

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN 0648–XG125

**Fisheries of the South Atlantic; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Stock ID Post-Workshop Webinar for Atlantic Cobia (*Rachycentron canadum*)**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of SEDAR 58 Atlantic Cobia Stock Identification Post Workshop Webinar.

**SUMMARY:** The SEDAR 58 assessment(s) of the Atlantic stock(s) of cobia will consist of a series of workshops and webinars: Stock ID Workshop; Stock ID Review Workshop; Stock ID Joint Cooperator Technical Review; Data Workshop; Assessment Workshop and/or Webinars; and a Review Workshop. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**DATES:** The SEDAR 58 Stock ID Post Workshop Webinar will be held on April 23, 2018, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

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

*SEDAR address:* South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405; [www.sedarweb.org](http://www.sedarweb.org).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julia Byrd, SEDAR Coordinator, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405; phone: (843) 571-4366; email: [julia.byrd@safmc.net](mailto:julia.byrd@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions, have implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in

the Southeast Region. SEDAR is typically a three-step process including: (1) Data Workshop; (2) Assessment Process utilizing workshop and/or webinars; and (3) Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a data report which compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The product of the Assessment Process is a stock assessment report which describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The assessment is independently peer reviewed at the Review Workshop. The product of the Review Workshop is a Summary documenting panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data. Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include: Data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs); international experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

The items of discussion at the Stock ID Post Workshop Webinar are as follows:

Participants will finalize stock structure recommendations from the Stock ID Workshop.

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 SAFMC office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 business days prior to the meeting.

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

Dated: March 27, 2018.

**Jeffrey N. Lonergan,**

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

[FR Doc. 2018–06485 Filed 3–29–18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****Marine Mammals and Endangered Species**

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

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of permits.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that permits or permit amendments have been issued to the following entities under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as applicable.

**ADDRESSES:** The permits and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the 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.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Malcolm Mohead (File Nos. 21198 and 21434), Shasta McClenahan (File No. 21386), Jennifer Skidmore (File No. 20590 and 20610), Erin Markin (File No. 21260) and Amy Hapeman (File No. 21111); at (301) 427–8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notices were published in the **Federal Register** on the dates listed below that requests for a permit or permit amendment had been submitted by the below-named applicants. To locate the **Federal Register** notice that announced our receipt of the application and a complete description of the research, go to [www.federalregister.gov](http://www.federalregister.gov) and search on the permit number provided in the table below.

Permit No.	RIN	Applicant	Previous <b>Federal Register</b> notice	Permit issuance date
20590 .....	0648-XF801	Nicole Phillips, Ph.D., The University of Southern Mississippi, 118 College Drive No. 5018, Hattiesburg, MS 39406.	82 FR 54334; November 17, 2017 .....	February 22, 2018.
20610 .....	0648-XF801	David Portnoy, Ph.D., Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi, TX 78412.	82 FR 54334; November 17, 2017 .....	February 27, 2018.
21111 .....	0648-XF485	NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center, 8901 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037 (Responsible Party: Lisa Ballance, Ph.D.).	82 FR 31948; July 11, 2017 .....	February 15, 2018.
21198 .....	0648-XF861	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Southeast Regional Office, Century Boulevard, Atlanta, GA 30602 (Responsible Party: Allan Brown).	82 FR 57954; December 8, 2017 .....	February 08, 2018.
21260 .....	0648-XF827	NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, 1845 Wasp Boulevard, Honolulu, HI 96818 (Responsible Party: Charles Littnan, Ph.D.).	82 FR 56815; November 30, 2017 .....	February 28, 2018.
21386 .....	0648-XF909	North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management, P.O. Box 69, Barrow, AK 99723 (Responsible Party: Taqulik Hepa).	82 FR 60967; December 26, 2017 .....	February 15, 2018.
21434 .....	0648-XF861	Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Cooperative Oxford Laboratory, 904 South Morris Street, Oxford, MD 21654 (Responsible Party: Brian Richardson).	82 FR 57954; December 8, 2017 .....	February 8, 2018.

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

As required by the ESA, as applicable, issuance of these permit was based on a finding that such permits: (1) Were applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of such endangered species; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in Section 2 of the ESA.

**Authority:** The requested permits have been issued under 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 (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), as applicable.

Dated: March 27, 2018.

**Julia Harrison,**

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

[FR Doc. 2018–06497 Filed 3–29–18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648–XG124**

#### Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold its Protected Species Advisory Committee (PSAC) meeting to review relevant sections of the draft 2017 annual Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) report for the Pacific Pelagic Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP), American Samoa Archipelago FEP, Hawaii FEP, Mariana Archipelago FEP and Pacific Remote Island Areas (PRIA) FEP. The PSAC will also receive updates on matters related to fishery management and may make recommendations on these topics.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on April 19 and 20, 2018. For the agenda, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

**ADDRESSES:** The PSAC meeting will be held at the Council office, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813, phone: (808) 522–8220.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Contact Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; phone: (808) 522–8220.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Public comment periods will be provided throughout the agenda. The order in which agenda items are addressed may change and will be announced in advance at the meeting. The meeting will run as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

#### Agenda

*Thursday, April 19, 2018, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Status of the Fourth Protected Species Advisory Committee Meeting Recommendations
4. Endangered Species Act and Marine Mammal Protection Act Updates
5. Insular and Pelagic Non-Longline Fisheries Issues
  - A. Review of the Draft 2017 FEP Annual SAFE Report for Insular Fisheries
    - i. Summary of relevant fishery data
    - ii. Protected species section
    - iii. Discussion and synthesis
  - B. Review of the Draft 2017 FEP Annual SAFE Report for Pelagic Non-Longline Fisheries
    - i. Summary of relevant fishery data
    - ii. Protected species section
    - iii. Discussion and synthesis
  - C. Council Fishery Actions on Insular