

occur in water depths of approximately 1,000 to 3,200 m in the central GOM. Thus, NMFS does not expect there to be the reasonable potential for take of Rice’s whale in association with this survey and, accordingly, does not authorize take of Rice’s whale through the LOA.

Based on the results of our analysis, NMFS has determined that the level of taking expected for this survey and authorized through the LOA is consistent with the findings made for the total taking allowable under the regulations. See table 1 in this notice and table 6 of the rule (89 FR 31488, April 24, 2024).

Small Numbers Determination

Under the GOM rule, NMFS may not authorize incidental take of marine mammals in an LOA if it will exceed “small numbers.” In short, when an acceptable estimate of the individual marine mammals taken is available, if

the estimated number of individual animals taken is up to, but not greater than, one-third of the best available abundance estimate, NMFS will determine that the numbers of marine mammals taken of a species or stock are small (see 89 FR 31535, May 24, 2024). For more information please see NMFS’ discussion of small numbers in the 2021 final rule (86 FR 5438, January 19, 2021).

The take numbers for authorization are determined as described above in the Summary of Request and Analysis section. Subsequently, the total incidents of harassment for each species are multiplied by scalar ratios to produce a derived product that better reflects the number of individuals likely to be taken within a survey (as compared to the total number of instances of take), accounting for the likelihood that some individual marine mammals may be taken on more than 1

day (see 86 FR 5404, January 19, 2021). The output of this scaling, where appropriate, is incorporated into adjusted total take estimates that are the basis for NMFS’ small numbers determinations, as depicted in table 1.

This product is used by NMFS in making the necessary small numbers determinations through comparison with the best available abundance estimates (see discussion at 86 FR 5391, January 19, 2021). For this comparison, NMFS’ approach is to use the maximum theoretical population, determined through review of current stock assessment reports (SAR; <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/marine-mammal-stock-assessments>) and model-predicted abundance information (<https://seamap.env.duke.edu/models/Duke/GOM/>). Information supporting the small numbers determinations is provided in table 1.

TABLE 1—TAKE ANALYSIS

Species	Authorized take	Scaled take ¹	Abundance ²	Percent abundance
Rice’s whale	0	n/a	51	n/a
Sperm whale	572	241.8	3,007	8.0
<i>Kogia</i> spp.	³ 196	59.6	980	7.1
Beaked whales	1,354	136.8	803	17.0
Rough-toothed dolphin	1,471	422.2	4,853	8.7
Bottlenose dolphin	1,986	570.0	165,125	0.3
Clymene dolphin	1,553	445.7	4,619	9.6
Atlantic spotted dolphin	1,702	488.5	21,506	2.3
Pantropical spotted dolphin	12,124	3,479.5	67,225	5.2
Spinner dolphin	188	53.9	5,548	1.0
Striped dolphin	2,246	644.7	5,634	11.4
Fraser’s dolphin	554	158.9	1,665	9.5
Risso’s dolphin	468	138.2	1,974	7.0
Blackfish ⁴	3,514	1,036.5	6,113	17.0
Short-finned pilot whale	1,305	384.9	2,741	14.0

¹ 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.

² 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 (Garrison *et al.*, 2023). For Rice’s whale, Atlantic spotted dolphin, and Risso’s dolphin, the larger estimated SAR abundance estimate is used.

³ Includes 10 takes by Level A harassment and 186 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 authorized Level A harassment take.

⁴ The “blackfish” guild includes melon-headed whales, false killer whales, pygmy killer whales, and killer whales.

Based on the analysis contained herein of CGG’s proposed survey activity described in its LOA application and the anticipated take of marine mammals, NMFS finds that 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 this LOA request is consistent with the findings made for

the total taking allowable under the incidental take regulations and that the amount of take authorized under the LOA is of no more than small numbers. Accordingly, we have issued an LOA to CGG authorizing the take of marine mammals incidental to its geophysical survey activity, as described above.

Dated: August 15, 2024.

Kimberly Damon-Randall,

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

[FR Doc. 2024–18941 Filed 8–22–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XE203]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of hybrid meeting.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Crab Plan Team will meet September 9, 2024, through September 12, 2024.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Monday, September 9, 2024, through Wednesday, September 11, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Thursday, September 12, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Pacific Standard Time.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be a hybrid meeting. The in-person component of the meeting will be held at the Alaska Fishery Science Center in the Traynor Room 2076, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Building 4, Seattle, WA 98115. If you plan to attend in person, you need to notify Diana Stram (diana.stram@noaa.gov) at least 2 days prior to the meeting (or 2 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 <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/3055>.

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**, below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diana Stram, Council staff; phone: (907) 271-2809; email: diana.stram@noaa.gov. For technical support, please contact our admin Council staff, email: npfmc.admin@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda

Monday, September 9, 2024 Through Thursday, September 12, 2024

The agenda will include: (a) summer trawl survey results; (b) Fishery Status reports; (c) Ecosystem Status reports; (d) SMKC SAFE report; (e) BBRKC SAFE report and risk table; (f) Snow crab SAFE report and risk table; (g) BBRKC and snow crab report cards; (h) Tanner crab SAFE report and risk table; (i) NSRKC proposed models; (j) Overfishing status updates; (k) BSFRF update; and (l) additional topics. The agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted at <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/3055> 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/3055>.

Public Comment

Public comment letters will be accepted and should be submitted electronically to <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/3055>.

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

Dated: August 19, 2024.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2024-18888 Filed 8-22-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XE169]

Pacific 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 Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Pacific Council) Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) is holding an online meeting, which is open to the public.

DATES: The online meeting will be held Monday to Wednesday, September 9-11, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, September 9 and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 10 and 11. The meeting may extend beyond the noticed end time on each day, if necessary, to conclude the day's business.

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). 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 97220-1384.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this online meeting is for the EWG to discuss and draft reports for items on the September 2024 Pacific Council meeting agenda. The EWG may also discuss other items related to the

Pacific Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plan. An agenda for the webinar will be posted on the Pacific Council website in advance of the webinar.

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; (503) 820-2412) at least 10 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: August 19, 2024.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2024-18886 Filed 8-22-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB, Comment Request; State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program: Native Entities

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite 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. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on January 19, 2024, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Commerce.