

Dated: January 7, 2014.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2014-00241 Filed 1-9-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XD050**

#### Fisheries of the South Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of SEDAR Steering Committee meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The SEDAR Steering Committee will meet via webinar. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**DATES:** The Steering Committee webinar will be held on January 30, 2014, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., EST.

**ADDRESSES:** The webinar will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact John Carmichael at SEDAR (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation providing webinar access information. Please request meeting information at least 24 hours in advance.

*SEDAR address:* 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Carmichael, SEDAR Program Manager; telephone: (843) 571-4366; email: [john.carmichael@safmc.net](mailto:john.carmichael@safmc.net). Andrea Grabman, SEDAR Administrative Assistant; telephone: (843) 571-4366; email: [Andrea.Grabman@safmc.net](mailto:Andrea.Grabman@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This meeting is being held to consider items discussed by the SEDAR Steering Committee at its prior meeting, held on October 1-2, 2013. Because several Steering Committee members were not allowed to attend that meeting due to the Federal Government shutdown, the Committee did not take final action on the agenda topics.

Items to discuss at this meeting:

1. SEDAR process: workshops, participation, and best practices.
2. SEDAR project scheduling: improving planning and scheduling efficiency.

3. SEDAR assessment schedule.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified 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 intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### Special Accommodations

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the SEDAR office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

**Note:** The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XA840**

#### Marine Mammals; File No. 16479

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

**ACTION:** Notice; receipt of application for permit amendment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that The Pacific Whale Foundation [Responsible Party: Gregory Kaufman], 300 Maalaea Road, Suite 211, Wailuku, HI 96793, has applied for an amendment to Scientific Research Permit No. 16479-01.

**DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before February 10, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** The application and related documents are available for review by selecting "Records Open for Public Comment" from the *Features* box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 16479 from the list of available applications.

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

Written comments on this application should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, at the address listed above. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile to (301) 713-0376, or by email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). Please include the File No. in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits and Conservation 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:** Amy Hapeman or Kristy Beard, (301) 427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject amendment to Permit No. 16479-01 is requested 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 (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. 16479, issued on September 18, 2012 (77 FR 59594), authorizes the permit holder to conduct vessel-based research on humpback whales in waters around Maui, Hawaii to quantify the potential for near misses between vessels and humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), and define the probability of 'surprise encounters' with humpback whales. Up to 567 humpback whales may be approached annually for photo-identification and behavioral observation and up to 240 Hawaiian insular false killer whales (*Pseudorca crassidens*) may be incidentally harassed during research. A minor amendment (No. 01) to the permit was issued on August 23, 2013, authorizing the field season to start in December versus January of each permit year. The Permit Holder is requesting the permit be amended to authorize research activities (approaches for