

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 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

The applicant requests a 10-year permit to conduct research on 41 species of cetaceans and 6 species of pinnipeds in U.S. and international waters of the Pacific and Southern Oceans. ESA-listed species include: blue (*Balaenoptera musculus*), fin (*B. physalus*), gray (*Eschrichtius robustus*), humpback (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), killer (*Orcinus orca*), North Pacific right (*Eubalaena japonica*), sei (*B. borealis*), Southern right (*Eubalaena australis*), and sperm (*Physeter macrocephalus*) whales; and Guadalupe fur seals (*Arctocephalus townsendi*). The objectives of the research are to study marine mammal abundance, distribution, movements, density, survival, reproduction, health and condition, dive behavior, acoustics, demography, and stock structure. Cetaceans may be taken during vessel and aerial surveys, including uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS), for counts, photography, videography, photogrammetry, observations, passive acoustic recordings, biological sampling (blow, feces, sloughed skin, and skin and blubber biopsies), and tagging (suction-cup and dart/barb). Pinnipeds may be taken during surveys by ground, manned aircraft, or UAS for counts, photography, videography, photogrammetry, observations, and collection of scat and spew. Marine mammal parts may also be salvaged, imported, exported, or received for analysis and curation. See the application for complete numbers of animals requested by species, life stage, and procedure.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: June 24, 2026.

Larissa Plants,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–13171 Filed 6–29–26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XF853]

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 Pacific Fishery Management Council (Pacific Council) will convene a meeting to review key management provisions for Pacific sardine in the Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fishery Management Plan (FMP), including reference points and control rules. The meeting will be hosted at the NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center. The meeting is open to the public and being conducted in person with the opportunity for public comment.

DATES: The meeting will be held Wednesday, July 22 through Friday, July 24, 2026, from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time) or until business for the day has been completed.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Pacific Room, 8901 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037, Tel: 858–546–7000.

This meeting is being conducted in person. Specific meeting information, materials, visitor protocols, and instructions for how to connect to the meeting remotely will be provided in the meeting announcement on the Pacific Council's website (see www.pcouncil.org).

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220–1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Katrina Bernaus, Staff Officer, Pacific Council; telephone: (503) 820–2420, email: katrina.bernaus@pcouncil.org.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In April 2026, the Council adopted an interim final preferred alternative for the sardine stock definition in the CPS FMP's fishery management unit (FMU)

that would amend the CPS FMP to include all Pacific sardine in U.S. waters in the FMU as one stock, delineated coastwide. The next steps for this action include revisions to the FMP to define management provisions, including reference points and harvest control rules for a coastwide Pacific sardine stock. The Pacific Council provided written guidance to schedule a joint meeting involving the Pacific Council's CPS Subcommittee of the Scientific and Statistical Committee (CPSSC of the SSC), the Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) and the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS). The purpose of this meeting will be to review key management provisions for Pacific sardine, including options for reference points and harvest control rules for a coastwide stock of Pacific sardine. Meeting participants are expected to provide recommendations on appropriate definitions. No management actions will be decided by the meeting participants. The meeting participants' role will be the development of recommendations and reports for consideration by the Pacific Council at its September 2026 meeting in Vancouver, Washington. Meeting participants will also recommend future research topics organized by priority for NMFS and Pacific Council consideration.

The meeting participants will consist of members of the Pacific Council's SSC's CPSSC and the CPSMT. Representatives of the CPSAS will also participate in the review as advisers and staff from the NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center and West Coast Regional Office will be available as technical advisors.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the meeting agendas may be discussed, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this document and any issues arising after publication of this document 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.

Visitors to the NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center will need to obtain a visitor badge. Visitors are also required to present a REAL ID-compliant form of identification. For instance,

- State-issued identification that is REAL ID-compliant
- Passport

—Enhanced Driver's License
—Federal employee, military, or veteran identification card

Visitor protocols will be provided in the meeting announcement on the Pacific Council's website (see www.pcouncil.org).

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Hayden York (hayden.york@pcouncil.org; 503-820-2424) at least 10 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: June 26, 2026.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2026-13194 Filed 6-29-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XF843]

Mid-Atlantic 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 Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils will hold a public meeting of a Joint Blueline Tilefish Subcommittee.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Monday July 20, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. EDT and Wednesday, July 22, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. EDT. For agenda details, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via webinar. Connection information will be posted to the calendar prior to the meeting at <https://www.mafmc.org>.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674-2331; <https://www.mafmc.org>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, telephone: (302) 526-5255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic Fishery

Management Councils agreed to establish a Joint Blueline Tilefish Subcommittee to help determine the jurisdictional allocation of the blueline tilefish acceptable biological catch (ABC) north of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. During this meeting, the joint subcommittee will review various data sources available to evaluate potential jurisdictional allocations and recommend an approach for apportioning the ABC between the two jurisdictions. The joint subcommittee recommendations will be presented and reviewed at subsequent meetings by the full Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils. A detailed agenda and background documents will be made available on the Council's website (<https://www.mafmc.org>) prior to the meeting.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid should be directed to Shelley Spedden, (302) 526-5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: June 26, 2026.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2026-13196 Filed 6-29-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XF805]

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

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Monitoring Committee will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. EDT. For agenda details, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via webinar. Connection information will be posted to the Council's calendar prior to the meeting at <https://www.mafmc.org>.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674-2331; <https://www.mafmc.org>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, telephone: (302) 526-5255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Monitoring Committee will meet via webinar. During this meeting the Monitoring Committee will review recent fishery information and recommendations from the Advisory Panel, Scientific and Statistical Committee, and staff. The Monitoring Committee will then review previously adopted 2027 catch and landings limits and other management measures for Atlantic chub mackerel and recommend changes if needed. They will also recommend 2027-2029 catch and landings limits and other management measures, including trip limits, for butterfish.

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Shelley Spedden, (302) 526-5251 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: June 26, 2026.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2026-13195 Filed 6-29-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XF696]

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Coastal Pelagic Species Fishery; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits; 2026-2027 Fishing Year

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

ACTION: Notice of receipt of application; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Regional Administrator, West Coast Region, NMFS, has made a preliminary determination that an exempted fishing permit (EFP)