

special significance for marine mammals occur within or near south VAFB harbor. This activity is expected to result in no more than a negligible impact on the affected species or stocks.

#### Endangered Species Act (ESA)

This action will not affect species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) that are under the jurisdiction of NMFS. VAFB formally consulted with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) in 1998 on the possible take of southern sea otters during Boeing's harbor activities at south VAFB. A Biological Opinion was issued in August 2001. FWS recognized that Boeing will restore sea otter habitat (i.e., kelp beds) in the vicinity of the harbor to replace kelp destroyed during dredging and stated that there would not be takes of southern sea otters. In addition, the FWS noting that VAFB has committed to a southern sea otter monitoring program designed to detect the presence and possible disturbance at the VAFB harbor area during dredging activities (see 68 FR 36540, June 18, 2003).

#### National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA)

ENSR International (ENSRI) made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) determination on August 15, 2001, based on information contained within its Environmental Assessment (EA), that implementation of the subject action is not a major Federal action having significant effects on the environment within the meaning of Executive Order 12114. ENSRI determined therefore, that an environmental impact statement would not be prepared. On April 7, 2004 (69 FR 18353), NMFS noted that ENSRI had prepared an EA for the VAFB harbor activities and made this EA available upon request. In accordance with NOAA Administrative Order 216-6 (Environmental Review Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act, May 20, 1999), NMFS has reviewed the information contained in ENSRI's EA and determined that the ENSRI EA accurately and completely describes the proposed action alternative, reasonable additional alternatives, and the potential impacts on marine mammals, endangered species, and other marine life that could be impacted by the preferred alternative and the other alternatives. Therefore, it is not necessary to issue a new EA, supplemental EA or an environmental impact statement for the issuance of an IHA to Boeing for this activity. Based on this review and analysis, NMFS is adopting the ENSRI EA under 40 CFR

1506.3 and has made its own FONSI. A copy of the ENSRI EA and the NMFS FONSI for this activity is available upon request (see ADDRESSES).

#### Authorization

NMFS has issued an IHA to take marine mammals, by harassment, incidental to conducting harbor activities at VAFB to Boeing for a 1-year period, provided the mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are undertaken.

Dated: May 19, 2004.

**Stephen L. Leathery,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 051904A]

#### 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 Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Ad Hoc Groundfish Trawl Individual Quota Analytical Team (TIQ Analytical Team) will hold a working meeting, which is open to the public.

**DATES:** The TIQ Analytical Team working meeting will begin Tuesday, June 8, 2004 at 8:30 a.m. and may go into the evening until business for the day is completed. The meeting will reconvene from 8 a.m. and continue until business for the day is complete on Wednesday, June 9, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at The University Inn, Orcus Room, 4140 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105; telephone: (206) 632-5055.

*Council address:* Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Jim Seger, Staff Officer (Economist); telephone: (503) 820-2280.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the TIQ Analytical Team meeting is to conduct preliminary scoping on the types impacts to be considered and analytical methods used in a groundfish trawl dedicated access privilege Environmental Impact

Statement. Related data collection issues will also be discussed. A panel of independent advisors has been invited to work with the TIQ Analytical Team on these issues during the meeting.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the TIQ Analytical Team meeting agenda may come before the group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal committee action during these meetings. TIQ Analytical Team action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and to any issues arising after publication of this notice requiring emergency action under Section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the group's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Ms. Carolyn Porter at (503) 820-2280 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: May 20, 2004.

**Matteo J. Milazzo,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I. D. 052004C]

#### Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Application for an Exempted Fishing Permit

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

**ACTION:** Notice of receipt of an application for an exempted fishing permit.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS has received an application for an exempted fishing permit (EFP) from the Washington Sea Grant Program (WSGP). If granted, this EFP would authorize the applicant to conduct an experiment to evaluate the integrated weight groundline as a potential seabird avoidance measure in the fall 2004 Pacific cod hook-and-line fishery in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (BSAI). The project is intended to promote the objectives of the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the