

## Atlantic Reports

In the Atlantic region (including the Atlantic coast, Gulf Coast, and U.S. territories in the Caribbean), 52 reports (covering 80 stocks) were updated, including 23 Atlantic reports and 29 Gulf of Mexico reports. Of these, 43 stocks are “strategic” and 37 are “non-strategic.” Information on the remaining Atlantic region stocks can be found in the final 2011 reports (Waring *et al.*, 2011).

Atlantic white-sided dolphins became non-strategic in 2012, due to new abundance estimates. The Northern North Carolina Estuarine System Stock of bottlenose dolphins has a new abundance estimate based on a 2006 mark-recapture survey, resulting in a PBR calculation of 7.9 animals for this stock (previously “undetermined” PBR); the stock remains “strategic.” The Gulf of Mexico Northern Coastal Stock of bottlenose dolphins changed from non-strategic to strategic status with this 2012 report, because an Unusual Mortality Event of unprecedented size and duration (began 1 February 2010 and is ongoing) has impacted the Northern Coastal Stock area.

A new section entitled Habitat Issues has been added to each Gulf of Mexico report, which includes information on the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and the Natural Resource Damage Assessment process.

## Pacific Reports

In the Pacific region (waters along the west coast of the United States, within waters surrounding the main and Northwest Hawaiian Islands, and within waters surrounding U.S. Territories in the Western Pacific), SARs were revised for 15 stocks (five “strategic” and ten “non-strategic” stocks). Strategic stocks included: Hawaiian monk seal, Southern Resident killer whale, Hawaii Insular false killer whale, Hawaii Pelagic false killer whale, and California/Oregon/Washington Sperm Whale. Non-strategic stocks included: Long-beaked common dolphin, Eastern North Pacific Gray Whale, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands false killer whale, Palmyra Atoll false killer whale, Hawaii Island spinner dolphin, Oahu/Four Islands spinner dolphin, Kauai/Niihau spinner dolphin, Pearl and Hermes Reef spinner dolphin, Midway Atoll/Kure spinner dolphin, and Hawaii Pelagic spinner dolphin. Information on the remaining Pacific region stocks can be found in the final 2011 reports (Carretta *et al.*, 2012).

The stock assessment report for Palmyra Atoll false killer whale now appears separately from false killer

whale reports that focus on the Hawaiian Islands region, and a new stock of Northwestern Hawaiian Islands false killer whales is presented for the first time. New abundance estimates are available for eight stocks: Hawaiian monk seal, Long-beaked common dolphin, Southern Resident killer whale, three stocks of spinner dolphin (Hawaii Island, Oahu/Four Islands, and Kauai/Niihau), Hawaii Pelagic false killer whale and Northwestern Hawaiian Islands false killer whale. The stock assessment report for Eastern North Pacific gray whales is now included in the Pacific Region stock assessment reports.

Dated: August 1, 2012.

**Helen M. Golde,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XB158**

#### Marine Mammals; File No. 16580

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

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of permit.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that a permit has been issued to Shannon Atkinson, Ph.D., University of Alaska Fairbanks, 17101 Pt. Lena Loop Road, Juneau, AK 99801 to receive, import and export marine mammal parts for scientific research.

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

Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 427-8401; fax (301) 713-0376; and Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; phone (907) 586-7221; fax (907) 586-7249.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Laura Morse or Jennifer Skidmore, (301)427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On May 30, 2012 notice was published in the **Federal Register** (77 FR 31835) that a request for a permit to receive, import and export specimens for scientific research had been submitted by the above-named applicant. 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 (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

The permit authorizes the receipt and export of samples of marine mammals taken by Alaskan Native subsistence hunters; and the receipt, import, and export of specimens from scientists in academic, federal, and state institutions involved in legally authorized marine mammal research for all marine mammal species under NMFS jurisdiction. Marine mammal parts may be used incidentally for educational purposes. Import and export activities may occur world-wide. No takes of live animals are authorized. The permit will expire August 1, 2017.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

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

Dated: August 1, 2012.

**P. Michael Payne,**

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

[FR Doc. 2012-19304 Filed 8-6-12; 8:45 am]

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## BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (Bureau), as part of a Federal Government-wide effort to streamline the process to seek feedback from the public on service delivery, invites the general public and other