

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the Large Conference Room of the National Marine Fisheries Service's Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Torrey Pines Campus; 3333 North Torrey Pines Court, La Jolla, CA 92037-1023; telephone: (858) 546-7000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kerry Griffin, Staff Officer; telephone: (503) 820-2280.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the Methodology Review Panel meeting is to consider the design of the West Coast Vancouver Island trawl survey, the data collected from the survey, the methods used to analyze the collected data, the utility of the data for use in stock assessment models for Pacific sardine, and the potential to use of the collected data to monitor trends at the population level.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the meeting agenda may come before the Methodology Review Panel for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Methodology Review Panel action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice 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 Methodology Review Panel's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Dale Sweetnam, at (858) 546-7170, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: May 1, 2012.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2012-10762 Filed 5-3-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XC009**

#### General Advisory Committee and Scientific Advisory Subcommittee to the U.S. Section to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission; Meeting Announcement

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS announces a meeting of the Scientific Advisory Subcommittee (SAS) on May 30, 2012, and a meeting of the General Advisory Committee (GAC) to the U.S. Section to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) on May 31, 2012. Meeting topics are provided under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

**DATES:** The meeting of the SAS will be held on May 30, 2012, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. PDT (or until business is concluded), and the meeting of the GAC will be held on May 31, 2012, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. PDT (or until business is concluded).

**ADDRESSES:** Both meetings will be held in the Conference Room 1 at Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Service: 6010 Hidden Valley Road, Carlsbad, CA 92011. Please notify Heidi Taylor prior to May 18, 2012, of your plans to attend either meeting, or interest in a teleconference option.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Heidi Taylor, Southwest Region, NMFS at [Heidi.Taylor@noaa.gov](mailto:Heidi.Taylor@noaa.gov), or at (562) 980-4039.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the Tuna Conventions Act, as amended, the Department of State has appointed a General Advisory Committee (GAC) and a Scientific Advisory Subcommittee (SAS) to the U.S. Section to the IATTC. The U.S. Section consists of four U.S. Commissioners to the IATTC and a representative of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and Fisheries. The GAC and SAS support the U.S. Section to the IATTC in an advisory capacity; in particular, they provide advice on the development of U.S. policies, positions, and negotiating tactics. NOAA Fisheries Southwest Regional office administers the GAC and SAS in cooperation with the Department of State. The next annual meeting of the IATTC is scheduled for

June 18-June 29, 2012, in La Jolla, CA. For more information on this meeting, please visit the IATTC's Web site: <http://www.iattc.org/HomeENG.htm>.

#### Meeting Topics

The SAS meeting topics will include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) Relevant stock status updates, including yellowfin, bigeye, skipjack, and albacore tunas; (2) updates on bycatch mitigation measures; (3) evaluation of the IATTC's recommended conservation measures, U.S. proposals, and proposals from other IATTC members; (4) AIDCP dolphin abundance surveys; (5) input to the GAC; and (6) other issues as they arise.

The GAC meeting topics will include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) Relevant stock status updates, including yellowfin, bigeye, skipjack, and albacore tunas; (2) U.S. regulatory changes that could affect tuna fisheries in the eastern Pacific Ocean; (3) updates on international agreements that could affect the IATTC; (4) the status of U.S. legislation to implement the Antigua Convention; (5) outcomes of the IATTC Capacity Working Group meeting; (6) input from the SAS; (7) input and advice from the GAC on issues that may arise at the upcoming 2012 IATTC meetings, including the IATTC's recommended conservation measures, potential U.S. proposals, and potential proposals from other IATTC members; and (9) other issues as they arise.

#### Special Accommodations

The meeting location is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Heidi Taylor at (562) 980-4039 by May 28, 2012.

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

Dated: May 1, 2012.

**Emily H. Menashes,**

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

[FR Doc. 2012-10842 Filed 5-3-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Caribbean Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Caribbean Fishery Management Council's (Council) Outreach and Education Advisory Panel will hold a meeting.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on May 29, 2012, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Buccaneer Hotel, 5007 Estate Shoys, Lot 7, Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S.V.I.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 268 Muñoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 1108, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918-1920, telephone: (787) 766-5926.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Caribbean Fishery Management Council's Outreach and Education Advisory Panel will meet to discuss the items contained in the following agenda:

- Call to order
- Inventory Resources
  - Presentation by Outreach and Education Panel Members
  - CFMC Outreach and Education Needs
- Ideas and Strategies for Outreach and Education
- Outline for the Outreach and Education Strategic Plan for the U.S. Caribbean
- Other Business

The established times for addressing items on the agenda may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the agenda items. To further accommodate discussion and completion of all items on the agenda, the meeting may be extended from or completed prior to the date established in this notice.

The meetings are open to the public, and will be conducted in English. Fishers and other interested persons are invited to attend and participate with oral or written statements regarding agenda issues.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be subjects for formal action during this meeting. Actions will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice, and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided that the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. For more information or request for sign language interpretation and/or other auxiliary aids, please contact Mr. Miguel A. Rolón,

Executive Director, Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 268 Muñoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 1108, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00918-1920, telephone (787) 766-5926, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: May 1, 2012.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**  
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2012-10761 Filed 5-3-12; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XV40**

#### Marine Mammals; File No. 14118

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

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of permit.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that a permit has been issued to Becky Woodward, Ph.D., University of Maine, 9500 Old Retriever Trail, Charles City, Virginia 23030 to conduct research on Eastern gray (*Eschrichtius robustus*), minke (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), and short- and long-finned pilot whales (*Globicephala spp.*) and endangered humpback (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) whales. Fin (*B. physalus*) and sei (*B. borealis*) whales may be incidentally harassed.

**ADDRESSES:** The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kristy Beard or Carrie Hubbard, (301) 427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On March 23, 2010, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (75 FR 13730) that a request for a permit to conduct research on the species identified above had been submitted by the above-named applicant. 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.*), 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.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

The permit authorizes takes during research involving tagging using a peduncle belt type attachment mechanism, photo-identification, behavioral observations, tracking and monitoring, passive acoustics, photography and video both above and under water, and collection of sloughed skin. Research will occur in the North Atlantic from Maine to Texas, and in the North Pacific from Alaska to California, including Hawaii. Multiple research objectives would be addressed using data from the tags, including: (1) Long-term movement and habitat use studies using satellite/GPS/depth tags, (2) medium-term acoustic studies using an audio recording package to examine transmitted and received sound, and (3) extended fine-scale behavioral ecology studies using multi-sensor data recording packages. The permit is valid for five years from the date of issuance.

An environmental assessment (EA) was prepared analyzing the effects of the permitted activities on the human environment in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*). Based on the analyses in the EA, NMFS determined that issuance of the permit would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment and that preparation of an environmental impact statement was not required. That determination is documented in a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), signed on April 27, 2012.

As required by the ESA, issuance of this permit was based on a finding that such permit: (1) Was applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of such endangered species; and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Documents may be reviewed in the following locations:

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;

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0700; phone (206) 526-6150; fax (206) 526-6426;

Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; phone (907) 586-7221; fax (907) 586-7249;

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562) 980-4001; fax (562) 980-4018;

Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808) 944-2200; fax (808) 973-2941;