

small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region if certain findings are made and either regulations are issued or, if the taking is limited to harassment, a notice of a proposed authorization is provided to the public for review.

An incidental take authorization shall be granted if NMFS finds that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s), will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for subsistence uses (where relevant), and if the permissible methods of taking and requirements pertaining to the mitigation, monitoring and reporting of such takings are set forth.

NMFS has defined “negligible impact” in 50 CFR 216.103 as an impact resulting from the specified activity that cannot be reasonably expected to, and is not reasonably likely to, adversely affect the species or stock through effects on annual rates of recruitment or survival.

The MMPA states that the term “take” means to harass, hunt, capture, kill or attempt to harass, hunt, capture, or kill any marine mammal.

Except with respect to certain activities not pertinent here, the MMPA defines “harassment” as: Any act of pursuit, torment, or annoyance, which (i) has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild (Level A harassment); or (ii) has the potential to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, breathing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering (Level B harassment).

#### Summary of Request

On September 29, 2018, NMFS received an adequate and complete application from Hilcorp requesting authorization for take of marine mammals incidental to oil and gas activities in Cook Inlet, Alaska. The requested regulations would be valid for five years, from April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2024. Hilcorp’s plans to conduct necessary work, including 2D and 3D seismic surveys, geohazard surveys, vibratory sheet pile driving, and drilling of exploratory well. The proposed action may incidentally expose marine mammals occurring in the vicinity to sources of harassment, particularly through elevated levels of underwater sound in the marine environment, thereby resulting in incidental take, by Level A and Level B harassment. Therefore, Hilcorp requests

authorization to incidentally take marine mammals.

#### Specified Activities

Hilcorp owns and operates in over 29 oil and has field production facilities, including several located in Cook Inlet. Hilcorp plans to continue to conduct exploration and production activities in Cook Inlet. The petition includes all four stages of oil and gas activities: Exploration, development, production, and decommissioning. The work expected to span five years includes: 30 days of 2D seismic survey, 45–60 days of 3D seismic survey, geohazard surveys in the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) (30 days), middle Cook Inlet subseawall area (14 days), and Trading Bay (30 days), exploratory wells in the OCS (40–60 days per well, 2–4 wells annually for three years) and Trading Bay (120–150 days), Iniskin Peninsula exploration and development (180 days annually for two years), platform and pipeline maintenance (180 days annually for five years), middle Cook Inlet well abandonment (90 days), and Drift River terminal decommissioning (120 days). Eleven species of marine mammal are known to occur in Cook Inlet: Eight cetacean species and three pinniped species. Of those species, the Northeastern Pacific stock of fin whale, Western North Pacific stock of humpback whale, Cook Inlet stock of beluga whale, and Western Distinct Population of Steller sea lion are listed as Endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

#### Information Sought

Interested persons may submit information, suggestions, and comments concerning Hilcorp’s request (*see ADDRESSES*). NMFS will consider all information, suggestions, and comments related to the request during the development of proposed regulations governing the incidental taking of marine mammals by Hilcorp, if appropriate.

Dated: October 22, 2018.

#### Donna Wieting,

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Solicitation for Members of the NOAA Science Advisory Board; Correction

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

**ACTION:** Notice of solicitation for members of the NOAA Science Advisory Board; correction.

**SUMMARY:** On October 17, 2018, NOAA published a notice in the **Federal Register** soliciting nominations for members of the NOAA Science Advisory Board (SAB). The closing date for receiving nominations in that notice was incorrect. This document corrects that date to November 30, 2018.

**DATES:** The closing date for receiving nominations for the notice published October 17, 2018, at 83 FR 52417, is corrected. Nominations must be received by November 30, 2018, and should be sent to the web address specified.

**ADDRESSES:** Applications should be submitted electronically to [noaa.sab.newmembers@noaa.gov](mailto:noaa.sab.newmembers@noaa.gov).

**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 website at <http://www.sab.noaa.gov>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NOAA is soliciting nominations for members of the NOAA Science Advisory Board. The SAB is the only Federal Advisory Committee with the responsibility to advise the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans, Atmosphere, and NOAA Administrator on long- and short-range strategies for research, education, and application of science to resource management and environmental assessment and prediction. The SAB consists of approximately fifteen members reflecting the full breadth of NOAA’s areas of responsibility and assists NOAA in maintaining a complete and accurate understanding of scientific issues critical to the agency’s missions.

The notice that published October 17, 2018, incorrectly established November 16, 2018, as the closing date for submitting nominations. This notice corrects that date to November 30, 2018, as originally intended.

At this time, individuals are sought with expertise in cloud computing, artificial intelligence and data management; weather modeling and data assimilation; remote/autonomous sensing technology; ocean exploration science and technology; and 'omics science. Individuals with expertise in other NOAA mission areas are also welcome to apply.

*Composition and Points of View:* The Board will consist of approximately fifteen members, including a Chair, designated by the Under Secretary in accordance with FACA requirements.

Members will be appointed for three-year terms, renewable once, and serve at the discretion of the Under Secretary. If a member resigns before the end of his or her first term, the vacancy appointment shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term, and shall be renewable twice if the unexpired term is less than one year. Members will be appointed as special government employees (SGEs) and will be subject to the ethical standards applicable to SGEs. Members are reimbursed for actual and reasonable travel and per diem expenses incurred in performing such duties but will not be reimbursed for their time. As a Federal Advisory Committee, the Board's membership is required to be balanced in terms of viewpoints represented and the functions to be performed as well as the interests of geographic regions of the country and the diverse sectors of U.S. society.

The SAB meets in person three times each year, exclusive of teleconferences or subcommittee, task force, and working group meetings. Board members must be willing to serve as liaisons to SAB working groups and/or participate in periodic reviews of the NOAA Cooperative Institutes and overarching reviews of NOAA's research enterprise.

*Nominations:* Interested persons may nominate themselves or third parties.

*Applications:* An application is required to be considered for Board membership, regardless of whether a person is nominated by a third party or self-nominated. The application package must include: (1) The nominee's full name, title, institutional affiliation, and contact information; (2) the nominee's area(s) of expertise; (3) a short description of his/her qualifications relative to the kinds of advice being solicited by NOAA in this Notice; and (4) a current resume (maximum length four [4] pages).

Dated: October 22, 2018.

**David Holst,**

*Chief Financial Officer/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-XG577**

**North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Groundfish Plan Teams will meet November 13, 2018 through November 16, 2018.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 through Friday, November 16, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pacific Time.

**ADDRESSES:**

*Meeting address:* The meetings will be held at the Alaska Fishery Science Center in the Traynor Room 2076 and NMML Room 2079, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Building 4, Seattle, WA 98115. Teleconference numbers and connection information for the online broadcast of the meeting will be posted at the NPFMC web address provided below.

*Council address:* North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252; telephone: (907) 271-2809.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Diana Stram or Jim Armstrong, Council staff; telephone: (907) 271-2809.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Agenda**

*Tuesday, November 13, 2018 to Friday, November 16, 2018*

The Plan Teams will compile and review the annual Groundfish Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) reports, (including the Economic Report, the Ecosystems/assessment and status report, and the stock assessments for Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) and Gulf of Alaska (GOA) groundfishes), and recommend final groundfish harvest specifications for 2019/20.

The Agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted at

<http://www.npfmc.org/fishery-management-plan-team/goa-bsai-groundfish-plan-team/>.

**Public Comment**

Public comment letters will be accepted and should be submitted either electronically to Jim Armstrong, Council staff: [james.armstrong@noaa.gov](mailto:james.armstrong@noaa.gov) or through the mail: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252. In-person oral public testimony will be accepted at the discretion of the chairs.

**Special Accommodations**

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Shannon Gleason at (907) 271-2809 at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: October 23, 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-XG545**

**Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting**

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

**ACTION:** Notice; public workshop.

**SUMMARY:** The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council will hold a public workshop for the purposes of addressing law enforcement issues in for-hire fisheries operations, particularly operator versus angler (client) responsibility for fisheries violations that occur on for-hire vessels and law enforcement options for addressing these and issues related to the sale of fish by private recreational anglers (particularly golden tilefish and tunas) focusing on the need for vessels selling fish to comply with U.S. Coast Guard requirements and/or Federal permits that allow for the sale of fish.

**DATES:** The workshop will be held from Tuesday, November 13, 2018, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. and Wednesday, November 14, 2018, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:**