

II. Method of Collection

Where logbooks are required, permittees are provided with the required forms that are filled out while on a fishing trip and are submitted to the Regional Administrator on the completion of a trip. For experimental fishing, permittees are advised of the information that must be provided to the Regional Administrator at the completion of the experiment, but are left to furnish that information in the manner they see fit. NMFS will provide guidance as requested. Observers may be placed on vessels to ensure that more complete and accurate data are provided to NMFS than could reasonably be expected of the fishing vessel operator. Sales report forms are provided where appropriate. Pre-trip and pre-landings reports are made by radio or by messaging using automated vessel monitoring system equipment. Protected species interaction reports are made in a manner determined by the permittee.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0214.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular Submission.

Affected Public: Individuals and Businesses (commercial fishermen).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 215.

Estimated Time Per Response: 5 minutes per logbook day, 5 minutes for sales reports and notifications, and 4 hours for experimental fishing reports.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 1,293.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0—no capital, operations, or maintenance costs are expected.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: January 13, 1997.

Linda Engelmeier,

Acting Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

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[I.D. 010897D]

Marine Mammals

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

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS has revised the marine mammal stock assessment reports and the guidelines upon which the reports were based in accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Draft revised reports are available for public review and comment. Copies of the revised guidelines are also available for review.

DATES: Comments must be received by April 21, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Send comments and requests for copies of reports or guidelines to: Chief, Marine Mammal Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226, Attn: Stock Assessments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas C. Eagle, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, at (301) 713-2322; Douglas P. DeMaster at (206) 526-4045, Alaska Fisheries Science Center (F/AKC), NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE, BIN 15700, Seattle, WA 98115-0070 regarding Alaska regional stock assessments; James Lecky at (310) 980-4020, Southwest Regional Office (F/SWO3), NMFS, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213, regarding Pacific regional stock assessments; or Gordon Waring at (508) 495-2311, Northeast Fisheries Science Center, NMFS, 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543-1097 for Atlantic regional stock assessments.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 117 of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) required NMFS and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to prepare stock assessments for each stock of marine mammals that occurs in waters under the jurisdiction of the United States. These reports contain information regarding the distribution and abundance of the stock, population growth rates and trends, estimates of annual human-caused mortality from all sources, descriptions of the fisheries

with which the stock interacts, and the status of the stock.

NMFS convened a workshop in April 1996 to evaluate the guidelines upon which stock assessment reports were based and to revise the guidelines as needed. The workshop results indicated that substantive changes to the guidelines were not required; however, several provisions were clarified, primarily to ensure that default values for various parameters were interpreted correctly.

The MMPA also requires NMFS and FWS to update these reports annually for strategic stocks of marine mammals and every 3 years for stocks determined to be non-strategic consistent with any new information. NMFS has revised those reports for which new information is available. Table 1 contains a summary of the information included in the reports. NMFS solicits public comments on the draft revised reports.

Most proposed changes to the stock assessment reports incorporate new information into abundance or mortality estimates. Stock structure was also reexamined, which resulted in revised stock identification for killer whales in the Alaska and Pacific regions and for harbor porpoise in Alaska; none of these stocks is designated as strategic.

Three stocks were identified as special subsistence stocks in the initial stock assessment reports; these included harbor seals in the Gulf of Alaska and beluga whales in Cook Inlet and Norton Sound. After examining new information, and in accordance with advice from the Alaska Scientific Review Group, NMFS proposes to revise these reports to present the full information required under the MMPA. Two of the stocks, Gulf of Alaska harbor seals and Cook Inlet beluga would be identified as strategic stocks because total human-caused mortality exceeds the calculated Potential Biological Removal level (PBR). Norton Sound beluga would be identified as non-strategic. Any management actions concerning these or any other stock that is used for subsistence purposes would be addressed through a co-management process as indicated by section 119 of the MMPA.

New abundance estimates for beaked whales in the Pacific Ocean, which included a recently developed correction factor for animals not seen on the track line, allowed NMFS to determine that human-caused mortality and serious injury of these stocks did not exceed PBR; therefore, these stocks have been designated as nonstrategic. Uncertainty in field identification of these stocks does not allow either mortality or abundance estimates to be

identified to species in all cases, and estimates for these stocks continue to be combined.

New information may become available during the comment period for these stock assessment reports; NMFS anticipates completion of a status

review of North Atlantic right whales in the near future. This new information may be incorporated into final stock assessment reports without additional public review and comment if incorporation of the new information does not change the status of the

affected stock (e.g., strategic to non-strategic).

Dated: January 13, 1997.

Ann Terbush,

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

TABLE 1.—SUMMARY OF MARINE MAMMAL STOCK ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR STOCKS OF MARINE MAMMALS UNDER NMFS AUTHORITY THAT OCCUPY WATERS UNDER U.S. JURISDICTION

Species	Stock area	SRG region	NMFS center	Nmin	Rmax	Fr	PBR	Total annual mort.	Annual fish. mort.	Strategic status
Steller sea lion	Western U.S.	AKA	AKC	42,536	0.12	0.3	766	518	38	Y
Steller sea lion	Eastern	AKA	AKC	23,533	0.12	0.75	1,059	9	4	Y
Northern fur seal ...	North Pacific	AKA	AKC	969,595	0.086	0.5	20,846	1,731	18	Y
Harbor seal	Southeast Alaska ..	AKA	AKC	35,226	0.12	1.0	2,114	1,630	34	N
Harbor seal	Gulf of Alaska	AKA	AKC	22,427	0.12	0.5	673	966	35	Y
Harbor seal	Bering Sea	AKA	AKC	12,648	0.12	0.5	379	242	30	N
Spotted seal	Alaska	AKA	AKC	N/A ¹	0.12	0.5	N/A	N/A	2	N
Bearded seal	Alaska	AKA	AKC	N/A	0.12	0.5	N/A	N/A	2	N
Ringed seal	Alaska	AKA	AKC	N/A	0.12	0.5	N/A	N/A	1	N
Ribbon seal	Alaska	AKA	AKC	N/A	0.12	0.5	N/A	N/A	1	N
Beluga	Beaufort Sea	AKA	AKC	39,039	0.04	1.0	781	168	0	N
Beluga	Eastern Chukchi Sea.	AKA	AKC	3,710	0.04	1.0	74	63	0	N
Beluga	Norton Sound	AKA	AKC	6,439	0.04	1.0	129	109	0	N
Beluga	Bristol Bay	AKA	AKC	1,526	0.04	1.0	31	21	1	N
Beluga	Cook Inlet	AKA	AKC	981	0.04	1.0	20	40	0	Y
Killer whale	Eastern North Pacific, Northern Resident.	AKA	AKC	764	0.04	0.5	7.6	1.2	1.2	N
Killer whale	Eastern North Pacific, Transient.	AKA	AKC	314	0.04	0.5	3.1	1.2	1.2	N
Pacific white-sided dolphin.	North Pacific	AKA	AKC	486,719	0.04	0.5	4,867	2	2	N
Harbor porpoise	Southeast Alaska ..	AKA	AKC	8,156	0.04	0.5	82	4	4	N
Harbor porpoise	Gulf of Alaska	AKA	AKC	7,085	0.04	0.5	71	27	27	N
Harbor porpoise	Bering Sea	AKA	AKC	8,549	0.04	0.5	86	2	2	N
Dall's porpoise	Alaska	AKA	AKC	76,874	0.04	1.0	1,537	42	42	N
Sperm whale	Alaska	AKA	AKC	N/A	0.04	0.1	N/A	0.0	0.0	Y
Baird's beaked whale.	Alaska	AKA	AKC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	0.0	0.0	N
Cuvier's beaked whale.	Alaska	AKA	AKC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	0.0	0.0	N
Stejneger's beaked whale.	Alaska	AKA	AKC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	0.0	0.0	N
Gray whale	Eastern North Pacific.	AKA	AKC	21,597	0.04	1.0	432	47	3	N
Humpback whale ...	Western North Pacific.	AKA	AKC	N/A	0.04	0.1	N/A	0.0	0.0	Y
Humpback whale ...	Central North Pacific.	AKA	AKC	1,407	0.04	0.1	2.8	1.6	1.6	Y
Fin whale	N. Pacific	AKA	AKC	N/A	0.04	0.1	N/A	0.0	0.0	Y
Minke whale	Alaska	AKA	AKC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	0.0	0.0	N
Northern right whale.	North Pacific	AKA	AKC	N/A	0.04	0.1	N/A	0.0	0.0	Y
Bowhead whale	Western Arctic	AKA	AKC	7,738	0.04	0.5	77 ²	51	0.0	Y
Harbor seal	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	28,810	0.12	1.0	1,729	476	476	N
Gray seal	Northwest North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	2,035	0.12	1.0	122	4.5	4.5	N
Harp seal	Northwest North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0	0.0	N
Hooded seal	Northwest North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0	0.0	N
Harbor porpoise	Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy.	ATL	NEC	48,289	0.04	0.5	483	1,834	1,834	Y
Risso's dolphin	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	11,140	0.04	0.5	111	68	68	N
Atlantic white-sided dolphin.	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	19,196	0.04	0.5	192	181	181	N

TABLE 1.—SUMMARY OF MARINE MAMMAL STOCK ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR STOCKS OF MARINE MAMMALS UNDER NMFS AUTHORITY THAT OCCUPY WATERS UNDER U.S. JURISDICTION—Continued

Species	Stock area	SRG region	NMFS center	Nmin	Rmax	Fr	PBR	Total annual mort.	Annual fish. mort.	Strategic status
White-beaked dolphin.	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	N/A	0.04	N/A	N/A	0.0	0.0	N
Common dolphin ...	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	3,996	0.04	0.5	40	234	234	Y
Atlantic spotted dolphin.	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	³ 1,617	0.04	0.5	16	³ 22	³ 22	Y
Pantropical spotted dolphin.	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	³ 1.617	0.04	0.5	16	³ 22	³ 22	Y
Striped dolphin	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	18,220	0.04	0.45	164	47	47	N
Spinner dolphin	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.0	1.0	N
Bottlenose dolphin	Western North Atlantic, offshore.	ATL	NEC	⁴ 8,794	0.04	0.5	88	82	82	N
Bottlenose dolphin	Western North Atlantic, coastal.	ATL	SEC	2,482	0.04	0.5	25	29	29	Y
Dwarf sperm whale	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	N/A	0.04	N/A	N/A	0.2	0.2	Y
Pygmy sperm whale.	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	N/A	0.04	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
Killer whale	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	N/A	0.04	N/A	N/A	0.0	0.0	N
Pygmy killer whale	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	SEC	6	0.04	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	N
Northern bottlenose whale.	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	N/A	0.04	N/A	N/A	0.0	0.0	N
Cuvier's beaked whale.	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	⁶ 895	0.04	0.5	8.9	9.7	⁶ 9.7	Y
Nesoplodont beaked whale.	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	⁵ 895	0.04	0.5	8.9	9.7	⁶ 9.7	Y
Pilot whale, long-finned (<i>Globiophala</i> spp.).	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	⁷ 4,968	0.04	0.5	50	42	⁸ 42	Y
Pilot whale, short-finned.	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	457	0.04	0.5	3.7	42	⁸ 42	Y
Sperm whale	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	1,617	0.04	0.1	3.2	0.2	0.2	Y
North Atlantic right whale.	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	295	0.025	0.1	0.4	2.7	0.4	Y
Humpback whale ...	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	4,884	0.04	0.1	9.7	0.7	0.7	Y
Fin whale	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	1,704	0.04	0.1	3.4	0.0	0.0	Y
Sei whale	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	N/A	0.04	0.1	N/A	0.0	0.0	Y
Minke whale	Canadian east coast.	ATL	NEC	2,053	0.04	0.5	21	2.5	2.5	N
Blue whale	Western North Atlantic.	ATL	NEC	N/A	0.04	0.1	N/A	0.0	0.0	Y
Bottlenose dolphin	Gulf of Mexico, outer continental shelf.	ATL	SEC	43,233	0.04	0.5	432	2.8	⁹ 2.8	N
Bottlenose dolphin	Gulf of Mexico, continental shelf edge and slope.	ATL	SEC	4,530	0.04	0.5	45	2.8	⁹ 2.8	N
Bottlenose dolphin	Western Gulf of Mexico coastal.	ATL	SEC	2,938	0.04	0.5	29	13	^{10,11} 13	N
Bottlenose dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico coastal.	ATL	SEC	3,518	0.04	0.5	35	10	¹¹ 10	N
Bottlenose dolphin	Eastern Gulf of Mexico coastal.	ATL	SEC	8,963	0.04	0.5	90	8	¹¹ 8	N
Bottlenose dolphin	Eastern Gulf of Mexico bay, sound, and estuarine ¹² .	ATL	SEC	3,934	0.04	0.5	39.7	30	¹¹ 30	Y
Atlantic spotted dolphin.	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	2,255	0.04	0.5	23	^{31.5}	^{31.5}	N

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Species	Stock area	SRG region	NMFS center	Nmin	Rmax	Fr	PBR	Total annual mort.	Annual fish. mort.	Strategic status
Pantropical spotted dolphin.	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	26,510	0.04	0.5	265	³ 1.5	³ 1.5	N
Striped dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	3,409	0.04	0.5	34	0.0	0.0	N
Spinner dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	4,465	0.04	0.5	45	0.0	0.0	N
Rough-toothed dolphin.	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	660	0.04	0.5	6.6	0.0	0.0	N
Clymene dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	4,120	0.04	0.5	41	0.0	0.0	N
Fraser's dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	66	0.04	0.5	0.7	0.0	0.0	N
Killer whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	197	0.04	0.5	2.0	0.0	0.0	N
False killer whale ...	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	236	0.04	0.5	2.4	0.0	0.0	N
Pygmy killer whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	NEC	285	0.04	0.05	2.8	0.0	0.0	N
Dwarf sperm whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	N/A	0.04	N/A	N/A	0.0	0.0	Y
Pygmy sperm whale.	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	NEC	N/A	0.04	N/A	N/A	0.0	0.0	Y
Melon-headed whale.	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	2,888	0.04	0.5	29	0.0	0.0	N
Risso's dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	2,199	0.04	0.5	22	19	19	N
Cuvier's beaked whale.	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	20	0.04	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	N
Blainville's beaked whale.	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0	0.0	N
Gervais' beaked whale.	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0	0.0	N
Pilot whale, short-finned.	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	186	0.04	0.5	1.9	0.3	0.3	Y
Sperm whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	411	0.04	0.1	0.8	0.0	0.0	Y
Bryde's whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico.	ATL	SEC	17	0.04	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	N
California sea lion ..	U.S.	PAC	SWC	106,825	0.12	1.0	6,410	1,294	1,242	N
Guadalupe fur seal	Mexico to California	PAC	SWC	3,028	0.137	0.5	104	0.0	0.0	Y
Northern fur seal ...	San Miguel Island	PAC	AKC	5,018	0.086	1.0	216	1	1	N
Habor seal	California	PAC	SWC	27,962	0.12	1.0	1,678	325	316	N
Habor seal	Oregon/Washington.	PAC	AKC	25,665	0.12	1.0	1,540	15	15	N
Habor seal	Washington inland waters.	PAC	AKC	15,349	0.12	1.0	921	36	36	N
Northern elephant breeding.	California breeding	PAC	SWC	48,000	0.083	1.0	1,992	151	151	N
Hawaiian monk seal.	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	1,366	0.07	0.1	¹³ 4.8	N/A	N/A	Y
Habor porpoise	Central California ..	PAC	SWC	3,431	0.04	0.48	33	14	14	N
Habor porpoise	Northern California	PAC	SWC	7,640	0.04	0.5	76	0.0	0.0	N
Habor porpoise	Oregon/Washington coast.	PAC	AKC	22,046	0.04	0.5	220	13	13	N
Dall's porpoise	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	34,393	0.04	0.48	330	28	28	N
Pacific white-sided dolphin.	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	82,939	0.04	0.48	796	13	13	N
Risso's dolphin	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	22,388	0.04	0.48	215	32	32	N
Bottlenose dolphin	California coastal ..	PAC	SWC	121	0.04	0.5	1.2	0.0	0.0	N
Bottlenose dolphin	California/Oregon/Washington offshore.	PAC	SWC	1,904	0.04	0.5	19	0.0	0.0	N
Striped dolphin	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	19,248	0.04	0.4	154	2.0	2.0	N
Common dolphin, short-beaked.	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	309,717	0.04	0.5	3,097	183	183	N

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Species	Stock area	SRG region	NMFS center	Nmin	Rmax	Fr	PBR	Total annual mort.	Annual fish. mort.	Strategic status
Common dolphin, long-beaked.	California	PAC	SWC	5,504	0.04	0.48	53	15	15	N
Northern right whale dolphin.	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	15,080	0.04	0.5	151	50	50	N
Killer whale	Southern Resident Stock.	PAC	AKC	96	0.04	1.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	N
Killer whale	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	436	0.04	0.4	3.5	2.0	2.0	N
Pilot whale, short-finned.	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	741	0.04	0.48	7.1	20	20	Y
Baird's beaked whale.	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	252	0.04	0.4	2.02	2.00	2.00	N
Mesoplodont beaked whales.	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	¹⁴ 1,169	0.04	0.48	¹⁵ 11	5.7–7.7	5.7–7.7	N
Cuvier's beaked whale.	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	6,070	0.04	0.5	61	29	29	N
Pygmy sperm whale.	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	2,059	0.04	0.4	16	2.3	2.3	N
Dwarf sperm whale	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	0.0	0.0	N
Sperm whale	California to Washington.	PAC	SWC	896	0.04	0.1	1.8	5	5	Y
Humpback whale ...	California/Mexico ...	PAC	SWC	563	0.04	0.1	0.5	1.0	0.0	Y
Blue whale	California/Mexico ...	PAC	SWC	1,463	0.04	0.1	1.5	<1	0.0	Y
Fin whale	California to Washington.	PAC	SWC	747	0.04	0.1	1.5	<1	0.0	Y
Bryde's whale	Eastern Tropical Pacific.	PAC	SWC	11,163	0.04	0.5	¹⁶ 0.2	N/A	0.0	N
Sei whale	Eastern North Pacific.	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.1	N/A	N/A	0.0	Y
Minke whale	California/Oregon/Washington.	PAC	SWC	122	0.04	0.4	1.0	2.0	2.0	Y
Rough-Toothed dolphin.	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
Risso's dolphin	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
Bottlenose dolphin	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
Pantropical spotted dolphin.	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
Spinner dolphin	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	677	0.04	0.5	6.8	N/A	N/A	N
Striped dolphin	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
Melon-headed whale.	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
Pygmy killer whale	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
False killer whale ...	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
Killer whale	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
Pilot whale, short-finned.	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
Blainville's beaked whale.	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
Cuvier's beaked whale.	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
Pygmy sperm whale.	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
Dwarf sperm whale	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N
Sperm whale	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
Blue whale	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
Fin whale	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
Bryde's whale	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	N/A	0.04	0.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N

¹ N/A means that an estimate for the affected value is not available.

² The IWC subsistence quota is not affected by the calculation of PBR using the formula specified in the MMPA.

³ This value includes either or both of *Stenella frontalis* or *Stenella attenuata*.

⁴ Estimates may include sightings of the coastal form.

⁵ This estimate includes Cuvier's beaked whales and mesoplodont beaked whales.

⁶ This is the average mortality of beaked whales (*Mesoplodon* sp.) based on 5 years of observer data. This annual mortality rate includes an unknown number of Cuvier's beaked whales.

⁷ This estimate includes both long-finned and short-finned pilot whales.

⁸ Mortality data are not separated by species; therefore, species-specific estimates are not available. The mortality estimate represents both short- and long-finned pilot whales.

⁹ This value may include either or both of the Gulf of Mexico, continental shelf edge and slope and the outer continental shelf stocks of bottlenose dolphins.

¹⁰ Low levels of bottlenose dolphin mortality (0–4 per year) incidental to commercial fisheries have been reported. It is unknown to which stock this mortality can be attributed.

¹¹ Estimates derived from stranded animals with signs of fishery interactions, and these could be either coastal or estuary stocks.

¹² This entry encompasses 33 stocks of bottlenose dolphins. All stocks are considered strategic; see the full report for information on individual stocks. The listed estimates for abundance, PBR and mortality are sums across all bays, sounds, and estuaries.

¹³ Although the calculated PBR is 5.0, the allowable take is zero due to findings under the ESA.

¹⁴ This value includes a species-specific minimum abundance estimate of 249 Blainville's beaked whales, *Mesoplodon densirostris*.

¹⁵ This PBR includes 2.5 Blainville's beaked whales.

¹⁶ This PBR has been adjusted because only 0.2% of this stock is estimated to be in U.S. waters.

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[I.D. 011097B]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory bodies will meet in Anchorage, Alaska the week of February 3, 1997. Other committee and workgroup meetings may be held on short notice during the week; notices will be posted at the meeting site. All meetings are open to the public with the exception of Council executive sessions to discuss personnel, international issues, and litigation. An executive session is tentatively scheduled for noon on February 7, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, 500 W. 3rd Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501–2252.

DATES: The Advisory Panel (AP) will begin on February 3, 1997 at 8:00 a.m.; the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will begin on February 3, 1997 at 1:00 p.m. The AP and SSC should conclude their meetings by February 6. The Council will meet jointly with the Alaska Board of Fisheries beginning at 8:00 a.m. on February 4, 1997, and begin their normal plenary session on February 5, 1997 at 8:00 a.m., concluding by February 9, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Council staff, telephone: (907) 271–2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The agenda for the meetings will include the following subjects:

1. Reports from NMFS on the current status of the fisheries off Alaska, the status of Steller sea lions, and marine mammal research, and a special progress report on the Alaska Sealife Center.

2. Reports on halibut stocks, actions taken by the International Pacific

Halibut Commission, consideration of the need for revisions to the Halibut Area 4 Catch Sharing Plan, and discussion of seabird avoidance for the halibut individual fishery quota (IFQ) fishery.

3. Review and consider approval of initial analysis for halibut charterboat management.

4. Review of tasking mandated by the Magnuson-Stevens Act, including:

(a) Review development of a central title registry for IFQs;
(b) Review development of IFQ/Community Development Quota (CDQ) fee and loan programs; and
(c) Status report on National Academy of Sciences study of IFQ/CDQ programs and make-up of Secretary of Commerce's IFQ panel for the western United States.

5. Discussion of further direction on vessel bycatch allowances.

6. Final review of research priorities for 1997.

7. Discuss and comment on NMFS guidelines for describing and identifying essential fish habitat.

8. Approve revisions to the Council Standard Operating Procedures in response to Magnuson-Stevens Act amendments.

9. Groundfish issues to be discussed include:

(a) Final review of management options for the Gulf of Alaska pelagic shelf rockfish fisheries to be managed by the State of Alaska; and

(b) Discussion paper on rolling closures at sablefish survey sites in the Gulf of Alaska.

10. Staff tasking.

11. The agenda for the joint meeting of the Council and the Alaska Board of Fisheries will include:

(a) Discussion of state crab management, including Adak pot limits, Bristol Bay red king crab size reductions and other Bristol Bay red king crab management options; and

(b) Discussion of the State's groundfish management plan.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Helen Allen, 907–271–2809, at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: January 14, 1997.

Bruce Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 97–1309 Filed 1–17–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–F

[I.D. 011397A]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Committee Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Ecosystem Committee will meet in Seattle, WA.

DATES: The meeting will be held on January 23–24, 1997. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. on January 23, and will continue until 5:00 p.m. On January 24, the meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will conclude by 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Room 2979, Building 4, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE, Seattle, WA 98115.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501–2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Witherell, telephone: (907) 271–2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee will receive reports on various ecosystem-related programs and management regimes, research gaps, and current and potential links to fishery management.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Helen Allen, (907) 271–2809, at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: January 14, 1997.

Bruce Morehead,

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

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