

against the appropriate quotas of the shark research fishery participant. Additionally, in recent years, all shark research fishery participants were limited to a very small number of dusky shark mortalities on a regional basis. Once the designated number of dusky shark mortalities occurs in a specific region, certain terms and conditions are applied (e.g., soak time limits). While NMFS has not yet determined the specific terms and conditions of the 2025 shark research fishery permits, NMFS expects the terms and conditions to be similar to those in 2024 permits. For example, participants may continue to be limited in the number of sets

allowed on each trip and the number of hooks allowed on each set and on the vessel itself. A **Federal Register** notice describing the specific objectives for the 2025 shark research fishery and requesting applications from interested and eligible shark fishermen may be published in the near future. NMFS requests public comment regarding NMFS' intent to issue shark research fishery permits in 2025 during the comment period of this notice.

Table 1 summarizes the number of specimens authorized under EFPs and related permits thus far in 2024, as well as the number of specimens collected in 2023. The total amount of collections in

2023 was within the analyzed quotas for all quota-managed HMS species. The number of specimens collected in 2024 will be available when NMFS receives all 2024 interim and annual reports.

In all cases, NMFS counts mortalities associated with EFPs, SRPs, or display permits (except for larvae) against the appropriate quota. In 2023, NMFS issued a total of 46 EFPs, SRPs, display permits, and LOAs for the collection, sampling, and/or tagging of HMS and 3 shark research fishery permits. As of October 1, 2024, NMFS has issued a total of 46 EFPs, SRPs, display permits, and LOAs and 3 shark research fishery permits.

**TABLE 1—SUMMARY OF HMS EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS ISSUED IN 2023 AND 2024, OTHER THAN SHARK RESEARCH FISHERY PERMITS**

Permit type	Species	2023			2024	
		Permits issued	Authorized fish (numbers) <sup>1</sup>	Fish kept/discarded dead (numbers)	Permits issued	Authorized fish (numbers) <sup>1</sup>
EFP .....	HMS .....	2	184	0	2	84
	Shark .....	8	<sup>1</sup> N/A	0	6	0
	Tuna .....	2	30	0	1	120
SRP .....	HMS .....	8	1,027	6	5	540
	Shark .....	0	0	0	1	1010
	Swordfish .....	1	30	0	1	0
Display .....	HMS .....	1	55	0	1	54
	Shark .....	3	223	47	3	223
Total .....		26	25	55	20	<sup>1</sup> 203
LOA .....	Shark .....	20	<sup>1</sup> N/A	102	26	<sup>1</sup> N/A

**Note:** "HMS" refers to multiple species being collected under a given permit type.

<sup>1</sup> NMFS issued some EFPs, SRPs, and LOAs for the purposes of tagging and the opportunistic sampling of HMS and were not expected to result in large amounts of mortality, thus no limits on sampling were set. NMFS will account for any mortality that may occur throughout 2024 under the appropriate HMS research and display quota.

NMFS does not currently anticipate any significant environmental impacts from the issuance of EFPs, SRPs, display permits, and shark research fishery permits, consistent with the assessment of such activities as identified in Categorical Exclusion B12 of the Companion Manual for NOAA Administrative Order 216–6A or within the environmental impacts analyses in existing HMS actions. Existing actions include the 1999 FMP, the 2006 Consolidated HMS FMP and its amendments, Amendment 2 to the 2006 Consolidated HMS FMP, the Environmental Assessment for the 2012 Swordfish Specifications, the Environmental Assessment for the 2022 Final Bluefin Tuna Quota and Atlantic Tuna Fisheries Management Measures, and the 2022 Zero Atlantic Shortfin Mako Shark Retention Limit Final Rule.

Final decisions on the issuance of any EFPs, SRPs, display permits, and shark research fishery permits will depend on:

- The submission of all required information about the proposed activities;
- NMFS' review of public comments received on this notice;
- The applicant's reporting history on past permits;
- If vessels or applicants were issued any prior violations of marine resource laws administered by NOAA;
- Consistency with relevant National Environmental Policy Act analyses; and
- Any consultations with appropriate Regional Fishery Management Councils, states, or Federal agencies.

*Authority:* 16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.* and 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: October 22, 2024.

**Karen H. Abrams,**

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

[FR Doc. 2024–25023 Filed 10–25–24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648–XE412]

**Endangered Species; File No. 28294**

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

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

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Matthew Fisher (Normandeu Associates Inc., 2233 Spring Street, West Lawn, PA 19609), has applied in due form for a permit to take Atlantic (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*) and shortnose (*A. brevirostrum*) sturgeon for purposes of scientific research.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before November 27, 2024.

**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 home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 28294 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. 28294 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). The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Erin Markin, Ph.D. or Malcolm Mohead, (301) 427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

The applicant requests to conduct research on Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon in freshwater and estuary areas of the Delaware River. Research objectives would include assessing and quantifying the presence of Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon at the egg, larval, juvenile and sub-adult/adult life stages. Other studies would also include assessing sturgeon home range, individual movement patterns, seasonal movements, habitat use, nursery areas, over-wintering habitat use, population dynamics, and habitat assessment.

Up to 265 juvenile and 25 adult/sub-adult shortnose sturgeon and 265 juvenile and 5 adult/sub-adult Atlantic sturgeon would be captured by gill net or trawl, measured, weighed, biologically sampled (tissue), marked (passive integrated transponder), and photographed/videoed, annually, prior to release. Sub-sets of Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon may be anesthetized and implanted with acoustic transmitters, gastric lavaged, and fin ray sampled. The applicant requests one unintentional mortality of juvenile and adult/subadult shortnose sturgeon and one juvenile Atlantic sturgeon annually, but no more than two of each species life stage over the life of the permit.

A total 300 shortnose and 100 Atlantic sturgeon of early life stages would be taken in directed lethal

research annually. The permit would be valid for up to 10 years from the date of issuance.

Dated: October 21, 2024.

**Julia M. Harrison,**

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

[FR Doc. 2024-24992 Filed 10-25-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XE413]

#### Endangered Species; File No. 21467

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

**ACTION:** Notice; receipt of application for a permit modification.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Karen Holloway-Adkins, Ph.D., East Coast Biologists, Inc., P.O. Box 33715, Indialantic, FL 32903, has requested a modification to scientific research Permit No. 21467-02.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before November 27, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** The modification request 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 home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 21467 Mod 6 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. 21467 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). The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Erin Markin, Ph.D., or Amy Hapeman, (301) 427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject modification to Permit No. 21467-02, issued on July 2, 2021 (86 FR 43630, August 10, 2021), is requested under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16

U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Permit No. 21467-02 authorizes the permit holder to determine (1) spatial and temporal distribution, (2) mean size, (3) foraging habitats and diet composition, (4) body conditions and fibropapillomatosis ratios, (5) genetic origin, and (6) home-range, site fidelity, and residency times of green (*Chelonia mydas*) and loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*) sea turtles in Brevard County, Florida. Researchers may capture by tangle, cast, or dip net or hand, measure, mark, biologically sample, tag, weigh, and photograph sea turtles prior to release. The permit holder requests authorization to (1) increase the annual number of juvenile green sea turtles from 25 to 95 for the authorized methods listed above and (2) add 10 adult green turtles annually for capture by tangle net, measure, and photograph/video, prior to release. The permit is valid through September 30, 2027.

Dated: October 21, 2024.

**Julia M. Harrison,**

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

[FR Doc. 2024-24993 Filed 10-25-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XE418]

#### Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Pacific Council) and its advisory bodies will meet November 13-18, 2024, in Costa Mesa, CA and via webinar. The Council meeting will be live streamed with the opportunity to provide public comment remotely.

**DATES:** The Pacific Council meeting will begin on Thursday, November 14, 2024, at 10 a.m., Pacific Time (PT), reconvening at 8 a.m. on Friday, November 15 through Monday, November 18, 2024. All meetings are open to the public, except for a Closed Session held from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., Thursday, November 14, 2024, to