit was issued on August 23, 2013, authorizing the field season to start in December versus January of each permit year. The Permit Holder is requesting the permit be amended to authorize research activities (approaches for