

meeting, revisions have been made to the membership fee structure.

DATES: This notice is effective on April 30, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Questions about joining the consortium should be sent to Chiara Ferraris at the National Institute of Standards and Technology; 100 Bureau Drive; MS 8615; Gaithersburg, MD 20899–8615.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chiara Ferraris or Nicos Martys via email at chiara.ferraris@nist.gov; nicos.martys@nist.gov or telephone at (301) 975–6711 or (301) 975–5915.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

CREME Consortium Description

The goal of the CREME consortium is to predict the pumpability of a grout/mortar or a concrete from the rheological properties of the materials and the geometry/material of the pipe. This goal will be achieved by developing test methods and models to measure and predict the performance parameters of grout. It is expected that the conclusions obtained for grout could be extrapolated for concrete. To move these ideas into practice and to engage industry, test bed facilities and quality control test methods for the field will be developed at NIST. The consortium will be administered by NIST. Consortium planning, research and development will be conducted by NIST staff along with at least one technical representative from each participating member company. Each member of the consortium will be required to sign a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (“CRADA”) with NIST.

At the November 8, 2011 public meeting, organizations interested in participating in the CREME Consortium discussed membership fees and agreed to the following revisions to the membership fee structure. Initial membership fees will be Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) per year payable by Member to NIST at the time of CRADA execution and annually thereafter, or an in-kind contribution, equitable in value and mutually acceptable to NIST and Member. In recognition of the contributions made and risks taken by the initial Consortium Members, the membership fee for Consortium Members who join after the first year will be Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) or mutually acceptable to NIST and Member in-kind contribution the first year and Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) or mutually acceptable to NIST and Member in-kind contribution each year thereafter.

Dated: April 23, 2012.

Willie E. May,

Associate Director for Laboratory Programs.

[FR Doc. 2012–10265 Filed 4–27–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XA935

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coral and Coral Reefs Off the Southern Atlantic States; 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; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the receipt of an application for an exempted fishing permit (EFP) from the South Carolina Aquarium. If granted, the EFP would authorize the South Carolina Aquarium to collect, with certain conditions, various species of reef fish, crabs, and lobsters in Federal waters off South Carolina and North Carolina. The specimens would be used in educational exhibits displaying South Carolina native species at the South Carolina Aquarium located in Charleston, SC.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than 5 p.m., e.t., on May 30, 2012.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on the application by either of the following methods:

- *Email:* Kate.Michie@noaa.gov; include in the subject line of the email comment the following document identifier: South Carolina Aquarium EFP.
- *Mail:* Kate Michie, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

The application and related documents are available for review upon written request to any of the above addresses.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kate Michie, 727–824–5305; email: Kate.Michie@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EFP is requested under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), and regulations at 50 CFR 600.745(b) concerning exempted fishing.

The proposed specimen collection involves activities otherwise prohibited by regulations at 50 CFR part 622, as they pertain to species managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) including snapper-grouper, golden crab, wreckfish, coastal migratory pelagics, dolphin and wahoo, spiny lobster, and shrimp. The applicant requires authorization to collect 1,615 live fish, crabs, lobsters, and shrimp in Federal waters off South Carolina, and sporadically in Federal waters off North Carolina. The federally-managed species to be collected over a 5-year period, listed by common name with the collection total, include: Black snapper (10); cero (12); cobia (6); coney (10); dolphin (50); golden crab (5); graysby (10); groupers *Epinephelus spp.* including, misty, red hind, rock hind, snowy, yellowedge (40); groupers *Myctoperca spp.* including black grouper, gag, yellowmouth, yellowfin, and scamp (50); grunts *Haemulon spp.* including cottonwick, margate, sailors choice, Spanish, tomatate, and white grunt (250); hogfish (8); jacks (200); king mackerel (15); little tunny (25); longspine porgy (50); triggerfish (22); porgies (65); queen snapper (2); red porgy (25); scup (50); sea bass (100); white shrimp (200); pink and brown shrimp (200); gray snapper (75); Spanish mackerel (15); spiny lobster (25); vermilion snapper (75); wahoo (5); and yellowtail snapper (15).

The project proposes to use vertical hook-and-line gear with artificial and natural baits, black sea bass pots, spiny lobster traps, golden crab traps, habitat traps, octopus traps, dip nets, and bait traps (bait traps would be used and tended while SCUBA diving). This EFP would authorize sampling operations to be conducted on four vessels designated by the South Carolina Aquarium including: F/V ON THE CLOCK SC–5264–BW; F/V CUB SCOUT SC–9288–BF; F/V MISTRESS SC–5326–BS; and a 25 ft (7.62 m) Parker NC5836P. The specimens would be opportunistically collected year-round for a period of 5 years, commencing on July 2, 2012. This EFP would not authorize the collection of species with an annual catch limit of zero (red snapper, warsaw grouper, speckled hind, goliath grouper, and Nassau grouper).

The overall intent of the project is to incorporate South Carolina native species into educational exhibits at the South Carolina Aquarium. The aquarium uses these displays of native South Carolina species to teach the public about stewardship and habitat preservation.

NMFS finds this application warrants further consideration. Based on a

preliminary review, NMFS intends to issue an EFP. Possible conditions the agency may impose on this permit, if it is granted, include but are not limited to, a prohibition of collection of specimens within marine protected areas, marine sanctuaries, special management zones, or artificial reefs without additional authorization. Additionally, NMFS prohibits the possession of Nassau grouper, goliath grouper, red snapper, speckled hind or warsaw grouper, and requires any sea turtles taken incidentally during the course of fishing or scientific research activities to be handled with due care to prevent injury to live specimens, observed for activity, and returned to the water.

A final decision on issuance of the EFP will depend on NMFS' review of public comments received on the application, consultations with the affected states, the Council, and the U.S. Coast Guard, as well as a determination that the EFP is consistent with all applicable laws.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: April 25, 2012.

Emily H. Menashes,

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

[FR Doc. 2012-10372 Filed 4-27-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XB150

International Whaling Commission; 64th Annual Meeting; Announcement of Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the date, time, and location of the public meeting being held prior to the 64th annual International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting.

DATES: The public meeting will be held June 5, 2012, at 2 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the NOAA Science Center Room, 1301 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Melissa Andersen, 301-427-8385.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Secretary of Commerce is responsible

for discharging the domestic obligations of the United States under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, 1946. The U.S. IWC 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. IWC 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 other U.S. Government agencies.

A draft agenda for the annual IWC meeting should be posted on the IWC Secretariat's Web site at <http://www.iwcoffice.org> by late May.

NOAA will hold a public meeting to discuss the tentative U.S. positions for the upcoming IWC meeting. Because the meeting will address 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 the meeting and to determine the appropriateness of that person's participation. In particular, persons who represent foreign interests may not attend. These stringent measures are necessary to protect the confidentiality of U.S. negotiating positions.

The June 5, 2012, meeting will be held in the NOAA Science Center Room, 1301 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Photo identification is required to enter the building.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Melissa Andersen, Melissa.Andersen@noaa.gov or 301-427-8385, by May 23, 2012.

Dated: April 24, 2012.

Rebecca J. Lent,

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

[FR Doc. 2012-10374 Filed 4-27-12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XB146

Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to a Pile Replacement Project

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

ACTION: Notice; proposed incidental harassment authorization; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS has received an application from the U.S. Navy (Navy) for an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) to take marine mammals, by harassment, incidental to construction activities as part of a pile replacement project. Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposal to issue an IHA to the Navy to take, by Level B Harassment only, six species of marine mammals during the specified activity.

DATES: Comments and information must be received no later than May 30, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the application should be addressed to Tammy C. Adams, Acting Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3225. The mailbox address for providing email comments is ITP.Laws@noaa.gov. NMFS is not responsible for email comments sent to addresses other than the one provided here. Comments sent via email, including all attachments, must not exceed a 10-megabyte file size.

Instructions: All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted to <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/permits/incidental.htm> without change. All Personal Identifying Information (e.g., name, address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

An electronic copy of the application containing a list of the references used in this document may be obtained by writing to the address specified above, telephoning the contact listed below (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**), or visiting the Internet at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/permits/incidental.htm>. Documents cited in this