

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071697B]

## South Atlantic 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 South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold meetings of its Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Distribution and GIS Species Distribution and Habitat Utilization Sub-Groups.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held July 29–31, 1997. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held at the Town and Country Inn, 2008 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC 29407; telephone: 803-571-1000.

*Council address:* South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, One Southpark Circle, Suite 306; Charleston, SC 29407-4699.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Susan Buchanan, Public Information Officer; telephone: (803) 571-4366; fax: (803) 769-4520; email: susan\_buchanan@noaa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Meeting Dates**

*July 29, 1997, 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.;*  
*July 30, 1997, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.*

The GIS EFH Distribution Sub-Group will meet to review and compile EFH distribution information for major habitat types in state and regional GIS systems.

*July 30, 1997, 1:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.;*  
*July 31, 1997, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

The GIS Species Distribution and Habitat Utilization Sub-Group will meet to review species distribution information in state and regional GIS systems and to review information on EFH utilized by species under South Atlantic Council 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 the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) by July 24, 1997.

Dated: July 18, 1997.

**Gary C. Matlock,**

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

[FR Doc. 97-19463 Filed 7-23-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071697C]

## Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Committee.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held August 12, 1997, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Executive Centre, Suite 302, Honolulu, HI; telephone: 808-539-3000.

*Council address:* Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1405, Honolulu, HI 96813.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: 808-522-8220.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The VMS Committee will discuss and may make recommendations to the Council on the following agenda items:

1. Data confidentiality issues;
2. Use of VMS data for fisheries assessment research;
3. The future of the Hawaii VMS Program; and
4. Other business as required.

**Special Accommodations**

This 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 meeting date.

Dated: July 17, 1997.

**Bruce C. Morehead,**

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

[FR Doc. 97-19460 Filed 7-23-97; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D.071797A]

## Marine Mammals; Scientific Research Permit PHF# 782-1355

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Mammal Laboratory, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE., Seattle, WA 98115 (Principal Investigator: Dr. Howard Braham; Co Investigators: Dr. Thomas R. Loughlin and Mr. David E. Withrow), has been issued a permit to take harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina richardsi*) for purposes of scientific research.

**ADDRESSES:** The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289);

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE., Seattle, WA 98115 (tel: 206/526-6150); and

Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (tel: 907/586-7221).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 6, 1997, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 31083) that a request for a scientific research permit to take harbor seals had been submitted by the above-named organization. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

Dated: July 15, 1997.

**Ann D. Terbush,**

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

[FR Doc. 97-19543 Filed 7-23-97; 8:45 am]

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