

section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the date. This meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 U.S.C. 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

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

Dated: April 19, 2021.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2021-08406 Filed 4-21-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XB019]

#### Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Meeting of the Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel; Recreational Roundtable and Large Pelagics Survey Workshop

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public webinars/conference calls.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS will hold a 3-day Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Advisory Panel (AP) meeting and a 1-day Recreational Roundtable/Large Pelagics Survey (LPS) Workshop via webinar in May 2021. The intent of the HMS AP meeting is to consider options for the conservation and management of Atlantic HMS. The intent of the Recreational Roundtable/LPS Workshop is to discuss HMS recreational fishing issues and to inform the public about, and field questions regarding, the LPS relative to HMS. The meetings are open to the public.

**DATES:** The AP meeting and webinar will be held from 8:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. on Tuesday, May 25; from 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 26; and from 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 27. The Recreational Roundtable/LPS Workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Friday, May 28.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be accessible via conference call and webinar. Conference call and webinar access information are available at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/event/may-2021-hms-advisory-panel-meeting>.

Participants are strongly encouraged to log/dial in 15 minutes prior to the meeting. NMFS will show the presentations via webinar and allow public comment during identified times on the agenda.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Peter Cooper at (301) 427-8503 or [Peter.Cooper@noaa.gov](mailto:Peter.Cooper@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act requires the establishment of an AP for each Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Atlantic HMS, *i.e.*, tunas, swordfish, billfish, and sharks. 16 U.S.C. 1854(g)(1)(A)-(B). Since the inception of the AP in 1998, NMFS has consulted with and considered the comments and views of AP members when preparing and implementing Atlantic HMS FMPs or FMP amendments.

The intent of these meetings is to consider potential alternatives for the conservation and management of Atlantic tunas, swordfish, billfish, and shark fisheries, and discuss HMS recreational fishing and LPS issues. We anticipate discussing:

- Bluefin tuna fisheries management, including Draft Amendment 13, restricted-fishing days for the General category fishery and Charter/Headboat-permitted vessels when fishing commercially, application of Federal regulations within state waters under the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act, particularly with regard to a request by the State of Maine, and language in the 2021 Appropriations Act Joint Explanatory Statement directing NMFS to reconsider the decision to open the former Gulf of Mexico Gear Restricted Area to pelagic longline fishing (Spring Gulf of Mexico Monitoring Area);
- Review of the Atlantic shark fishery and shark depredation issues;
- Introduction to HMS best scientific information available (BSIA) framework draft document development;
- Electronic Technologies and Electronic Monitoring updates;
- Upcoming workshop to review LPS methods and design; and
- HMS recreational fishing listening session.

Additional information on the meetings and a copy of the draft agenda will be posted prior to the meeting at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/event/may-2021-hms-advisory-panel-meeting>.

Dated: April 16, 2021.

**Kelly Denit,**

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

[FR Doc. 2021-08308 Filed 4-21-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XB008]

#### Endangered and Threatened Species; Initiation of 5-Year Review for Southern Resident Killer Whales

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

**ACTION:** Notice; request for information.

**SUMMARY:** We, NMFS, announce our intent to conduct a 5-year review of Southern Resident killer whales (*Orcinus orca*) under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA). The purpose of 5-year reviews is to ensure that the listing classification of a species remains accurate. This 5-year review will be based on the best scientific and commercial data available at the time of the review; therefore, we request submission of any such information on Southern Resident killer whales that has become available since our previous 5-year review was completed in 2016. Based on the results of this 5-year review, we will make the requisite determination under the ESA. **DATES:** To allow us adequate time to conduct this review, we must receive your information no later than June 21, 2021. While we continue to accept new information about any listed species at any time, information received after the date stated above may not be considered for purposes of this 5-year review.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit information, identified by docket number NOAA-NMFS-2021-0029, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal e-Rulemaking Portal:* Go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). In the Search box, enter the above docket number for this notice. Then, click on the Search icon. On the resulting web page, click the "Comment" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

- *Mail or hand-delivery:* Submit written information to Lynne Barre, NMFS West Coast Region, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115.

*Instructions:* Comments must be submitted by one of the above methods to ensure that the comments are

received, documented, and considered by NMFS. Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.) submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive or protected information. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Lynne Barre, West Coast Regional Office, 206–526–4745, [lynne.barre@noaa.gov](mailto:lynne.barre@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the ESA, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service maintains a list of all endangered and threatened wildlife and plant species at 50 CFR 17.11 (for animals) and 17.12 (for plants), and NMFS maintains an enumeration of the ESA-listed species under NMFS' jurisdiction at 50 CFR 223.102 (threatened species) and 50 CFR 224.101 (endangered species). Section 4(c)(2)(A) of the ESA requires that we conduct a review of listed species at least once every 5 years. On the basis of such reviews under section 4(c)(2)(B), we determine whether or not any species should be delisted or reclassified from endangered to threatened or from threatened to endangered. Delisting a species must be supported by the best scientific and commercial data available and only considered if such data substantiates that the species is neither endangered nor threatened for one or more of the following reasons: (1) The species is extinct; (2) the species does not meet the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species; or (3) the listed entity does not meet the statutory definition of a species. Any change in Federal classification would require a separate rulemaking process. The regulations in 50 CFR 424.21 require that we publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing those species currently under active review. This notice announces our active review of the Southern Resident killer whale distinct population segment (DPS) currently listed as endangered (70 FR 69903; November 18, 2005).

Background information on Southern Resident killer whales including the endangered listing, status reviews, critical habitat designation, recovery

planning and protective regulations is available on the NMFS website at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/west-coast/endangered-species-conservation/southern-resident-killer-whale-orcinus-orca>. Below is a brief list of several significant actions since the endangered listing of the Southern Resident killer whale DPS. Critical habitat was designated in November 2006 (71 FR 69054) and includes 2,560 square miles (6,630 square kilometers (sq km)) of marine habitat in Haro Strait and waters around the San Juan Islands, Puget Sound, and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. On September 19, 2019 we proposed to revise the critical habitat designation by designating six new areas along the U.S. West Coast (84 FR 49214). The final Recovery Plan was released in January 2008 (73 FR 4176), and contains detailed information on status, threats and recovery actions for Southern Resident killer whales. Regulations to protect Southern Resident killer whales from vessel effects were released in April 2011 (76 FR 20870). A 5-year review was completed in 2011 and 2016 and both concluded that no change was needed to the endangered status (NMFS 2011; 2016). In 2014 we released a report summarizing research and recovery efforts over the last 10 years. The report and other supporting documents and media are available on our website at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/west-coast/endangered-species-conservation/southern-resident-killer-whale-orcinus-orca>. In 2015, Southern Resident killer whales were named as a Species in the Spotlight (SIS). They are one of nine marine species that NMFS considers to be most at risk of extinction in the near future. For more information on the SIS initiative, please visit our website at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/endangered-species-conservation#species-in-the-spotlight>. Our most recent Recovering Threatened and Endangered Species FY 2017–2018 Report to Congress summarizes recovery progress since the inception of the SIS initiative and is available at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/recovering-threatened-and-endangered-species-report-congress-fy-2017-2018>. In 2018–2019, the Governor of Washington State signed an Executive Order and established a Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force, and the task force released two reports with recommendations for actions to support recovery of Southern Resident killer whales.

**Determining if a Species Is Threatened or Endangered**

Section 4(a)(1) of the ESA requires that we determine whether a species is endangered or threatened based on one or more of the five following factors: (1) The present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range; (2) overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes; (3) disease or predation; (4) the inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or (5) other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence. Section 4(b) also requires that our determination be made on the basis of the best scientific and commercial data available after taking into account those efforts, if any, being made by any State or foreign nation, to protect such species.

**Public Solicitation of New Information**

To ensure that the 5-year review is complete and based on the best available scientific and commercial information, we are soliciting new information from the public, governmental agencies, Tribes, the scientific community, industry, environmental entities, and any other interested parties concerning the status of Southern Resident killer whales. The 5-year review considers the best scientific and commercial data and all new information that has become available since the listing determination or most recent status review. Categories of requested information include: (1) Species biology including, but not limited to, population trends, distribution, abundance, demographics, and genetics; (2) habitat conditions including, but not limited to, amount, distribution, and important features for conservation; (3) status and trends of threats; (4) conservation measures that have been implemented that benefit the species, including monitoring data demonstrating effectiveness of such measures; (5) need for additional conservation measures or updates to the Recovery Plan; (6) adequacy of the recovery criteria, including information on recovery criteria that have or have not been met; and (7) other new information, data, or corrections including, but not limited to, taxonomic or nomenclatural changes, identification of erroneous information contained in the list of endangered and threatened species, and improved analytical methods for evaluating extinction risk.

Any new information will be considered during the 5-year review and may also be useful in evaluating the ongoing recovery program for Southern Resident killer whales. For example,

information on conservation measures will assist in tracking implementation of actions in the Recovery Plan.

If you wish to provide information for this 5-year review, you may submit your information and materials electronically or via mail (see **ADDRESSES** section). We request that all information be accompanied by supporting documentation such as maps, bibliographic references, or reprints of pertinent publications. We also would appreciate the submitter's name, address, and any association, institution, or business that the person represents; however, anonymous submissions will also be accepted.

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

Dated: April 19, 2021.

**Margaret H. Miller,**

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

[FR Doc. 2021-08355 Filed 4-21-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XB033]

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

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

**ACTION:** Notice of webconference.

**SUMMARY:** The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan Climate Change Taskforce will meet May 10, 2021 and May 13, 2021.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Monday, May 10, 2021, and Thursday, May 13, 2021, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Alaska Time.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be a webconference. Join online through the link at <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2044>.

*Council address:* North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1007 W 3rd Ave., Anchorage, AK 99501-2252; telephone: (907) 271-2809. Instructions for attending the meeting are given under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**, below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Diana Stram, Council staff; phone: (907) 271-2809 and email: [diana.stram@noaa.gov](mailto:diana.stram@noaa.gov). For technical support, please contact our administrative staff; email: [npfmc.admin@noaa.gov](mailto:npfmc.admin@noaa.gov).

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

### Agenda

*Monday, May 10, 2021 and Thursday, May 13, 2021*

The agenda will include (a) finalize workplan following February Council review; (b) establish a timeline for a 5-year task force workplan and milestones; and (c) other business. The agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted at <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2044> prior to the meeting, along with meeting materials.

### Connection Information

You can attend the meeting online using a computer, tablet, or smart phone; or by phone only. Connection information will be posted online at: <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2044>.

### Public Comment

Public comment letters will be accepted and should be submitted electronically to <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2044>.

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

Dated: April 19, 2021.

**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

[RTID 0648-XB012]

#### Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to U.S. Marine Corps Training Exercises at Cherry Point Range Complex, North Carolina

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

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments on proposed Renewal incidental harassment authorization.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS has received a request from the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) for the Renewal of their currently active incidental harassment authorization (IHA) to take marine mammals incidental to training exercises at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point Range Complex, North Carolina. These activities are identical

to those covered in the currently active authorization, which is effective through May 17, 2021. Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act, prior to issuing the currently active IHA, NMFS requested comments on both the proposed IHA and the potential for renewing the initial authorization if certain requirements were satisfied. The Renewal requirements have been satisfied, and NMFS is now providing an additional 15-day comment period to allow for any additional comments on the proposed Renewal not previously provided during the initial 30-day comment period. If issued, the Renewal IHA would be effective for a period of one year, from May 18, 2021, through May 17, 2022.

**DATES:** Comments and information must be received no later than May 7, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Jolie Harrison, Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service and should be submitted via email to [ITP.Laws@noaa.gov](mailto:ITP.Laws@noaa.gov).

*Instructions:* NMFS is not responsible for comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period. Comments, including all attachments, must not exceed a 25-megabyte file size. Attachments to comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word or Excel or Adobe PDF file formats only. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted online at [www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/incidental-take-authorizations-under-marine-mammal-protection-act](http://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/incidental-take-authorizations-under-marine-mammal-protection-act) without change. All personal identifying information (*e.g.*, name, address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ben Laws, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 427-8401. Electronic copies of the original application, Renewal request, and supporting documents (including NMFS **Federal Register** notices of the original proposed and final authorizations, and the previous IHA), as well as a list of the references cited in this document, may be obtained online at: [www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/incidental-take-authorizations-us-marine-corps-training-activities-cherry-point-range-complex](http://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/incidental-take-authorizations-us-marine-corps-training-activities-cherry-point-range-complex). In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed above.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**