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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Jenna Malek, NMFS Alaska Region, [jenna.malek@noaa.gov](mailto:jenna.malek@noaa.gov), (907) 271-1332.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 4(c)(2)(A) of the ESA requires that the Secretary, through NMFS, conduct a review of listed species at least once every 5 years (16 U.S.C. 1533(c)(2)(A)). The regulations in 50 CFR 424.21 require that we publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing species currently under active review. Based on such reviews, we determine whether a listed species should be delisted, or be reclassified from endangered to threatened or from threatened to endangered (16 U.S.C. 1533(c)(2)(B)). As described by the regulations in 50 CFR 424.11(e), the Secretary shall delist a species if the Secretary finds that, after conducting a status review based on the best scientific and commercial data available: (1) The species is extinct; (2) the species does not meet the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species; or (3) the listed entity does not meet the statutory definition of a species. Any change in Federal classification would require a separate rulemaking process.

The northern right whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*) was listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Preservation Act on December 2, 1970 (35 FR 18319). In March 2008, NMFS reclassified the northern right whale as two separate endangered species, the North Atlantic right whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*) and the North Pacific right whale (*Eubalaena japonica*) (73 FR 12024; March 6, 2008). Background information on the North Pacific right whale is available on the NMFS website at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/north-pacific-right-whale>.

**Determining if a Species Is Threatened or Endangered**

Section 4(a)(1) of the ESA requires that we determine whether a species is endangered or threatened based on one or more of the five following factors: (1) The present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range; (2) overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes; (3) disease or predation; (4) the inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or (5) other

natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence. Section 4(b) also requires that our determination be made on the basis of the best scientific and commercial data available after conducting a review of the status of the species and after taking into account those efforts, if any, being made by any State or foreign nation to protect such species.

**Public Solicitation of New Relevant Information**

To ensure that the 5-year review is complete and based on the best scientific and commercial data available, we are soliciting new information from the public, governmental agencies, Tribes, the scientific community, industry, environmental entities, and any other interested parties concerning the status of the listed North Pacific right whale. Categories of requested information include: (1) Species biology including, but not limited to, population trends, distribution, abundance, demographics, and genetics; (2) habitat conditions including, but not limited to, amount, distribution, suitability, and important features for conservation; (3) status and trends of threats; (4) conservation measures that have been implemented that benefit the species, including monitoring data demonstrating effectiveness of such measures; (5) need for additional conservation measures; and (6) other new information, data, or corrections including, but not limited to, taxonomic or nomenclatural changes and improved analytical methods for evaluating extinction risk.

*Authority:* 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: March 24, 2022.

**Angela Somma,**

*Chief, Endangered Species Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648-XB917]

**Western 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 Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will

hold its Social Science Planning Committee (SSPC), Archipelagic Plan Team (APT), and Fishery Data Collection and Research Committee—Technical Committee for the Data Collection Subpanel (FDCRC-TC-DCSP) meetings to discuss and make recommendations on fishery management issues in the Western Pacific Region.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held between April 14 and April 28, 2022. For specific times and agendas, see

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held by web conference via Webex. Instructions for connecting to the web conference and providing oral public comments will be posted on the Council website at [www.wpcouncil.org](http://www.wpcouncil.org). For assistance with the web conference connection, contact the Council office at (808) 522-8220.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The SSPC meeting will be held between 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. on April 14, 2022. The APT meeting will be held between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. on April 19–21, 2022. The FDCRC-TC-DCSP meeting will be held between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. on April 27–28, 2022. All times listed are Hawaii Standard Time. Public comment periods will be provided in the agendas. The order in which agenda items are addressed may change. The meeting will run as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

**Agenda for the SSPC Meeting**

*Thursday, April 14, 2022, 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.*

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Approval of agenda
3. Annual Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) Reports
  - A. Socioeconomic module user survey
  - B. Socioeconomic modules 2021 report updates
  - C. Fisher Observations
4. Equity and environmental justice in fishery management
5. Social Science Strategic Plan update
6. Review of SSPC research plan and priorities
7. Project updates
8. Public comment
9. Discussion and recommendations
10. Other business

**Agenda for the Archipelagic Plan Team Meeting**

*Tuesday, April 19, 2022, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.*

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Approval of draft agenda
3. Report on previous APT recommendations and Council actions
4. 2021 Annual SAFE Report
  - A. Fishery performance
    1. Archipelagic fisheries modules
      - a. American Samoa
        1. Bottomfish fishery
        2. Ecosystem component fisheries
        3. Fisherman's observations
      - b. Guam
        1. Bottomfish fishery
        2. Ecosystem component fisheries
        3. Fisherman's observations
      - c. Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)
        1. Bottomfish fishery
        2. Ecosystem component fisheries
        3. Fisherman's observations
      - d. Hawaii
        1. Bottomfish fishery
        2. Crustacean fishery
        3. Precious coral fishery
        4. Ecosystem component fisheries
        5. Fisherman's observations
    2. APT Discussion on improving bycatch reporting
    3. Building the Annual SAFE non-commercial fisheries module
      - a. Territorial non-commercial module
      - b. Hawaii non-commercial module
    4. Discussions
    5. Public comment

*Wednesday, April 20, 2022, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.*

  - B. Ecosystem considerations
    1. Protected species section
    2. Climate, ecosystems and biological section
      - a. Environmental & climate variables
      - b. Life history and length-derived variables
      - c. Biomass estimates for coral reef Ecosystem Components
    3. Habitat section—Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) modeling
    4. Socioeconomics section
    5. Marine planning section
    6. Discussions
    7. Public Comment
  - C. Administrative reports
    1. Number of federal permits and catch reports
    2. Regulatory actions in 2021
    3. Discussions
    4. Public comment

*Thursday, April 21, 2022, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.*

    5. APT action items
      - A. Aquaculture management framework alternatives (Action Item)
      - B. Alternatives for Northwest Hawaiian Islands fishing regulations (Action Item)
    6. Status report on the multifaceted approach to Territorial data collection

7. Main Hawaiian Islands Uku EFH modeling
  - A. Tier 1 static modeling approach
  - B. Tier 2 dynamic modeling approach
8. APT discussion on Forage Fish Conservation Act of 2021
9. Discussions
10. Public comment
11. APT recommendations
12. Other Business

#### Agenda for the Fishery Data Collection and Research Committee—Technical Committee Meeting

*Wednesday, April 27, 2022, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.*

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Approval of draft agenda
3. Report on previous Technical Committee recommendations and Council actions
4. Report on the individual jurisdiction data collection improvement work
  - A. American Samoa
  - B. Guam
  - C. CNMI
  - D. Hawaii
    1. Commercial fishery
    2. Non-commercial fishery
5. Report on the electronic reporting initiatives
  - A. Catchit Logit implementation
  - B. Sellit Logit database migration
  - C. Mandatory license and reporting regulations
6. Discussions
7. Public comment

*Thursday, April 28, 2022, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.*

8. Revisiting and renewing data sharing agreements
9. Review and updates to the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) Regional Implementation Plan
  - A. American Samoa
  - B. Guam
  - C. CNMI
  - D. Hawaii
10. Consolidation of the new tasks for the MRIP Regional Implementation Plan
11. Discussions
12. Other business
13. Public comment
14. FDCRC—TC—DCSP Recommendations

#### Special Accommodations

These meetings are 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: March 24, 2022.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**  
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–XB913]

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

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

**ACTION:** Notice; public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Pacific Stock Assessment Review (WPSAR) Steering Committee will convene a public meeting to discuss and approve the 5-year calendar for stock assessments, and to address any other concerns related to the WPSAR process.

**DATES:** The Steering Committee will meet from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on April 13, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held by web conference. Audio and visual portions of the web conference can be accessed at: <https://wprfmc.webex.com/wprfmc/j.php?MTID=m2c2914733846c6790ffb9cfd1b9462>. Web conference access information will also be posted on the Council's website at [www.wpcouncil.org](http://www.wpcouncil.org). For assistance with the web conference connection, contact the Council office at (808) 522–8220.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Marlowe Sabater; phone: (808) 522–8143, or email: [marlowe.sabater@noaa.gov](mailto:marlowe.sabater@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The WPSAR Steering Committee consists of the Council's Executive Director, the Director of the NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, and the Regional Administrator of the NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office. You may read more about WPSAR at [https://www.pifsc.noaa.gov/peer\\_reviews/wpsar/index.php](https://www.pifsc.noaa.gov/peer_reviews/wpsar/index.php).

The public will have an opportunity to comment during the meeting. The agenda order may change. The meeting will run as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

#### Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Update on Science Policies