

bocaccio rockfish between the recreational and commercial fisheries and between gear sectors of the limited entry fleet. The Committee will also discuss strategies for allocation of other rockfish species among commercial gear sectors. In addition, the Committee may discuss permit stacking and species endorsements. The Committee will begin work on a report to present to the Council at its April meeting. The Committee will also develop a process by which the Council may undertake long-term strategic planning relating to its research and data needs.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Committee for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed in this notice.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. John Rhoton at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: December 21, 1998.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 98-34285 Filed 12-24-98; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121798A]

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 will hold a meeting of its Precious Corals Plan Team.

DATES: The meeting will be held on January 12, 1999, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at NMFS Laboratory, 2570 Dole Street, Room 112, Honolulu, HI; telephone: 808-983-5300.

Council address: Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164

Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Precious Corals Plan Team will discuss possible adjustments in established management measures, including modifying the harvest quota for gold coral, implementing a minimum size limit for black coral, restricting the areas where the use of non-selective gear is allowed, designating the newly discovered bed near French Frigate Shoals as a Conditional Bed, revising the boundaries of Makapu'u bed and Brooks Banks bed and adjusting the harvest quotas for those two beds and revising data reporting requirements.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this team for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed in this notice.

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: December 21, 1998.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 112098A]

Marine Mammals; Scientific Research Permit (PHF# 587-1472-00)

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

ACTION: Issuance of Permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Dan R. Salden, Box 1772, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, Edwardsville, IL 62026-1772, has been issued a permit to take North Pacific humpback whales (*Megaptera*

novaeangliae), bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*), spinner dolphins (*Stenella longirostris*), spotted dolphins (*Stenella attenuata*), false killer whales (*Pseudorca crassidens*), pilot whales (*Globicephala macrorhynchus*), and killer whales (*Orcinus orca*) for purposes of scientific research.

ADDRESSES: The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

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

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (562/980-4001);

Protected Species Program Manager, Pacific Islands Area Office, 2570 Dole Street, Room 106, Honolulu, HI 9682-2396 (808/973-2987); and

Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, 709 W. 9th Street, Federal Building, Room 461, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802 (907/586-7235).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeannie Drevenak, 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 5, 1998, notice was published in the Federal Register (63 FR 53352) that a request for a scientific research permit to take the above-references species had been submitted by the above-named individual. 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.*), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), 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 fish and wildlife (50 CFR parts 217-227).

Issuance of this permit, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such permit (1) was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the endangered species which is the subject of this permit, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: December 18, 1998.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 98-34287 Filed 12-24-98; 8:45 am]

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