

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject permit is requested under the 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.*), and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226).

The applicant proposes to receive, import, and export biological samples for scientific research from up to 150 individual cetaceans and up to 500 pinnipeds (excluding walrus) annually to determine the levels of persistent organic pollutants in marine mammals found in the Gulf of Maine and adjacent Canadian waters. The requested duration of the permit is 5 years.

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.

**Julia Marie Harrison,**

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

[FR Doc. 2019–04603 Filed 3–12–19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### National Estuarine Research Reserve System

**AGENCY:** Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public comment period for the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve Management Plan revision.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce is announcing a thirty-day

public comment period for the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve Management Plan revision. The revision of the existing management plan is necessitated by the applicable requirements of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System. The Hudson River Reserve revised plan will replace the plan approved in 2009.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nina Garfield at (240) 533–0817, or Kim Texeira at (240) 533–0781, of NOAA's Office for Coastal Management, 1305 East-West Highway, N/ORM5, 10th floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to 15 CFR 921.33(c), a state must periodically update its management plan for a National Estuarine Research Reserve. The Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve revised plan will replace the plan previously approved in 2009. NOAA issues this notice of a public comment period for the revised plan under 15 CFR 921.33(a).

The revised management plan outlines the administrative structure; the research/monitoring, stewardship, education, and training programs and priorities of the reserve; plans for including inholdings within the existing boundary into state ownership; and facility development priorities to support reserve operations.

The Hudson River Reserve takes an integrated approach to management, linking research and education, coastal training, and stewardship functions. The New York Department of Environmental Conservation has outlined how it will administer the reserve and its core programs by providing detailed actions that will enable it to accomplish specific goals and objectives. Since the last management plan, the reserve has: Provided technical expertise to coastal communities to reduce risks to natural hazards; expanded monitoring programs; installed a sentinel site for monitoring marsh ecosystem response to sea level rise; conducted training workshops; implemented K–12 and public education programs; installed a water level observation station that is compliant with NOAA's National Water Level Observation Network; restored hydrologic flows at Gay's Point in the Stockport Flats component; and established itself as a regional leader in the design and implementation of living shorelines. The total number of acres within the reserve boundary is 5,000 acres. The revised management plan will serve as the guiding document for the Hudson River Reserve for the next five years.

NOAA's Office Coastal Management will be conducting an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act on the proposed approval of the Reserve's revised management plan. The public is invited to provide comment or information about any potential environmental impacts of the proposed action, and these comments will be used to inform the decision making process.

The Hudson River Reserve Management Plan revision may be viewed at: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4915.html>. Comments on the revision may be submitted to the Reserve's Manager, Heather Gierloff ([heather.gierloff@dec.ny.gov](mailto:heather.gierloff@dec.ny.gov)) by April 12, 2019.

Dated: March 5, 2019.

**Paul M. Scholz,**

*Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2019–04541 Filed 3–12–19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–08–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648–XG843**

#### Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting (webinar).

**SUMMARY:** The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Pacific Council) will hold a webinar meeting to review the 2019 update stock assessment for Pacific sardine. This webinar is open to the public.

**DATES:** The webinar will be held Thursday, March 28, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., or until business for the day has been completed.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held via webinar. A public listening station is available at the Pacific Council office (address below). To attend the webinar, use this link: <https://www.gotomeeting.com/webinar> (Click “Join a Webinar” in top right corner of page); (1) Enter the Webinar ID: 542–314–675; (2) Enter your name and email address (required). You must use your telephone for the audio portion of the meeting by dialing this TOLL number 1–562–247–8321; (3) Enter the Attendee phone audio access code 272–446–524;

(4) Enter your audio phone pin (shown after joining the webinar). NOTE: We have disabled Mic/Speakers as an option and require all participants to use a telephone or cell phone to participate. Technical Information and System Requirements: PC-based attendees are required to use Windows® 7, Vista, or XP; Mac®-based attendees are required to use Mac OS® X 10.5 or newer; Mobile attendees are required to use iPhone®, iPad®, Android™ phone or Android tablet (See the <https://www.gotomeeting.com/webinar/ipad-iphone-android-webinar-apps>). You may send an email to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt at [Kris.Kleinschmidt@noaa.gov](mailto:Kris.Kleinschmidt@noaa.gov) or contact him at (503) 820-2280, extension 411 for technical assistance.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kerry Griffin, Pacific Council; telephone: (503) 820-2409.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the meeting is to review the 2019 update stock assessment for Pacific sardine. The Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Subcommittee of the Pacific Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee will conduct the review, and will follow the Pacific Council's Terms of Reference for Stock Assessment Reviews. The Pacific Council will use the 2019 assessment to establish Pacific sardine fishery management measures and harvest specifications for the 2019-20 fishing year, which begins July 1 and ends the following June 30 each year. Representatives of the Pacific Council's CPS Management Team and the CPS Advisory Subpanel will also participate in the review, as advisers.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the meeting agenda may be discussed, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. 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.

#### Special Accommodations

The public listening station is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt at [kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov](mailto:kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov)

[noaa.gov](http://noaa.gov) or (503) 820-2411, at least 10 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 8, 2019.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2019-04580 Filed 3-12-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XG880**

#### Western Pacific 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 Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of its Social Science Planning Committee (SSPC) by teleconference.

**DATES:** The SSPC meeting will be held on Thursday, March 28, 2019, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. For the agenda, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held by teleconference. The teleconference numbers are: U.S. toll-free: (888) 482-3560 or International Access: +1 (647) 723-3959, and Access Code: 5228220. The following venue will also be the host site for the teleconference: Council Office, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Public comment periods will be provided. The order in which agenda items are addressed may change. The Committee will meet as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

#### Agenda

*Thursday, March 28, 2019, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.*

1. Introductions
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Annual/Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report Module Preparation
4. Review structure and process for considering Social Economic Ecological and Management information in setting of annual catch limits

5. Options to establish carry over provisions in setting annual catch limits
6. Public Comment
7. Discussion and Recommendations
8. Other Business

#### Special Accommodations

The 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 the meeting date.

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

Dated: March 8, 2019.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2019-04588 Filed 3-12-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XF961**

#### Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council); Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice; public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Pacific Stock Assessment Review (WPSAR) Steering Committee will convene a public meeting to discuss and approve the 5-year calendar for stock assessments, and to address any other concerns related to the WPSAR process.

**DATES:** The Steering Committee will meet from 9 to 11 a.m. on April 3, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be at the Council office, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Marlow Sabater, (808) 522-8143, or [marlowe.sabater@noaa.gov](mailto:marlowe.sabater@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The WPSAR steering committee consists of the Council's Executive Director, the Director of the NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, and the Regional Administrator of the NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office. You may read more about WPSAR at [https://www.pifsc.noaa.gov/peer\\_reviews/wpsar/index.php](https://www.pifsc.noaa.gov/peer_reviews/wpsar/index.php).

The public will have an opportunity to comment during the meeting. The agenda order may change. The meeting