

represent small numbers of marine mammals relative to the affected stock abundances; (4) Ocean Wind II's activities will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on taking for subsistence purposes as no relevant subsistence uses of marine mammals are implicated by this action, and (5) appropriate monitoring and reporting requirements are included.

Endangered Species Act (ESA)

Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires that each Federal agency insure that any action it authorizes, funds, or carries out is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. To ensure ESA compliance for the issuance of IHAs, NMFS OPR consults internally whenever we propose to authorize take for endangered or threatened species.

NMFS OPR is authorizing the incidental take of four species of marine mammals which are listed under the ESA, including the North Atlantic right, fin, sei, and sperm whale and has determined that these activities fall within the scope of activities analyzed in GARFO's programmatic consultation regarding geophysical surveys along the U.S. Atlantic coast in the three Atlantic Renewable Energy Regions (completed June 29, 2021; revised September 2021). The consultation concluded that NMFS' issuance of incidental take authorization related to these activities is not likely to adversely affect ESA-listed marine mammals.

National Environmental Policy Act

To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) 216-6A, NMFS must review our action (*i.e.*, the issuance of an IHA) with respect to potential impacts on the human environment. This action is consistent with categories of activities identified in Categorical Exclusion B4 (IHAs with no anticipated serious injury or mortality) of the Companion Manual for NAO 216-6A, which do not individually or cumulatively have the potential for significant impacts on the quality of the human environment and for which we have not identified any extraordinary circumstances that would preclude this categorical exclusion. Accordingly, NMFS has determined that the issuance of the final IHA qualifies to be categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Authorization

NMFS has issued an IHA to Ocean Wind II for the potential harassment of small numbers of 16 marine mammal species incidental to marine site characterization surveys offshore of New Jersey, provided the previously mentioned mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are followed.

Dated: July 21, 2023.

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-XD170]

Pacific Whiting; Joint Management Committee; Reopening of Solicitation for Nominations

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

ACTION: Notice; reopening a call for nominations.

SUMMARY: NMFS published a notice in the **Federal Register** on June 7, 2023 soliciting nominations for appointments to the Joint Management Committee (JMC) established in the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Canada on Pacific Hake/Whiting (Pacific Whiting Treaty). The nomination period ended on July 7, 2023. This notice reopens the nomination period for one position on the JMC for 15 days.

DATES: Nominations must be received by August 10, 2023.

ADDRESSES: You may submit nominations by the following method:

- *Email: frank.lockhart@noaa.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Frank Lockhart, (206) 526-6142, or Colin Sayre (206) 526-4656, *colin.sayre@noaa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS published a **Federal Register** notice on June 7, 2023 (88 FR 37209) to announce a nomination period of 30 days, closing on July 7, 2023. That notice solicited nominations for the United States Advisory Panel (AP) and the Joint Management Committee established under the Pacific Whiting Treaty. Through this announcement, NMFS is reopening nominations for the

representative of the commercial whiting sector (16 U.S.C. 7002 (a)(1)) to serve on the JMC. Nominations received during the prior nomination period that closed on July 7, 2023 will be considered, resubmission of nomination packages is not required.

Refer to the **Federal Register** notice of June 7, 2023 (88 FR 37209) for JMC member responsibilities, nominee qualifications, and the items that are required parts of the nomination package. Additional information on the NOAA website for the Pacific Whiting Treaty, including current committee members, can be found at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/west-coast/laws-and-policies/pacific-hake-whiting-treaty#committees-and-panels>.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 7001 *et seq.*

Dated: July 20, 2023.

Jennifer M. Wallace,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Global Intellectual Property Academy (GIPA) Surveys

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, invites comments on the extension of an existing information collection: 0651-0065 Global Intellectual Property Academy (GIPA) Surveys. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment preceding submission of the information collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this information collection must be received on or before September 25, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by any of the following methods. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

- *Email: InformationCollection@uspto.gov.* Include "0651-0065