

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN 0648–XF997

Western Pacific 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 Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of its Mariana Archipelago Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Advisory Panels (AP) to discuss and make recommendations on fishery management issues in the Western Pacific Region.

DATES: The CNMI Mariana Archipelago FEP AP will meet on Thursday, February 22, 2018, between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. The Guam Mariana Archipelago FEP AP will meet on Friday, February 23, 2018, between 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. All times listed are local island times. For specific times and agendas, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: The CNMI Mariana Archipelago FEP AP will meet at the Micronesian Environmental Services Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI 96950. The Guam Mariana Archipelago FEP AP will meet at the Guam Fishermen's Cooperative Association Lanai, Hagatna, Guam 96913.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; telephone: (808) 522–8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public comment periods will be provided in the agenda. The order in which agenda items are addressed may change. The meetings will run as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

Schedule and Agenda for the CNMI Mariana Archipelago FEP AP Meeting

Thursday, February 22, 2018, 6 p.m.–8 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Report on Previous Council Action Items
3. Council Issues
 - A. Action Items
 - i. Precious Corals Essential Fish Habitat Refinement Options
 - ii. Options for an Aquaculture Management Program
 - iii. U.S. Territory Longline Bigeye

- Specification
 - B. Other Council Issues
4. CNMI Mariana Archipelago FEP Community Activities
5. CNMI Mariana Archipelago FEP AP Issues
 - A. Report of the Subpanels
 - i. Island Fisheries Subpanel
 - ii. Pelagic Fisheries Subpanel
 - iii. Ecosystems and Habitat Subpanel
 - iv. Indigenous Fishing Rights Subpanel
 - B. Other Issues
6. Public Comment
7. Discussion and Recommendations
8. Other Business

Schedule and Agenda for the Guam Mariana Archipelago FEP AP Meeting

Friday, February 23, 2018, 6 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Report on Previous Council Action Items
3. Council Issues
 - A. Action Items
 - i. Precious Corals Essential Fish Habitat Refinement Options
 - ii. Options for an Aquaculture Management Program
 - iii. U.S. Territory Longline Bigeye Specification
 - B. Other Council Issues
4. Guam Mariana Archipelago FEP Community Activities
5. Guam Mariana Archipelago FEP AP Issues
 - A. Report of the Subpanels
 - i. Island Fisheries Subpanel
 - ii. Pelagic Fisheries Subpanel
 - iii. Ecosystems and Habitat Subpanel
 - iv. Indigenous Fishing Rights Subpanel
 - B. Other Issues
6. Public Comment
7. Discussion and Recommendations
8. “At the End of the Day”—Other Business

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, (808) 522–8220 (voice) or (808) 522–8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: February 5, 2018.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN 0648–XF968

Marine Mammals; File No. 21371

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, Massachusetts 02543 (Responsible Party: Jon Hare) has applied in due form for a permit to conduct research on marine mammals.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before March 12, 2018.

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 (APPS) home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 21371 from the list of available applications.

These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the 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.

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. 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: Shasta McClenahan or Carrie Hubbard, (301) 427–8401.

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