

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

[RTID 0648–XC986]

**Pacific 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 Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Pacific Council) Ecosystem Advisory Subpanel (EAS) will hold an online meeting, which is open to the public.

**DATES:** The online meeting will be held Wednesday, May 31, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Pacific Daylight Time.

**ADDRESSES:** This meeting will be held online. Specific meeting information, including directions on how to join the meeting and system requirements, will be provided in the meeting announcement on the Pacific Council's website (see [www.pcouncil.org](http://www.pcouncil.org)). You may send an email to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt ([kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov](mailto:kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov)) or contact him at (503) 820–2412 for technical assistance.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kit Dahl, Staff Officer, Pacific Council; telephone: (503) 820–2422.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the meeting is for the EAS to discuss the outcomes of the May 15 and 17, 2023, online meeting of the Pacific Council's Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG). The EWG is discussing further work on Fishery Ecosystem Plan Initiative 4, concerning mechanisms to integrate ecosystem and climate information into Pacific Council decision making and is providing an update on its work at the June 2023 Pacific Council meeting. Based on its discussion during this meeting, the EAS intends to submit a report to the Pacific Council at its June 2023 meeting to comment on the Initiative 4 update and related activities.

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 document and any issues arising after publication of this document 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**

Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt ([kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov](mailto:kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov)); (503) 820–2412) at least 10 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: May 8, 2023.

**Key Israel Marquez,**

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

[FR Doc. 2023–10080 Filed 5–10–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

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

[RTID 0648–XC992]

**Marine Mammals; File No. 26774**

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

**ACTION:** Notice; receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that John P. Wise, Sr., Ph.D., University of Louisville, Department of Pharmacology, 500 S Preston St., Suite 1319, Louisville, KY 40202 has applied in due form for a permit to receive, import, and export parts from marine mammals, sea turtles, sawfish, and sharks for scientific research purposes.

**DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before June 12, 2023.

**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 (APPS) home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 26774 from the list of available applications. These documents are also available upon written request via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov).

Written comments on this application should be submitted via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). Please include File No. 26774 in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov).

*noaa.gov*. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Skidmore or Amy Hapeman, (301) 427–8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 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.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

The applicant proposes to receive, import, and export parts from all marine mammals and sea turtles, as well as endangered sawfish and sharks under NMFS' jurisdiction to: (1) determine concentrations of metals and other environmental contaminants in these species; and (2) establish a resource of marine mammal, sea turtle, sawfish, and shark cell lines for use as model systems in the investigation of various factors related to the health of these protected species and as comparative tools to human studies (toxicity of metals, virology, *etc.*). Import and export authority is requested worldwide and the number of animals requested per taxa group or species is outlined in the application.

No take of live animals would be authorized. Sources of foreign and domestic parts may include subsistence harvests, captive animals, other authorized researchers or curated collections, bycatch from legal commercial fishing operations, and foreign stranded animals. Once the cell lines are established, they may be transferred to other researchers, including export to worldwide locations. The cell lines would not be sold for profit or used for commercial purposes. The permit would be valid for 5 years from the date of issuance.

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

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the application to the Marine Mammal

Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: May 8, 2023.

**Julia M. Harrison,**

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

[FR Doc. 2023–10059 Filed 5–10–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XC995]

#### North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of web conference.

**SUMMARY:** The North Pacific Fishery Management Council’s (Council) Pacific Northwest Crab Industry Advisory Committee (PNCIAC) will meet May 30, 2023.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 30, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Alaska Time.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be a web conference. Join online through the link at <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2996>.

*Council address:* North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1007 W 3rd Ave., Anchorage, AK 99501–2252; telephone: (907) 271–2809. Instructions for attending the meeting via video conference are given under

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Sarah Marrinan, Council staff; phone: (907) 271–2809; email: [sarah.marrinan@noaa.gov](mailto:sarah.marrinan@noaa.gov). For technical support, please contact our admin Council staff, email: [npfmc.admin@noaa.gov](mailto:npfmc.admin@noaa.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **Agenda**

*Tuesday, May 30, 2023*

The Committee will discuss several topics including: (a) Crab Plan Team recap, (b) Crab Specifications, (c) BBRKC area closures initial review, (d) C-shares active participation, (e) facility and IPQ use caps, (f) crab rationalization program review discussion, and (g) other business. The agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2996> prior to the meeting, along with meeting materials.

#### **Connection Information**

You can attend the meeting online using a computer, tablet, or smart phone, or by phone only. Connection information will be posted online at: <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2996>.

#### **Public Comment**

Public comment letters will be accepted and should be submitted electronically to <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2996>.

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

Dated: May 8, 2023.

**Rey Israel Marquez,**

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

[FR Doc. 2023–10081 Filed 5–10–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XC977]

#### Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to a Marine Geophysical Survey Off North Carolina in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean

**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 Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (L-DEO) to incidentally harass marine mammals during survey activities associated with a marine geophysical survey off North Carolina in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean.

**DATES:** This Authorization is effective from May 5, 2023 through May 4, 2024.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Rachel Wachtendonk, 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: [www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/incidental-take-authorizations-research-and-other-activities](http://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/incidental-take-authorizations-research-and-other-activities). 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 proposed or, if the taking is limited to harassment, a notice of a proposed IHA is 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 are set forth. The definitions of all applicable MMPA statutory terms cited above are included in the relevant sections below.

#### **Summary of Request**

On October 12, 2022, NMFS received a request from L–DEO for an IHA to take marine mammals incidental to a marine geophysical survey off the coast of North Carolina in the northwest Atlantic Ocean. The application was deemed adequate and complete on January 13, 2023. L–DEO requested authorization for the take of 30 species of marine mammals by Level B harassment and, for 2 of these species, by Level A harassment. The proposed IHA was published on March 23, 2023 (88 FR 17646). Neither L–DEO, nor NMFS expect serious injury or mortality to result from this activity and, therefore, an IHA is appropriate.