

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, are used by NMFS in making the necessary small numbers determinations, through comparison with the best available abundance estimates (see discussion at 86 FR 5322, 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/>). For the latter, for taxa where a density surface model could be produced, we use the maximum mean seasonal (i.e., 3-month) abundance prediction for purposes of comparison as a precautionary smoothing of month-to-month fluctuations and in consideration of a corresponding lack of data in the literature regarding seasonal distribution of marine mammals in the GOM. Information supporting the small numbers determinations is provided in table 1.

TABLE 1—TAKE ANALYSIS

Species	Authorized take	Abundance <sup>2</sup>	Percent abundance
Rice’s whale .....	0	51	n/a
Sperm whale .....	0	3,007	n/a
<i>Kogia</i> spp. ....	0	980	n/a
Beaked whales .....	0	803	n/a
Rough-toothed dolphin .....	<sup>3</sup> 14	4,853	0
Bottlenose dolphin .....	185	165,125	0
Clymene dolphin .....	0	4,619	n/a
Atlantic spotted dolphin .....	<sup>4</sup> 26	21,506	0
Pantropical spotted dolphin .....	0	67,225	n/a
Spinner dolphin .....	0	5,548	n/a
Striped dolphin .....	0	5,634	n/a
Fraser’s dolphin .....	0	1,665	n/a
Risso’s dolphin .....	0	1,974	n/a
Blackfish <sup>5</sup> .....	0	6,113	n/a
Short-finned pilot whale .....	0	2,741	n/a

<sup>1</sup> Scalar ratios were not applied in this case due to brief survey duration.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> Modeled take of 3 increased to account for potential encounter with a group of average size (Maze-Foley and Mullin, 2006).

<sup>4</sup> Modeled take of 13 increased to account for potential encounter with a group of average size (Maze-Foley and Mullin, 2006).

<sup>5</sup> The “blackfish” guild includes melon-headed whales, false killer whales, pygmy killer whales, and killer whales.

Based on the analysis contained herein of Echo’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 Echo authorizing the take of marine mammals incidental to its geophysical survey activity, as described above.

Dated: August 30, 2024.

**Catherine Marzin,**

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

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648–XE253]

**Membership of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Performance Review Board**

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice of membership.

**SUMMARY:** NOAA announces the appointment of members who will serve on the 2024 NOAA Performance Review

Board (PRB). The NOAA PRB is responsible for reviewing performance appraisals and ratings of Senior Executive Service, Senior Level, and Scientific and Professional members and making written recommendations to the appointing authority on retention and compensation matters, including performance-based pay adjustments, awarding of bonuses, and reviewing recommendations for potential Presidential Rank Award nominees. The appointment of members to the NOAA PRB will be for a period of 2 years.

**DATES:** The effective date of service of the 10 appointees to the NOAA Performance Review Board is October 21–25, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Written requests for further information may be mailed to Mr. Charles A. McLeod, Human Resources Specialist, Executive Resources Division, Office of Human Capital Services, NOAA, at 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland

20910. See the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section below for additional contact methods.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Charles A. McLeod, 301-628-1883 or [charles.mcleod@noaa.gov](mailto:charles.mcleod@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The names and positions of the members for the 2024 NOAA PRB are set forth below:

- *Michelle McClure*, *Chair*: Director, Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, NOAA;
- *Deirdre Jones*, *Vice-Chair*: Chief Administrative Officer, NOAA;
- *Kevin Kimball*: Sr. Advisor for Program Integration, National Institute of Standards and Technology;
- *Jonathan Hare*: Science and Research Director, Northeast Region, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA;
- *Timothy Greten*: Director, Office of Facilities, National Weather Service, NOAA;
- *Lori Arguelles*: Director of Strategic Communications, NOAA;
- *El Sayed Talaat*: Director, Office of Projects, Partnerships and Analysis, National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service, NOAA;
- *Jeffery Payne*: Director, Office of Coastal Management, National Oceans Service, NOAA;
- *Marian Westley*: Director, Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services, National Ocean Service, NOAA;
- *Kenneth Harding*: Chief Operating Officer, National Weather Service, NOAA;
- *Bruce Pitts*: Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, NOAA;
- *Jennifer Mahoney*: Director, Global Systems Laboratory, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, NOAA;
- *Timothy Walsh*: Director, Joint Polar Satellite Systems, National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service, NOAA;
- *Jason Boehm*: Chief of Staff, National Institute of Standards and Technology;
- *Karen Hyun*: Chief of Staff, NOAA.

Dated: August 28, 2024.

**Richard W. Spinrad**,

*Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 2024-19930 Filed 9-4-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-12-P**

## COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

### Renewal of the Technology Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of renewal.

**SUMMARY:** The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC or Commission) is publishing this notice to announce the renewal of the Technology Advisory Committee (TAC). The Commission has determined that the renewal of the TAC is necessary and in the public's interest, and the CFTC has consulted with the General Services Administration's Committee Management Secretariat regarding the TAC's renewal.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Anthony Biagioli, Trial Attorney and TAC Designated Federal Officer, at 816-960-7722 or [Abiagioli@cftc.gov](mailto:Abiagioli@cftc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The CFTC's advisory committees were created to provide input and make recommendations to the Commission on a variety of regulatory and market issues that affect the integrity and competitiveness of U.S. financial services and markets. The committees facilitate communication between the Commission and U.S. derivatives markets, trading firms, market participants, and end users. The TAC is one of five CFTC advisory committees. The TAC's objectives and scope of activities shall be to provide advice and recommendations to the Commission. The TAC will assist the Commission with advice and recommendations on the impact and implications of technological innovation in the financial services and markets. The TAC will provide advice on the application and utilization of new technologies in financial services, derivatives, and commodity markets, as well as by market professionals and market users. The TAC may further provide advice to the Commission on the appropriate level of investment in technology at the Commission to meet its surveillance and enforcement responsibilities, and inform the Commission's consideration of technology-related issues to support the Commission's mission of ensuring the integrity of the markets and achievement of other public interest objectives.

The TAC will operate for two years from the date of renewal unless the Commission directs that the TAC terminate on an earlier date. A copy of the TAC renewal charter has been filed with the Commission; the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry; the House Committee on Agriculture; the Library of Congress; and the General Services Administration's Committee Management Secretariat. A copy of the renewal charter will be posted on the CFTC's website at [www.cftc.gov](http://www.cftc.gov).

Dated: August 30, 2024.

**Christopher Kirkpatrick**,

*Secretary of the Commission.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2024-SCC-0108]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; School Pulse Panel 2024-25 Data Collection Second Quarter Revision

**AGENCY:** Institute of Education Sciences (IES), Department of Education (ED).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Department is proposing a revision of a currently approved information collection request (ICR).

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before October 7, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations for proposed information collection requests should be submitted within 30 days of publication of this notice. Click on this link [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain) to access the site. Find this information collection request (ICR) by selecting "Department of Education" under "Currently Under Review," then check the "Only Show ICR for Public Comment" checkbox. [Reginfo.gov](http://Reginfo.gov) provides two links to view documents related to this information collection request. Information collection forms and instructions may be found by clicking on the "View Information Collection (IC) List" link. Supporting statements and other supporting documentation may be found by clicking on the "View Supporting Statement and Other Documents" link.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Carrie Clarady, 202-245-6347.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the