

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before November 6, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to Adrienne Thomas, NOAA PRA Officer, at NOAA.PRA@noaa.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 0648-0709 in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to John Foster, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Science and Technology, 1315 East-West Hwy./FST1, Silver Spring, MD 21910, Phone: (301) 427-8130 or john.foster@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This request is for extension of a currently approved information collection. The For-Hire Survey (FHS) is conducted for NMFS to estimate fishing effort on for-hire vessels (*i.e.*, charter boats and head boats) in coastal states from Maine to Mississippi. These data are required to carry out provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), as amended, regarding conservation and management of fishery resources.

The FHS collects fishing effort information from for-hire vessel representatives by telephone interview. For-hire vessels are randomly selected for the FHS from a comprehensive sample frame developed and maintained by NMFS. A sample of 10% of the vessels on the FHS frame are selected for reporting each week. Each interview collects information about the vessel, the number and type of trips the vessel made during the reporting week, the number of anglers on each trip, and other trip-level information.

For-hire fishing effort is estimated in numbers of angler-trips per sub-region, state, two-month wave, vessel type, and

fishing area (inshore, nearshore, offshore). To get a total for-hire effort estimate, weekly FHS effort estimates are summed to produce wave estimates that are adjusted to account for frame coverage and reporting error. The FHS estimates are then combined with for-hire catch-rate estimates derived from complementary MRIP surveys, to estimate total, state-level fishing catch. These estimates are used in the development, implementation, and monitoring of fishery management programs by the NMFS, regional fishery management councils, interstate marine fisheries commissions, and state fishery agencies.

II. Method of Collection

Telephone interviews will be conducted using Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) methodology.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648-0709.
Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Regular submission (extension of a current information collection).

Affected Public: Individuals or households; Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 22,000.

Estimated Time per Response: 3½ minutes each for a telephone interview.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,283.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.
Legal Authority: Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

IV. Request for Comments

We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department/Bureau to: (a) Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the time and cost burden for this proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) Evaluate ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. We will include or

summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2023-19108 Filed 9-1-23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XD322]

Marine Mammals; File No. 27459

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Robin Trayler, Ph.D., University of California, Merced, 5200 N Lake Road, Science and Engineering 1, 283, Merced, CA 95343, has applied in due form for a permit to import marine mammal specimens for scientific research.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before October 5, 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. 27459 from the list of available applications. These documents are also available upon written request via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov.

Written comments on this application should be submitted via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Please include File No. 27459 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. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Skidmore and Carrie Hubard, (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.*) and the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The applicant proposes to import up to 20 samples annually from each of the following species: ringed seal (*Pusa hispida*), harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina*) and gray seal (*Halichoerus grypus*); and up to 40 samples annually from killer whales (*Orcinus orca*) from the Swedish Natural History Museums' collections (*i.e.*, collection of beached or accidentally killed animals). The applicant proposes to use stable isotope analysis of bone collagen to investigate the dietary ecology of grey wolves (*Canis lupus*) and killer whales over the past 100 years. By quantifying the contribution of seals to the diet of the predators, the research will study the energy flow between marine and terrestrial ecosystems and pressure on seal populations in Sweden. The permit would be valid for 3 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: August 30, 2023.

Julia M. Harrison,

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

[FR Doc. 2023-19056 Filed 9-1-23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XD293]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public online meeting.

SUMMARY: The Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Subcommittee of the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Pacific Council's) Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will hold an online meeting to update the Accepted Practices Guidelines for CPS Stock Assessments document. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The SSC CPS Subcommittee's online meeting will be held Friday, September 22, 2023 beginning at 8 a.m. and continuing until 12 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time or until business for the day has been completed.

ADDRESSES: The SSC CPS Subcommittee's meeting will be an online meeting. 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). You may send an email to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt (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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Jessi Doerpinghaus, Staff Officer, Pacific Fishery Management Council; telephone: (503) 820-2415.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the SSC CPS Subcommittee's meeting is to update best practices for conducting CPS stock assessments. Recommendations of SSC CPS Subcommittee members will inform the Accepted Practices Guidelines for Stock Assessments in 2024, which is a compilation of guidelines for CPS stock assessment scientists. The full SSC and the Pacific Council will review the Accepted Practices Guidelines for Stock Assessments as recommended by the SSC CPS Subcommittee at the November Pacific Council meeting. The updated version of the Accepted Practices Guidelines for Stock Assessments will be posted on the Pacific Council's website shortly after the meeting.

No management actions will be decided by the SSC CPS Subcommittee. The SSC CPS Subcommittee members' role will be the development of recommendations for consideration by West Coast CPS stock assessment scientists.

Although nonemergency issues not contained in the meeting agendas 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 intent of the SSC CPS Subcommittee 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; (503) 820-2412) at least 10 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: August 30, 2023.

Rey 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-XD307]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of hybrid meetings.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Groundfish Plan Teams will hold a meeting. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for agenda.

DATES: The meetings will be held on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 through Friday, September 22, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., PDT.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be hybrid meetings. The in-person component of the meetings will be held at the Alaska Fishery Science Center in the Traynor Room (2076) and Room 2079, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Building 4, Seattle, WA 98115. If you plan to attend in-person you need to notify Sara Cleaver (sara.cleaver@noaa.gov) or Diana Stram (diana.stram@noaa.gov) at least two days prior to the meeting (or two weeks prior if you are a foreign national). You will also need a valid U.S. Identification Card. If you are attending virtually, join the meeting online through the link at