

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – The Joint Reef Fish/Mackerel Management Committees will review public hearing summaries, public letters, AP recommendations, SEP comments, SSC recommendations and committee recommendations on Final Generic Amendment for Extension of Charter Vessel Permit Moratorium and make recommendations to the Council.

Council

Wednesday, August 10, 2005

10:45 a.m. – Convene.

11 a.m. – 12 noon – The Council will hear a presentation on the licensing of liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities.

1:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. – Receive public testimony on the preliminary Red Grouper Regulatory Amendment.

Thursday, August 11, 2005

8:30 a.m. – 8:40 a.m. – Receive the SSC Selection Committee Report (CLOSED SESSION).

8:40 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Receive public testimony on (a) the preliminary Red Grouper Regulatory Amendment, (b) Reef Fish Amendment 18A/EA, (c) Charter Vessel Permit Moratorium Extension (CMP17/RF 25) and (d) Exempted fishing permits (if any).

1 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Receive a presentation on a Permits Information Management System.

1:30 p.m. – 1:35 p.m. – Receive the SSC Selection Committee Report.

1:35 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. – Receive the AP Selection Committee Report.

1:50 p.m. – 5 p.m. – Receive the Reef Fish Management Committee Report.

Friday, August 12, 2005

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. – Receive the Shrimp Management Committee report.

9:30 a.m. – 10 a.m. – Receive the Coral Management Committee report.

10 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. – Receive the Joint Budget/Personnel Committee Report.

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. – Receive the Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem Committee Report.

10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. – Receive the joint Reef Fish/Mackerel Management Committees Report.

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Receive the NRC Recreational Data Meeting report.

11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. – Other Business.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agendas may come before the Council and Committees for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (M-SFCMA), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions of

the Council and Committees will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agendas and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under Section 305(c) of the M-SFCMA, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take action to address the emergency. The established times for addressing items on the agenda may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the agenda items. In order to further allow for such adjustments and completion of all items on the agenda, the meeting may be extended from, or completed prior to the date established in this notice.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Dawn Aring at the Council (see ADDRESSES) by July 25, 2005.

Dated: July 12, 2005.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

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

[FR Doc. E5-3777 Filed 7-14-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071105B]

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 Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) and Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) will hold work sessions, which are open to the public.

DATES: The HMSMT work sessions will be Wednesday, August 3, 2005, from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. and Friday, August 5, 2005, from 9 a.m. until business for the day is completed. The HMSMT will hold a joint work session with the HMSAS on Thursday, August 4, 2005, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The work sessions will be held at the United States Tuna Foundation offices, Conference Room, 1

Tuna Lane, San Diego, CA 92101; telephone: (619) 233-6407.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Kit Dahl, Pacific Fishery Management Council; telephone: (503) 820-2280.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The main purpose of these work sessions is for the HMSMT and HMSAS to develop a preliminary range of alternatives for the modification of the annual August 15 through November 15 prohibition on drift gillnet fishing in federal and state waters in Monterey Bay, CA, and vicinity north to the 45° N latitude intersect with the Oregon Coast (66 FR 44549). This time/area closure was first implemented in 2001 based on the reasonable and prudent alternatives in a biological opinion issued by NMFS on October 23, 2000, consequent of a formal consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The primary purpose of this time/area closure is to reduce the incidental take of endangered leatherback sea turtles (*Dermodochelys coriacea*) and threatened loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*).

More recent information suggests that the time/area closure could be modified to improve fishing opportunity without increasing the incidental take of these sea turtles. The range of alternatives for modification of this time/area closure, if adopted by the Council, will be evaluated in an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. Any preferred alternative chosen by the Council would also be subject to a reinitiation of consultations under section 7 of the ESA. A second topic to be discussed during these work sessions is the modification of regulations which currently prohibit holders of a permit issued under the HMS fishery management plan from targeting swordfish on the high seas with pelagic longline gear or landing more than 10 swordfish on the West Coast. As with the aforementioned drift gillnet fishery time/area closure, these measures are consequent of a biological opinion focusing on the incidental take of the same two species of sea turtles. As part of these work sessions the HMSMT and HMSAS may begin considering alternatives which would allow prosecution of a pelagic longline fishery for swordfish while not increasing the overall incidental take of these ESA-listed sea turtles. These HMSMT and HMSAS work sessions are for the purpose of developing information for

the Council's consideration at a future Council meeting; no management actions will be decided by the HMSMT or HMSAS at these work sessions.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the meeting agendas may be discussed, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this document and any issues arising after publication of this document that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

The meetings are 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: July 12, 2005

Alan D. Risenhoover,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E5-3776 Filed 7-14-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 052505C]

Marine Mammals; File No. 909-1726-00

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dan Engelhaupt, P.O. Box 197, Picton, New Zealand has been issued a permit to conduct scientific research.

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

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)713-0376;

Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978)281-9200; fax (978)281-9371;

Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St.

Petersburg, FL 33702-2432; phone (727)570-5301; fax (727)570-5320.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carrie Hubbard or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 21, 2004, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 2902) that a request for a scientific research permit to take marine mammals had been submitted by the above-named individual. The requested permit has been granted 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 (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Permit No. 909-1726-00 authorizes the Holder to biopsy sample and collect naturally sloughed skin from sperm whales (*Physeter macrocephalus*) and a variety of other non-listed cetacean species in the Gulf of Mexico, North Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, and Mediterranean Sea. The goal is the continuation of a previous four-year study that analyzes population genetic structure between the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, North Atlantic Ocean, and Mediterranean Sea and provides a comparison of these putative geographic populations with those of other geographic areas. Samples would be obtained via biopsy dart, opportunistically collected sloughed skin, as well using extant samples of stored material obtained from NMFS Southeast and Northeast regional stranding networks. Samples will be imported/exported to research facilities in the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Canada, and the United States for genetic sample processing.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an environmental assessment was prepared analyzing the effects of the permitted activities. After a Finding of No Significant Impact, the determination was made that it was not necessary to prepare an environmental impact statement.

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: July 11, 2005.

Stephen L. Leathery,

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

[FR Doc. 05-13990 Filed 7-14-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Evaluation of State Coastal Management Programs and National Estuarine Research Reserves

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of intent to evaluate and notice of availability of final findings.

SUMMARY: The NOAA Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) announces its intent to evaluate the performance of the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve.

The National Estuarine Research Reserve evaluation will be conducted pursuant to sections 312 and 315 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, (CZMA) and regulations at 15 CFR part 921, subpart E and part 923, subpart L. The CZMA requires continuing review of the performance of states with respect to coastal program implementation. Evaluation of a National Estuarine Research Reserve requires findings concerning the extent to which a state has met the national objectives, adhered to its Reserve final management plan approved by the Secretary of Commerce, and adhered to the terms of financial assistance awards funded under the CZMA.

The evaluation will include a site visit, consideration of public comments, and consultations with interested Federal, state and local agencies and members of the public. A public meeting will be held as part of the site visit.

Notice is hereby given of the date of the site visit for the listed evaluation, and the date, local time, and location of the public meeting during the site visit. The Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve evaluation site visit will be held September 13-16, 2005. One public meeting will be held during the week. The public meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 14, 2005, at 7 p.m. at the Community Room, 825 Imperial Beach Boulevard, Imperial Beach, California.