

recommendations to the Council, as appropriate. They will discuss Gulf of Maine haddock and other items, as 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: March 22, 2023.

### Key Israel Marquez,

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XC739]

### Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Geophysical Surveys Related to Oil and Gas Activities in the Gulf of Mexico

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

**ACTION:** Notice of modification to expiration date of Letter of Authorization.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), as amended, its implementing regulations, and NMFS' MMPA Regulations for Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Geophysical Surveys Related to Oil and Gas Activities in the Gulf of Mexico, notification is hereby given that a Letter

of Authorization (LOA) to Anadarko Petroleum Corporation (Anadarko), for the take of marine mammals incidental to geophysical survey activity in the Gulf of Mexico, has been modified to reflect a new expiration date.

**DATES:** This Letter of Authorization is effective April 1, 2023 through June 1, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** The LOA, LOA request, and supporting documentation are available online at: [www.fisheries.noaa.gov/marine-mammal-protection/issued-letters-authorization-oil-and-gas-industry-geophysical-survey](http://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/marine-mammal-protection/issued-letters-authorization-oil-and-gas-industry-geophysical-survey). In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed below (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Rachel Wachtendonk, 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.

An 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 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.

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).

On January 19, 2021, we issued a final rule with regulations to govern the unintentional taking of marine mammals incidental to geophysical survey activities conducted by oil and gas industry operators, and those persons authorized to conduct activities on their behalf (collectively "industry operators"), in Federal waters of the U.S. Gulf of Mexico (GOM) over the course of 5 years (86 FR 5322; January 19, 2021). The rule was based on our findings that the total taking from the specified activities over the 5-year period will have a negligible impact on the affected species or stock(s) of marine mammals and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of those species or stocks for subsistence uses. The rule became effective on April 19, 2021.

Our regulations at 50 CFR 217.180 *et seq.* allow for the issuance of LOAs to industry operators for the incidental take of marine mammals during geophysical survey activities and prescribe the permissible methods of taking and other means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact on marine mammal species or stocks and their habitat (often referred to as mitigation), as well as requirements pertaining to the monitoring and reporting of such taking. Under 50 CFR 217.186(e), issuance of an LOA shall be based on a determination that the level of taking will be consistent with the findings made for the total taking allowable under these regulations and a determination that the amount of take authorized under the LOA is of no more than small numbers.

NMFS issued an LOA to Anadarko on September 27, 2022, for the take of marine mammals incidental to one of the following vertical seismic profile (VSP) survey types: Zero Offset, Two-Dimensional (2D), or Three-Dimensional (3D) in the vicinity of the Horn Mountain field in the Mississippi Canyon area, around block MC-81. Please see the **Federal Register** notice of issuance (87 FR 59783; October 3, 2022) for additional detail regarding the LOA and the survey activity.

Anadarko initially anticipated that the activity would occur at some point between October 1, 2022 and April 1, 2023. Anadarko subsequently informed NMFS that a shift in their drillship schedule is likely to cause the associated VSP survey to occur later than previously expected. Anadarko has requested modification to the effectiveness end date of the LOA (from April 1, 2023, to June 1, 2023) to

account for any potential delays. There are no other changes to Anadarko's planned activity. Since issuance of the LOA, no survey work has occurred.

#### Authorization

NMFS has changed the effectiveness end date of the LOA from April 1, 2023, to June 1, 2023. Consistent with 50 CFR 217.187, the specified activity and mitigation, monitoring, and reporting measures, as well as the anticipated impacts, are the same as those described and analyzed for the regulations. There are no other changes to the LOA as described in the October 1, 2022,

**Federal Register** notice of issuance (87 FR 59783): the survey activity, estimated take by incidental harassment; and small numbers analysis and determination remain unchanged from the original LOA and are herein incorporated by reference.

Dated: March 22, 2023.

**Kimberly Damon-Randall,**

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

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## COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

### Agency Information Collection Activities Under OMB Review

**AGENCY:** Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), for review and comment. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected costs and burden.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before April 26, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of this notice's publication to OIRA, at <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>. Please find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the website's search function. Comments can be entered electronically by clicking on the "comment" button next to the information collection on the "OIRA

Information Collections Under Review" page, or the "View ICR—Agency Submission" page. A copy of the supporting statement for the collection of information discussed herein may be obtained by visiting <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

In addition to the submission of comments to <https://Reginfo.gov> as indicated above, a copy of all comments submitted to OIRA may also be submitted to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the "Commission" or "CFTC") by clicking on the "Submit Comment" box next to the descriptive entry for OMB Control No. 3038-0009, at <https://comments.cftc.gov/FederalRegister/PublicInfo.aspx>.

Or by either of the following methods:

- **Mail:** Christopher Kirkpatrick, Secretary of the Commission, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581.
- **Hand Delivery/Courier:** Same as Mail above.

All comments must be submitted in English, or if not, accompanied by an English translation. Comments submitted to the Commission should include only information that you wish to make available publicly. If you wish the Commission to consider information that you believe is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, a petition for confidential treatment of the exempt information may be submitted according to the procedures established in § 145.9 of the Commission's regulations.<sup>1</sup> The Commission reserves the right, but shall have no obligation, to review, pre-screen, filter, redact, refuse or remove any or all of your submission from <https://www.cftc.gov> that it may deem to be inappropriate for publication, such as obscene language. All submissions that have been redacted or removed that contain comments on the merits of the ICR will be retained in the public comment file and will be considered as required under the Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws, and may be accessible under the Freedom of Information Act.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jonathan Lave, Associate Director, Division of Market Oversight, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, (202) 418-5983; email: [jlave@cftc.gov](mailto:jlave@cftc.gov), and refer to OMB Control No. 3038-0009.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** Larger Trader Reports, (OMB Control No. 3038-0009). This is a

request for extension of a currently approved information collection.

**Abstract:** The reporting rules covered by OMB control number 3038-0009 ("the Collection") are structured to ensure that the Commission receives adequate information to carry out its market and financial surveillance programs. The market surveillance programs analyze market information to detect and prevent market disruptions and enforce speculative position limits. The financial surveillance programs combine market information with financial data to assess the financial risks presented by large customer positions to Commission registrants and clearing organizations.

The reporting rules are implemented by the Commission partly pursuant to the authority of sections 4a, 4c(b), 4g, and 4i of the Commodity Exchange Act. Section 4a of the Act permits the Commission to set, approve exchange set, and enforce speculative position limits. Section 4c(b) of the Act gives the Commission plenary authority to regulate transactions that involve commodity options. Section 4g of the Act imposes reporting and recordkeeping obligations on registered entities and registrants (including futures commission merchants, introducing brokers, floor brokers, or floor traders), and requires each registrant to file such reports as the Commission may require on proprietary and customer positions executed on any board of trade in the United States or elsewhere. Lastly, section 4i of the Act requires the filing of such reports as the Commission may require when positions made or obtained on designated contract markets or derivatives transaction execution facilities equal or exceed Commission set levels.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.<sup>2</sup> On January 20, 2023, the Commission published in the **Federal Register** notice of the proposed extension of this information collection and provided 60 days for public comment on the proposed extension, 88 FR 3720 ("60-Day Notice").

The Commission received one relevant comment from Mangat Analytics, which recommended that large trader reports should specify by name who are the large traders and commercial hedgers. The Commission has determined to not require reporting entities to provide such information.

<sup>2</sup> 44 U.S.C. 3512, 5 CFR 1320.5(b)(2)(i) and 1320.8(b)(3)(vi).

<sup>1</sup> 17 CFR 145.9.