

TABLE 1—TAKE ANALYSIS PER SURVEY/LOA

Species	Authorized take	Scaled take <sup>1</sup>	Abundance <sup>2</sup>	Percent abundance
Rice's whale .....	0	n/a	51	n/a
Sperm whale .....	1,712	724.1	2,207	32.8
<i>Kogia</i> spp .....	<sup>3</sup> 635	215.4	4,373	4.9
Beaked whales .....	8,404	848.8	3,768	22.5
Rough-toothed dolphin .....	1,208	346.8	4,853	7.1
Bottlenose dolphin .....	5,689	1,632.9	176,108	0.9
Clymene dolphin .....	3,823	1,097.3	11,895	9.2
Atlantic spotted dolphin .....	2,205	632.8	74,785	0.8
Pantropical spotted dolphin .....	19,751	5,668.4	102,361	5.5
Spinner dolphin .....	4,211	1,208.6	25,114	4.8
Striped dolphin .....	1,551	445.0	5,229	8.5
Fraser's dolphin .....	448	128.5	1,665	7.7
Risso's dolphin .....	1,089	321.3	3,764	8.5
Melon-headed whale .....	2,467	727.8	7,003	10.4
Pygmy killer whale .....	582	171.6	2,126	8.1
False killer whale .....	871	257.0	3,204	8
Killer whale .....	7	n/a	267	2.6
Short-finned pilot whale .....	648	191.1	1,981	9.6

<sup>1</sup> Scalar ratios were applied to "Authorized Take" values as described at 86 FR 5322, 5404 (January 19, 2021) to derive scaled take numbers shown here.

<sup>2</sup> Best abundance estimate. For most taxa, the best abundance estimate for purposes of comparison with take estimates is considered here to be the model-predicted abundance (Roberts *et al.*, 2016). For those taxa where a density surface model predicting abundance by month was produced, the maximum mean seasonal abundance was used. For those taxa where abundance is not predicted by month, only mean annual abundance is available. For Rice's whale and the killer whale, the larger estimated SAR abundance estimate is used.

<sup>3</sup> Includes 17 takes by Level A harassment and 618 takes by Level B harassment. Scalar ratio is applied to takes by Level B harassment only; small numbers determination made on basis of scaled Level B harassment take plus Level A harassment take.

Based on the analysis contained herein of bp's proposed survey activity described in its LOA applications and the anticipated take of marine mammals, NMFS finds that for each issued LOA small numbers of marine mammals will be taken relative to the affected species or stock sizes (*i.e.*, less than one-third of the best available abundance estimate) and therefore the taking is of no more than small numbers.

#### Authorization

NMFS has determined that the level of taking for these LOA requests is consistent with the findings made for the total taking allowable under the incidental take regulations and that the amount of take authorized under each of the LOAs is of no more than small numbers. Accordingly, we have issued three LOAs to bp authorizing the take of marine mammals incidental to its geophysical survey activity, as described above.

**Kimberly Damon-Randall,**

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

##### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XB486]

##### Fisheries of the South Atlantic; South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of its Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC).

**DATES:** The SSC meeting will be held via webinar October 27–29, 2021. The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. EDT on October 27 and October 28, 2021, and from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. EST on October 29, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held via webinar.

*Council address:* South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N Charleston, SC 29405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405; phone: (843) 571-4366 or toll free: (866) SAFMC-10; fax:

(843) 769-4520; email: [kim.iverson@safmc.net](mailto:kim.iverson@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting is open to the public via webinar as it occurs. Webinar registration is required. Information regarding webinar registration will be posted to the Council's website at: <http://safmc.net/safmc-meetings/scientific-and-statistical-committee-meetings/> as it becomes available. The meeting agenda, briefing book materials, and online comment form will be posted to the Council's website two weeks prior to the meeting. Written comment on SSC agenda topics is to be distributed to the Committee through the Council office similar to all other briefing materials. For this meeting, the deadline for submission of written comment is 12 p.m., October 29, 2021.

#### Agenda Items

The SSC will review the SEDAR (Southeast Data Assessment and Review) 68 scamp grouper Research Track stock assessment; SEDAR 71: Gag grouper projections requested at the September 2021 Council meeting; and review and approve scopes of work for upcoming 2024 SEDAR assessments. SSC members will also review an Ecopath with Ecosim model forecasting ecosystem impacts of increased recruitment of red snapper; aspects of the Council's Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) Control Rule; and Standardized Bycatch Reporting

Methodology (SBRM). The SSC will discuss the preliminary findings of the Catch Level Projections Workgroup, recommend regional case studies for the national SSC meeting, and address other topics as needed.

The SSC will provide guidance to staff and make recommendations for Council consideration as appropriate.

Multiple opportunities for comment on agenda items will be provided during SSC meetings. Open comment periods will be provided at the start of the meeting and near the conclusion. Those interested in providing comment should indicate such in the manner requested by the Chair, who will then recognize individuals to provide comment.

Additional opportunities for comment on specific agenda items will be provided, as each item is discussed, between initial presentations and SSC discussion. Those interested in providing comment should indicate such in the manner requested by the Chair, who will then recognize individuals to provide comment. All comments are part of the record of the meeting.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the meeting 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.

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

Dated: October 4, 2021.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2021-21913 Filed 10-6-21; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XB496]

#### New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a joint public meeting of its Scallop Advisory Panel via webinar to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

**DATES:** This webinar will be held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021, at 9 a.m. Webinar registration URL information: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8067792331180250384>.

**ADDRESSES:** Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Agenda

The Advisory Panel will Discuss Framework 34: Receive an update and provide input on a range of potential access area and DAS allocations for the 2022 and 2023 fishing years. Framework 34 will set specifications including ABC/ACLs, days-at-sea, access area allocations, total allowable landings for the Northern Gulf of Maine (NGOM) management area, targets for General Category incidental catch, General Category access area trips, and set-asides for the observer and research programs for fishing year 2022 and default specifications for fishing year 2023. Framework 34 will implement measures proposed by the Council through Amendment 21 to the Scallop FMP. They will also receive an update on the evaluation of rotational management project. The panel will develop recommendations for possible 2022 scallop work priorities. Other business will be discussed, if necessary.

Although non-emergency issues not contained on the agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those

issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Council 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 Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency. The public also should be aware that the meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 U.S.C. 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: October 4, 2021.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2021-21917 Filed 10-6-21; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XB495]

#### New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a joint public meeting of its Scallop Committee via webinar to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

**DATES:** This webinar will be held on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, at 9 a.m. Webinar registration URL information: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2059004166337959696>.

#### ADDRESSES:

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.