

to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division at the address listed above. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joselyd Garcia-Reyes or Kristy Beard, (301) 713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 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 222-226).

The applicant requests a permit to conduct passive acoustics, videography, photo-identification surveys, biopsy sampling, and collect sloughed skin and/or feces to study humpback whales, killer whales and minke whale. Research would occur around southeastern Alaska especially in Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve. Up to 6300 humpback whales, 500 killer whales, and 20 minke whales could be harassed each year during photo-identification surveys. Additionally, humpback whales and the three killer whale ecotypes could be harassed up to 50 times each, to acquire 30 successful biopsy samples, per year. See the application for specific take numbers by species/stock. The purposes of the proposed research are to: (1) Study the ecology, behavior and population status of all demographic groups in humpback, killer and minke whales, (2) continue one of the longest and most complete time-series data set on humpback whale populations, and (3) document long-term trends in the abundance, spatial and temporal distribution, reproductive parameters and feeding behaviors of humpback, killer, and minke whales, which would enhance information-based resource management of these species in the waters of southeastern Alaska, primarily in and around Glacier Bay National Park and Reserve. The permit would be valid for a period of five years.

A draft environmental assessment (EA) has been prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), to examine whether significant environmental impacts could result from issuance of the proposed scientific research permit. The draft EA is available for review and comment

simultaneous with the scientific research permit application.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: May 23, 2011.

**P. Michael Payne,**

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

[FR Doc. 2011-13262 Filed 5-26-11; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XA458**

#### Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Meetings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) and its Research Set-Aside (RSA) Committee, its Ecosystems and Ocean Planning Committee, its Executive Committee, its Surfclam, Ocean Quahog, Tilefish Committee, its Visioning Committee, and its Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish (SMB) Committee will hold public meetings.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held Tuesday, June 14, 2011 through Thursday, June 16, 2011. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

**ADDRESSES:** Danfords Hotel, 25 East Broadway, Port Jefferson, NY 11777; telephone: (631) 928-5200.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N. State St., Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674-2331.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Christopher M. Moore, PhD Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: (302) 526-5255.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On Tuesday, June 14—The RSA Committee will hold a CLOSED meeting from 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. The RSA Committee will hold an OPEN meeting from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. The Ecosystems and Ocean Planning Committee will be held from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. An Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI) Public

Meeting will be held from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. A Cooperative Research Program Public Meeting will be held from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m.

On Wednesday, June 15—The Executive Committee meeting will be held from 8 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. The Council will convene at 9:30 a.m. The Surfclam, Ocean Quahog and Tilefish Committee will meet as a Committee of the Whole from 9:30 a.m. until 11 a.m. The Visioning Committee will meet as a Committee of the Whole from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. The Squid, Mackerel, and Butterfish Committee will meet as a Committee of the Whole from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. A request for Special Management Zones for Delaware reefs will be presented to the Council from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. A Council listening session will be held from 5 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.

On Thursday, June 16—The Council will convene at 8 a.m. There will be a Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) presentation from 8 a.m. until 9 a.m. There will be a National Standard 10 presentation from the National Marine Fisheries Service from 9 a.m. until 10 a.m. The Council will hold its regular Business Session from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. to approve the April 2011 minutes, receive Organizational Reports, an update on Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) activities, the New England Liaison Report, an update on Amendment 6 to the Monkfish FMP, the Executive Director's Report, the Science Report, Committee Reports, and conduct any continuing and/or new business.

Agenda items by day for the Council's Committees and the Council itself are:

On Tuesday, June 14—The RSA Committee will discuss the RSA Program Review. The Ecosystems and Ocean Planning Committee will receive CIE review of Northeast Fishery Science Center Ecosystem program/models and discuss Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement information request for areas offshore of New Jersey. There will be an OOI Public Meeting to present and discuss the Pioneer Array micro-siting process. There will be a Cooperative Research Program Public Meeting to receive an overview of the 2010-14 strategic plan and progress, receive description and comments on conservation engineering network, and receive public comments on the cooperative research program.

On Wednesday, June 15—The Executive Committee will receive an update on Scientific and Statistical Committee Ecosystem Subcommittee work, discuss Fishery Management Action Team structure and function,

discuss the purpose and need for the Council Listening Sessions, receive a Council Coordination Committee meeting overview, and discuss the Council budget. The Surfclam, Ocean Quahog and Tilefish Committee will meet as a Committee of the Whole to review and consider changes to the 2012 and 2013 quota specifications for surfclams and ocean quahogs. The Visioning Committee will meet as a Committee of the Whole to review and finalize governance structure for the project, discuss plans for initial awareness phase of project and review the approach for the data collection phase of the project. The SMB Committee will meet as a Committee of the Whole to develop 2012 quota specifications and associated management measures, clarify Council intent on any Amendment 11 regulatory issues if necessary, receive an update from NERO regarding August 4, 2010 Council letter asking NMFS to pursue a Transboundary Resource Sharing Agreement with Canada for Atlantic mackerel. The Council will consider a request from the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control for special management zones. The Council will hold a Council Listening Session.

On Thursday, June 16—The Council will convene to receive an update on MRIP implementation and an update on Council staff involvement in 2011 MRIP projects. The Council will receive a presentation on National Standard 10 from a NMFS Official. The Council will hold its regular Business Session to approve the April 2011 minutes, receive Organizational Reports, receive an update on OLE Activities from Mitch MacDonald, receive the New England Liaison Report, receive an update on Amendment 6 to the Monkfish FMP, the Executive Director's Report, the Science Report, Committee Reports, and conduct any continuing and/or new business.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before these groups for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice 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 Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities.

Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid should be directed to M. Jan Saunders, (302) 526-5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: May 24, 2011.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2011-13225 Filed 5-26-11; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XA459**

#### International Whaling Commission; 63rd Annual Meeting; Announcement of Public Meetings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of meetings.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the dates, times, and locations of the public meetings being held prior to the 63rd annual International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting.

**DATES:** The public meetings will be held June 14 and June 27, 2011, at 12 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The June 14 meeting will be held at Anchorage Federal Building Conference Room B, 222 West 8th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99513. The June 27 meeting will be held in the NOAA Auditorium, 1301 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ryan Wulff, 202-482-3689.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Secretary of Commerce is charged with the responsibility of discharging the domestic obligations of the United States under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, 1946. The U.S. Commissioner has responsibility for the preparation and negotiation of U.S. positions on international issues concerning whaling and for all matters involving the IWC. The U.S. Commissioner is staffed by the Department of Commerce and assisted by the Department of State, the Department of the Interior, the Marine Mammal Commission, and by other agencies.

Once the draft agenda for the annual IWC meeting is completed, it will be posted on the IWC Secretariat's Web site at <http://www.iwcoffice.org>.

NOAA will hold meetings prior to the annual IWC meeting to discuss the

tentative U.S. positions for the upcoming IWC meeting. Because the meeting discusses U.S. positions, the substance of the meeting must be kept confidential. Any U.S. citizen with an identifiable interest in U.S. whale conservation policy may participate, but NOAA reserves the authority to inquire about the interests of any person who appears at a meeting and to determine the appropriateness of that person's participation.

Persons who represent foreign interests may not attend. These stringent measures are necessary to protect the confidentiality of U.S. negotiating positions and are a necessary basis for the relatively open process of preparing for IWC meetings.

The June 14 meeting will be held at Anchorage Federal Building Conference Room B, 222 West 8th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99513, at 12 p.m. The June 27 meeting will be held in the NOAA Auditorium, 1301 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, at 12 p.m. Photo identification is required to enter each building.

#### Special Accommodations

Both meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Ryan Wulff, 202-482-3689, by June 10, 2011, for the Anchorage meeting, or by June 20 for the meeting in Silver Spring.

Dated: May 24, 2011.

**Rebecca J. Lent,**

*Director, Office of International Affairs, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XA460**

#### 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 will hold a joint meeting of its Executive/Finance Committees; meetings of its Standard Operating, Policy and Procedures (SOPPs) Committee; Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) Committee; Law Enforcement