

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071697B]

South Atlantic 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 South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold meetings of its Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Distribution and GIS Species Distribution and Habitat Utilization Sub-Groups.

DATES: The meetings will be held July 29–31, 1997. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Town and Country Inn, 2008 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC 29407; telephone: 803–571–1000.

Council address: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, One Southpark Circle, Suite 306; Charleston, SC 29407–4699.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Buchanan, Public Information Officer; telephone: (803) 571–4366; fax: (803) 769–4520; email: susan_buchanan@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Meeting Dates**

July 29, 1997, 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.;
July 30, 1997, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The GIS EFH Distribution Sub-Group will meet to review and compile EFH distribution information for major habitat types in state and regional GIS systems.

July 30, 1997, 1:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.;
July 31, 1997, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The GIS Species Distribution and Habitat Utilization Sub-Group will meet to review species distribution information in state and regional GIS systems and to review information on EFH utilized by species under South Atlantic Council management.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) by July 24, 1997.

Dated: July 18, 1997.

Gary C. Matlock,

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

[FR Doc. 97–19463 Filed 7–23–97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071697C]

Western 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 Western Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Committee.

DATES: The meeting will be held August 12, 1997, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Executive Centre, Suite 302, Honolulu, HI; telephone: 808–539–3000.

Council address: Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1405, Honolulu, HI 96813.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: 808–522–8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The VMS Committee will discuss and may make recommendations to the Council on the following agenda items:

1. Data confidentiality issues;
2. Use of VMS data for fisheries assessment research;
3. The future of the Hawaii VMS Program; and
4. Other business as required.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is 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 meeting date.

Dated: July 17, 1997.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 97–19460 Filed 7–23–97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D.071797A]

Marine Mammals; Scientific Research Permit PHF# 782–1355

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Mammal Laboratory, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE., Seattle, WA 98115 (Principal Investigator: Dr. Howard Braham; Co Investigators: Dr. Thomas R. Loughlin and Mr. David E. Withrow), has been issued a permit to take harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina richardsi*) for purposes of scientific research.

ADDRESSES: The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713–2289);

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE., Seattle, WA 98115 (tel: 206/526–6150); and

Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802–1668 (tel: 907/586–7221).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 6, 1997, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 31083) that a request for a scientific research permit to take harbor seals had been submitted by the above-named organization. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

Dated: July 15, 1997.

Ann D. Terbush,

Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 97–19543 Filed 7-23-97; 8:45 am]

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