

2020 Budget and Activities, updates to the Administrative Handbook, and Review of Advisory Panels.

The Coral Management Committee will discuss recommendations to the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and recommendations made by the Joint Gulf and South Atlantic Spiny Lobster Advisory Panel.

Sustainable Fisheries Committee will discuss Interagency Coordination for Aquaculture Science and Management; review Public Hearing Draft Amendment *Reef Fish 48/Red Drum 5*: Status Determination Criteria and Optimum Yield for Reef Fish and Red Drum; and, draft options for Framework Action to evaluate Trolling Provisions in Madison-Swanson and Steamboat Lumps. The Committee will also discuss Section 102: Fishery Management Measures of the Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Management Act of 2018 and Allocation issues.

*Tuesday, January 28, 2020; 8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.*

The Reef Fish Management Committee will review Reef Fish and Coastal Migratory Pelagics (CMP) Landings and Draft Amendments 36B and 36C: Modifications to Commercial Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Programs and Presentations. The Committee will review Draft Framework Action to Modify *Greater Amberjack* Recreational Management Measures and receive the Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC) report for Lane *Snapper* Fishing Effort Survey (FES)-Adjusted Catch Recommendations. The Committee will also discuss Draft Options: Amendment 53 for *Red Grouper* Catch Limits and Sector Allocations.

*National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will hold a Question and Answer session immediately following the Reef Fish Committee.*

*Wednesday, January 29, 2020; 8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.*

The Reef Fish Management Committee will discuss Draft Amendment 52: *Red Snapper* Sector Allocations; receive State Management Performance Reports for 2019 Private Angling *Red Snapper* Fishing Season, and the January 2020 SSC Meeting Summary report.

The Migratory Species Committee will receive summary reports from the Highly Migratory Species (HMS) and International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) Advisory Panel meetings; and, a presentation on *Shark* Population Abundance Trends and Depredation.

Full Council will convene mid-morning with a Call to Order, Announcements, and Introductions; Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Minutes. Council will review Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Applications and public comments (if any); and, receive a presentation on Louisiana's Law Enforcement Efforts and update on Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting (SEFHIER). The Council will hold public comment testimony beginning at 1:45 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. for the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Proposed Expansion; and, open testimony on other fishery issues or concerns. Anyone wishing to speak during public comment testimony should sign in at the registration station located at the entrance of the meeting room.

*Thursday, January 30, 2020; 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.*

The Council will receive reports from the following management committees: Administrative/Budget, Coral, Sustainable Fisheries, Migratory Species and Reef Fish. The Council will vote on Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) applications, if any; and receive updates from the following supporting agencies: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; NOAA Office of Law Enforcement (OLE), Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission; U.S. Coast Guard; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Department of State.

Lastly, the Council will discuss Other Business items; Status Update on Proposed Turtle Excluder Devices (TED) Regulations for Skimmer Trawls.

—Meeting Adjourns

The meeting will be broadcast via webinar. You may register for the webinar by visiting [www.gulfcouncil.org](http://www.gulfcouncil.org) and clicking on the Council meeting on the calendar.

The timing and order in which agenda items are addressed may change as required to effectively address the issue, and the latest version along with other meeting materials will be posted on the website as they become available.

Although other non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meeting. Actions 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 Act, provided that the public

has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid should be directed to Kathy Pereira, (813) 348–1630, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: December 23, 2019.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2019–28199 Filed 12–30–19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XV160]

#### Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold an Archipelagic Plan Team (APT) meeting to discuss and make recommendations on fishery management issues in the Western Pacific Region.

**DATES:** The APT will meet on Thursday, January 23, 2020, between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m., Hawaii Standard Time. For specific times and agendas, see

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

**ADDRESSES:** The APT meeting will be held at the Council office, 1164 Bishop St. Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813 and by teleconference and webinar. The teleconference will be conducted by telephone and by web. The teleconference numbers are U.S. toll-free: 1–888–482–3560 or International Access: +1 647 723–3959, and Access Code: 5228220. The webinar can be accessed at: <https://wprfmc.webex.com/join/info.wpcouncilnoaa.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; telephone: (808) 522–8220.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Public comment periods will be provided in the agenda. The order in which agenda items are addressed may change. The

meetings will run as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

### Schedule and Agenda for the APT Meeting

Thursday, January 23, 1 p.m.–5 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of Draft Agenda & Assignment of Rapporteurs
3. Interim Measure for the American Samoa Bottomfish Fishery
4. Potential Reclassification of the Territory Bottomfish Management Unit Species (BMUS) Complex
5. Options to the BMUS in the American Samoa and Marianas Fishery Ecosystem Plan (Action Item)
6. Revisions to the Archipelagic Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Reports
7. P-Star and SEEM Analysis for the Marianas Bottomfish Fishery
8. Updates to the Data Collection Projects
  - A. Marianas Shark Depredation
  - B. Small Boat Electronic Reporting
9. Public Comment
10. Other Business
11. Plan Team Discussion and Recommendations

### Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, (808) 522–8220 (voice) or (808) 522–8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: December 23, 2019.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2019–28197 Filed 12–30–19; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XR081]

### Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Seabird Research Activities in Central California

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

**ACTION:** Notice; incidental harassment authorization; request for comments on proposed Renewal.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS received a request from Point Blue Conservation Science (Point Blue) for the Renewal of their initial incidental harassment authorization (IHA) to take marine mammals incidental to seabird and pinniped research activities in central California. These activities are identical to those covered in the initial authorization. Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), prior to issuing the initial IHA, NMFS requested comments on both the proposed IHA and the potential for renewing the initial authorization if certain requirements were satisfied. While Renewal requirements have been satisfied, NMFS is now republishing the proposed Renewal IHA and providing an additional 15-day comment period to allow for any additional comments on the proposed Renewal not previously provided during the initial 30-day comment period or the first 15-day additional comment period.

**DATES:** Comments and information must be received no later than January 15, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Jolie Harrison, Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service. Physical comments should be sent to 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 and electronic comments should be sent to [ITP.Fowler@noaa.gov](mailto:ITP.Fowler@noaa.gov).

**Instructions:** NMFS is not responsible for comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period. Comments received electronically, including all attachments, must not exceed a 25-megabyte file size. Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word or Excel or Adobe PDF file formats only. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted online at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/incidental-take-authorizations-under-marine-mammal-protection-act> without change. All personal identifying information (*e.g.*, name, address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy Fowler, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 427–8401. Electronic copies of the original application, Renewal request, and supporting documents (including NMFS notices of the original proposed and final authorizations, and the previous

IHA), as well as a list of the references cited in this document, may be obtained online at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/incidental-take-authorizations-under-marine-mammal-protection-act>. In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed above.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

The MMPA prohibits the “take” of marine mammals, with certain exceptions. Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) direct the Secretary of Commerce (as delegated to NMFS) to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region if certain findings are made and either regulations are issued or, if the taking is limited to harassment, a notice of a proposed incidental take authorization is provided to the public for review.

Authorization for incidental takings shall be granted if NMFS finds that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for taking for subsistence uses (where relevant). Further, NMFS must prescribe the permissible methods of taking and other “means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact” on the affected species or stocks and their habitat, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds, and areas of similar significance, and on the availability of such species or stocks for taking for certain subsistence uses (referred to here as “mitigation measures”). Monitoring and reporting of such takings are also required. The meaning of key terms such as “take,” “harassment,” and “negligible impact” can be found in section 3 of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1362) and the agency’s regulations at 50 CFR 216.103.

NMFS’ regulations implementing the MMPA at 50 CFR 216.107(e) indicate that IHAs may be renewed for additional periods of time not to exceed one year for each reauthorization. In the notice of proposed IHA for the initial authorization, NMFS described the circumstances under which we would consider issuing a Renewal for this activity, and requested public comment on a potential Renewal under those circumstances. Since that time, we have made minor changes to the Renewal process, none of which materially affects the scope of a Renewal IHA or the conditions for receiving one.