

Secretary finds that such a plan will not promote the conservation of the species.

**DATES:** To allow adequate time to conduct a review of information submitted, all information must be received no later than November 1, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Information may be submitted by any one of the following methods:

- *Via email:*

NMFS.PIR.FKWRecoveryPlan@noaa.gov (No files larger than 5MB can be accepted).

- *Mail or Hand-Delivery:* National Marine Fisheries Service Pacific Islands Regional Office, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Suite 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814. ATTN: Irene Kelly.

- *Via fax:* (808) 973-2941. Please include the following on the cover page of the fax "ATTN: Irene Kelly."

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Irene Kelly, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office, (808) 944-2239.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NMFS is charged with the recovery of the MHI Insular FKW, listed as endangered under the Endangered species Act of 1973 (ESA). Recovery means improvement in the status of listed species to the point at which the protections of the ESA are no longer necessary. The ESA specifies that recovery plans must include: (1) A description of management actions necessary to achieve the plan's goals for the conservation and survival of the species; (2) objective, measurable criteria which, when met, would result in the species being removed from the list; and (3) estimates of the time and costs required to achieve the plan's goal and the intermediate steps towards that goal. Section 4(f) of the ESA requires that public notice and an opportunity for public review and comment be provided during recovery plan development. We are soliciting relevant information related to the MHI insular FKW and their habitat, including:

1. Criteria for removing MHI insular FKW from the list of threatened and endangered species;
2. Human activities that contribute to the ESA listing factors (section 4(a)(1)(A)-(E)):
  - (A) Present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range;
  - (B) overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes;
  - (C) disease or predation;
  - (D) the inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or
  - (E) other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence.

3. Physical, biological or chemical features of the environment that limit the recovery of MHI insular FKW;

4. Strategies and/or actions to recover MHI insular FKW;

5. Estimates of the time and cost to implement recovery actions;

6. Critical knowledge gaps and/or uncertainties that need to be resolved to better inform recovery efforts; and
7. Research, monitoring, and evaluation needs to address knowledge gaps and uncertainties, or to assess the species' status, limiting factors, and threats relative to recovery goals.

Upon completion, the proposed Recovery Plan will be available for public review and comment through the publication of a **Federal Register** Notice.

#### Status Review Documents

NMFS developed a status review (NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-PIFSC-22) and an addendum to the status review (NOAA Internal Report NMFS-PIFSC-IR-12-038) for the MHI Insular FKW to help inform the recovery plan. Additional information that may help inform the recovery plan is the False Killer Whale Take Reduction Plan and the final rule to implement the Plan (77 FR 71260). The Plan and the final rule were developed to address the incidental mortality and serious injury of false killer whales in Hawaii's commercial longline fisheries. All of these above listed documents and information may be accessed at [http://www.fpir.noaa.gov/PRD/prd\\_false\\_killer\\_whale.html](http://www.fpir.noaa.gov/PRD/prd_false_killer_whale.html).

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: September 27, 2013.

**Angela Somma,**

*Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Science Advisory Board Meeting

**AGENCY:** Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The NOAA Science Advisory Board (SAB) was established by a Decision Memorandum dated September 25, 1997, and is the only Federal Advisory Committee with

responsibility to advise the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere on strategies for research, education, and application of science to operations and information services. NOAA SAB activities and advice provide necessary input to ensure that National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) science programs are of the highest quality and provide optimal support to resource management.

**Time and Date:** The meeting will be held Tuesday, November 19, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Wednesday, November 20, 2013 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. These times and the agenda topics described below are subject to change. Please refer to the Web page <http://www.sab.noaa.gov/Meetings/meetings.html> for the most up-to-date meeting agenda.

**Place:** The meeting will be held in the Washington, DC area; please check the SAB Web site <http://www.sab.noaa.gov/Meetings/meetings.html> for meeting location and directions.

**Status:** The meeting will be open to public participation with a 15 minute public comment period on November 19 at 5:15 p.m. (check Web site to confirm time). The NOAA SAB expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously submitted verbal or written statements. In general, each individual or group making a verbal presentation will be limited to a total time of five (5) minutes. Individuals or groups planning to make a verbal presentation should contact the NOAA SAB Executive Director by November 12, 2013 to schedule their presentation. Written comments should be received in the NOAA SAB Executive Director's Office by November 12, 2013 to provide sufficient time for NOAA SAB review. Written comments received by the NOAA SAB Executive Director after November 12, 2013 will be distributed to the NOAA SAB, but may not be reviewed prior to the meeting date. Seating at the meeting will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Special Accommodations:** These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for special accommodations may be directed no later than 12 p.m. on November 12, 2013, to Dr. Cynthia Decker, SAB Executive Director, SSMC3, Room 11230, 1315 East-West Hwy., Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**Matters To Be Considered:** The meeting may include the following topics: (1) Review Report on the Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (CIRA); (2) Recommendations and Proposed New

Members from the Data Archive and Access Requirements Working Group; 3) Recommendations from the from the Ecosystem Sciences and Management Working Group; (4) Discussion of Environmental Information Services Working Group and Climate Working Group comments on NOAA Response to Climate Partnership Task Force Report; (5) NOAA Response to the SAB Satellite Task Force Report; (6) NOAA Response to the Review of the Ocean Exploration Program; (7) SAB Strategic Planning; NOAA Presentation and Discussion; (8) Discussion of SAB Working Groups-Overall Funding and Tasking in a Budget-Constrained Environment; (9) NOAA Update; (10) Update on NOAA Cooperative Institutes; (11) Ocean Exploration Forum Highlights; and (12) Updates from NOAA SAB Working Groups.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Cynthia Decker, Executive Director, Science Advisory Board, NOAA, Rm. 11230, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. (Phone: 301-734-1156, Fax: 301-713-1459. Email: [Cynthia.Decker@noaa.gov](mailto:Cynthia.Decker@noaa.gov); or visit the NOAA SAB Web site at <http://www.sab.noaa.gov>.

Dated: September 26, 2013.

**Jason Donaldson,**

*Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**RIN 0648-XC268**

**Marine Mammals; File Nos. 16239 and 17312**

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

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

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that permits have been issued to Dan Engelhaupt, Ph.D., HDR EOC, 5700 Lake Wright Drive, Norfolk, VA 23502-1859, and Scripps Institution of Oceanography [Responsible Party: John Hildebrand, Ph.D.], University of California, 8635 Discovery Way, La Jolla, CA 92093 to conduct research on marine mammals in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

**ADDRESSES:** The permits and related documents are available for review

upon written request or by appointment in the following offices: See

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For File No. 16239: Kristy Beard or Carrie Hubard and for File No. 17312: Amy Hapeman or Carrie Hubard, (301)427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On October 5, 2012 and April 19, 2013 notices were published in the **Federal Register** (77 FR 60966 and 78 FR 23538) for No. 16239 and No. 17312, respectively, that requests for permits to conduct research on marine mammals had been submitted by the above-named applicants. The requested permits have 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.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Permit No. 16239 authorizes all species of cetaceans and pinnipeds to be harassed during vessel and aerial survey activities, including behavioral observations and photo-identification. Cetacean species may also be harassed during underwater photography and collection of sloughed skin and fecal samples. Surveys may be conducted year-round in all U.S. and international waters in the Pacific Ocean (including Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, Hawaii, Guam, Marianas Islands, and other U.S. territories) and Atlantic Ocean (including the Gulf of Mexico, western North Atlantic, Caribbean Sea, and Sargasso Seas). The permit is valid for five years from the date of issuance.

Permit No. 17312 authorizes research on 35 cetacean species and stocks during vessel surveys in the Pacific Ocean and Gulf of Mexico to understand cetaceans' use of sound, their sensitivity to anthropogenic sound, and impacts of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Researchers may: (1) Photograph cetaceans for identification to determine abundance, movements and population structure; (2) collect biopsies and fecal samples to determine taxonomy, sex, relatedness and stock structure of cetaceans; and (3) suction-cup tag, track, and collect passive acoustic recordings to study cetacean diving behavior, calling behavior, feeding, and movements. The permit is valid for five years from the date of issuance.

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 activities proposed are categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

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

Documents may be reviewed in the following locations:

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;

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0700; phone (206)526-6150; fax (206)526-6426;

Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; phone (907)586-7221; fax (907)586-7249;

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018;

Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808)944-2200; fax (808)973-2941;

Northeast Region, NMFS, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930; phone (978)281-9328; fax (978) 281-9394; and

Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, Saint Petersburg, FL 33701; phone (727)824-5312; fax (727)824-5309.

Dated: September 27, 2013.

**P. Michael Payne,**

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

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**RIN 0648-XC833**

**Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Construction of the East Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge**

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