

and submit a brief statement of the general nature of the comments and the name and address of the proposed participant by 5 p.m. EST on Friday, February 14, 2020. If the number of registrants requesting to make statements is greater than can be reasonably accommodated during the meeting, ITA may conduct a lottery to determine the speakers.

Any member of the public may submit written comments concerning the CINTAC's affairs at any time before and after the meeting. Comments may be submitted to the Civil Nuclear Trade Advisory Committee, Office of Energy & Environmental Industries, Room 28018, 1401 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20230. For consideration during the meeting, and to ensure transmission to the Committee prior to the meeting, comments must be received no later than 5 p.m. EST on Friday, February 14, 2020. Comments received after that date will be distributed to the members but may not be considered at the meeting.

Copies of CINTAC meeting minutes will be available within 90 days of the meeting.

Dated: January 27, 2020.

**Devin Horne,**

*Designated Federal Officer, Office of Energy and Environmental Industries.*

[FR Doc. 2020-01805 Filed 1-30-20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-Dr-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XA025]

#### Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting (webinar).

**SUMMARY:** The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Pacific Council) will convene a webinar meeting of its Groundfish Management Team (GMT) to discuss items on the Pacific Council's March 2020 meeting agenda. The meeting is open to the public.

**DATES:** The webinar meeting will be held Tuesday, February 25, 2020, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Pacific Standard Time. The scheduled ending time for the GMT webinar is an estimate, the meeting will adjourn when business for the day is completed.

**ADDRESSES:** This meeting will be held via webinar. A public listening station is available at the Pacific Council office (address below). To attend the webinar (1) join the meeting by using this link: <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/join>, (2) enter the Meeting ID provided in the meeting announcement (see <http://www.pcouncil.org>) and click JOIN, (3) you will be prompted to either download the RingCentral meetings application or join the meeting without a download via your web browser, and (4) enter your name and click JOIN.

**Note:** We require all participants to use a telephone or cell phone to participate. (1) You must use your telephone for the audio portion of the meeting by dialing the TOLL number provided on your screen followed by the meeting ID and participant ID, also provided on the screen. (2) Once connected, you will be in the meeting, seeing other participants and a shared screen, if applicable. Technical Information and System Requirements: PC-based attendees are required to use Windows® 10, 8; Mac®-based attendees are required to use Mac OS® X 10.5 or newer; Mobile attendees are required to use iPhone®, iPad®, Android™ phone or Android tablet (See the RingCentral mobile apps in your app store). You may send an email to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt ([kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov](mailto:kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov)) or contact him at 503-820-2280, extension 412 for technical assistance.

**Council address:** Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Todd Phillips, Staff Officer; telephone: (503) 820-2426; email: [todd.phillips@noaa.gov](mailto:todd.phillips@noaa.gov)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The primary purpose of the GMT webinar is to prepare for the Pacific Council's March 2020 agenda items. The GMT will discuss items related to groundfish management and administrative Pacific Council agenda items. A detailed agenda for the webinar will be available on the Pacific Council's website prior to the meeting. The GMT may also address other assignments relating to groundfish management. No management actions will be decided by the GMT.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the meeting agenda may be discussed, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action 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 GMT's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

### Special Accommodations

The public listening station is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt (503) 820-2412, [kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov](mailto:kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov) at least 10 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: January 28, 2020.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2020-01875 Filed 1-30-20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XA024]

#### Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice; public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's (Council) Tilefish Advisory Panel will hold a meeting.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2020, beginning at 9 a.m. and conclude by 1 p.m. For agenda details, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held via webinar with a telephone-only connection option: <http://mafmc.adobeconnect.com/tf2020ap/>; Conference Number: 800-832-0736; Room Number: 5068609.

**Council address:** Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N. State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674-2331 or on their website at [www.mafmc.org](http://www.mafmc.org).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, telephone: (302) 526-5255.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the meeting is to create fishery performance reports for blueline and golden tilefish by the Council's

Tilefish Advisory Panel. The intent of these reports is to facilitate a venue for structured input from the Advisory Panel members for the Tilefish specifications processes, including recommendations to the Council and its Scientific and Statistical Committee.

### Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid should be directed to M. Jan Saunders, (302) 526–5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: January 28, 2020.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2020–01873 Filed 1–30–20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XR069]

#### Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to THwaites Offshore Research (THOR) Project in the Amundsen Sea, Antarctica

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

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of an incidental harassment authorization.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the regulations implementing the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) as amended, notification is hereby given that NMFS has issued an incidental harassment authorization (IHA) to the National Science Foundation (NSF) Office of Polar Programs on behalf of the University of Houston to incidentally harass, by Level B harassment only, marine mammals during a low-energy marine geophysical survey in the Amundsen Sea, Antarctica.

**DATES:** This Authorization is effective for one year from the January 24, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bonnie DeJoseph, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 427–8401. Electronic copies of the application and

supporting documents, as well as a list of the references cited in this document, may be obtained online at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/incidental-take-authorizations-under-marine-mammal-protection-act>. In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed above.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

The MMPA prohibits the “take” of marine mammals, with certain exceptions. Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) direct the Secretary of Commerce (as delegated to NMFS) 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 incidental take authorization may be 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) and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for taking for subsistence uses (where relevant). Further, NMFS must prescribe the permissible methods of taking and other “means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact” on the affected species or stocks and their habitat, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds, and areas of similar significance, and on the availability of the species or stocks for taking for certain subsistence uses (referred to in shorthand as “mitigation”); and requirements pertaining to the mitigation, monitoring and reporting of the takings.

The definitions of all applicable MMPA statutory terms cited above are included in the relevant sections below.

#### Summary of Request

On July 24, 2019, NMFS received a request from NSF for an IHA to take marine mammals incidental to conducting a low-energy marine geophysical survey and icebreaking as necessary in the Amundsen Sea. The application was deemed adequate and complete on November 22, 2019. NSF’s request is for take of small numbers of

18 species of marine mammals, by harassment. Neither NSF nor NMFS expects serious injury or mortality to result from this activity and, therefore, an IHA is appropriate. The planned activity is not expected to exceed one year.

#### Description of Planned Activity

NSF plans to conduct a low-energy marine seismic survey in the Amundsen Sea during February 2020. The survey will complement Thwaites Glacier and other Amundsen Sea oceanographic and geological/geophysical studies and provide reference data that can be used to initiate and evaluate the reliability of ocean models. Data obtained by the project would assist in establishing boundary conditions seaward of the Thwaites Glacier grounding line, obtaining records of external drivers of change, improving knowledge of processes leading to the collapse of Thwaites Glacier, and determining the history of past change in grounding line migration and conditions at the glacier base.

Seismic surveys will be conducted over approximately 8400 square kilometers (km<sup>2</sup>) between 75.25°–73.5° S and 101.0°–108.5° W of the Amundsen Sea for approximately eight days beginning on or about February 6, 2020. Sixty-five percent of data acquisition will occur in intermediate depths (100–1000 meters (m)) and 35 percent in deep waters (1000–< 2000 m). The surveys will involve one source vessel, the Research Vessel/Icebreaker (RVIB) *Nathaniel B. Palmer* (*Palmer*). NSF has stated the possibility of deploying multiple configurations of generator injector (GI) airgun(s) with one 100–300 m, solid-state, hydrophone streamer towed behind the *Palmer*. If the preferred airgun configuration (two 45/105 cubic inch (in<sup>3</sup>) gun array in true GI mode does not provide data to meet scientific objectives, alternate configurations would be utilized (Table 1). All possible configurations will be towed at a depth of 3 m with a total maximum discharge volume for the largest, two-airgun array of 420 in<sup>3</sup> along predetermined track lines, approximately 1600 km. Because of the extent of sea ice in the Amundsen Sea that typically occurs between January and February annually, icebreaking activities are expected to be required during the cruise.