

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN 0648–XF42

Marine Mammals; File No. 1021–1658

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Jenifer A. Zeligs-Hurley, Ph.D., Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, 8272 Moss Landing Road, Moss Landing, CA 95039, has been issued a minor amendment to Scientific Research Permit No. 1021–1568, for research on California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*) and Pacific harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina richardsi*) maintained at the Moss Landing Marine Laboratories.

ADDRESSES: The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s): Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713–2289; fax (301)427–2521.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amy Sloan or Tammy Adams, (301)713–2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The original permit was issued on March 14, 2003 (67 FR 53780), with an expiration date of March 31, 2008. The original permit authorized Dr. Zeligs-Hurley to conduct physiological and veterinary medical studies on California sea lions and harbor seals maintained at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories.

The requested amendment has been granted 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). The amendment extends the duration of the permit by 12 months beyond that established in the original permit. The amendment also allows studies with captive California sea lions to evaluate whether a mild underwater electric field can deter them from an area when food is present. No other terms or conditions of the permit were changed.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically

excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Dated: January 28, 2008.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. E8–2056 Filed 2–4–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN 0648–XF43

Mid-Atlantic 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 Trawl Survey Advisory Panel, composed of representatives from the National Marine Fisheries Service's Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC), the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC), and several independent scientific researchers, will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 21, 2008, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday, February 22, 2008, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza, Two Harmon Plaza, Secaucus, NJ 07094; telephone: (201) 348–6900.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; 300 S. New Street, Room 2115, Dover, DE 19904; telephone: (302) 674–2331.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; 300 S. New Street, Room 2115, Dover, DE 19904; telephone: (302) 674–2331, extension 19.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this meeting is to review the status of the new research vessel FSV Henry B. Bigelow and evaluate survey protocols for the new survey.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action 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 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. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to M. Jan Saunders at the Mid-Atlantic Council Office, (302) 674–2331 extension 18, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: January 30, 2008.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. E8–1973 Filed 2–4–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN 0648–XF46

Pacific Halibut Fishery; Guideline Harvest Levels for the Guided Recreational Halibut Fishery

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

ACTION: Notice of guideline harvest level.

SUMMARY: NMFS provides notice of Pacific halibut guideline harvest levels (GHLs) for the guided sport charter vessel fishery in the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) regulatory areas 2C and 3A. The GHLs provide a benchmark harvest level for participants in the charter fishery. This notice is necessary to meet the management and regulatory requirements for the GHLs and to inform the public about the 2008 GHLs for the charter halibut fishery.

DATES: The GHLs are effective beginning February 1, 2008, through December 31, 2008. This period is specified by the IPHC as the sport fishing season in all waters of Alaska.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie Scheurer, (907) 586–7356, or email at julie.scheurer@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS implemented a final rule to establish GHLs in IPHC regulatory areas 2C and 3A for the harvest of Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) by the charter fishery on August 8, 2003 (68 FR

47256). The GHs are intended to serve as a benchmark harvest level for participants in the charter fishery.

This announcement is consistent with 50 CFR 300.65(c)(2), which requires that GHs for IPHC regulatory areas 2C and 3A be specified by NMFS and announced by publication in the **Federal Register** no later than 30 days after receiving information from the IPHC. The IPHC annually establishes the constant exploitation yield (CEY) for halibut in IPHC regulatory areas 2C and 3A. Regulations at § 300.65(c)(1) establish the GHs based on the CEY that is established annually by the IPHC. The CEY established by the IPHC for 2008 is 6,500,000 lb (2,948.4 mt) in Area 2C and 28,960,000 lb (13,136.0 mt) in Area 3A. The corresponding GHs are 931,000 lb (447.2 mt) in Area 2C, and 3,650,000 lb (1,655.6 mt) in Area 3A. The GH in Area 2C has been reduced from the 2007 level of 1,432,000 lb (649.5 mt). The GH for Area 3A did not change.

This is a notice of the GHs in Areas 2C and 3A for 2008 and does not require any regulatory action by NMFS. If a GH is exceeded in 2008, NMFS will notify the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) in writing within 30 days of receipt of that information. The Council has proposed management actions to reduce the harvest of Pacific halibut in the Area 2C guided charter vessel fishery to the GH (72 FR 74257, December 31, 2007). The Secretary of Commerce may issue a final rule after consideration of the 2008 GH and public comments on the proposed rule.

Classification

This notice does not require any additional regulatory action by NMFS and does not impose any additional restrictions on harvests by the charter fishery. If a GH is exceeded in any year, the Council would be notified, but would not be required to take action. This process of notification is intended to provide the Council with information about the level of Pacific halibut harvest by the charter fishery in a given year and could prompt future action.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 773 *et seq.*

Dated: January 30, 2008.

Emily H. Menashes,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E8-2057 Filed 2-4-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

[Docket No. 080129095-8096-01]

Spectrum Sharing Innovation Test-Bed

AGENCY: National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce

ACTION: Notice of Solicitation of Participation

SUMMARY: On June 8, 2006, the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA) published a Notice of Inquiry in the Federal Register seeking public comment on the implementation of the Presidential Spectrum Policy Initiative Spectrum Sharing Innovation Test-Bed (Test-Bed). This Notice of Solicitation of Participation seeks expressions of interest from parties that may be willing to participate in the Test-Bed.

DATES: Expressions of interest are due on or before February 29, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Expressions of interest should be sent to the attention of Ed Drocella, Office of Spectrum Management, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room 6725, Washington DC 20230; by facsimile transmission to (202) 482-4595; or by electronic mail to testbed@ntia.doc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ed Drocella at (202) 482-2608 or edrocella@ntia.doc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In May 2003, President Bush established the Spectrum Policy Initiative to promote the development and implementation of a United States spectrum policy for the 21st Century.¹ In response to the Spectrum Policy Initiative, the Secretary of Commerce established a Federal Government Spectrum Task Force and initiated a series of public meetings to address policies affecting spectrum use by the federal, state, and local governments, and the private sector. The recommendations resulting from these activities were included in two reports released by the Secretary of Commerce in June 2004.² Based on the

recommendations contained in these reports, the President directed the federal agencies on November 30, 2004, to plan the implementation of the recommendations contained in the reports.³

One of these recommendations stated that NTIA and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), in coordination with the federal agencies are to establish a Test-Bed to examine the feasibility of increased sharing between federal and non-federal users.⁴ Specifically, the Test-Bed recommendation states:

Within two years of this report's publication, NTIA and the FCC should establish a pilot program to allow for increased sharing between federal and non-federal users. NTIA and the FCC should each identify a segment of spectrum of equal bandwidth within their respective jurisdiction for this program. Each segment should be approximately 10 MHz for assignment on a shared basis for federal and non-federal use. The spectrum to be identified for this pilot program could come from bands currently allocated on either an exclusive or shared basis. Two years after the inception of the pilot program, NTIA and the FCC should provide reports outlining the results and suggesting appropriate procedures for expanding the program as appropriate.⁵

The recommendation to establish the Test-Bed recognized that the increased use of spectrum for federal and non-federal communications necessitates increased sharing to benefit both federal and non-federal users of the spectrum.

On June 8, 2006, NTIA published a Notice of Inquiry (NOI) in the Federal Register seeking public comment on issues related to the Test-Bed.⁶ The FCC also solicited public comment on issues related to the Test-Bed through a

Government Spectrum Task Force (June 2004) ("Report 1"); Department of Commerce, *Spectrum Policy for the 21st Century - The President's Spectrum Policy Initiative: Report 2 Recommendations From State and Local Governments and Private Sector Responders* (June 2004) ("Report 2"). These reports are available at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/reports/>.

³ *President's Memorandum on Improving Spectrum Management for the 21st Century*, 49 Weekly Comp. Pres. Doc. 2875 (Nov. 29, 2004).

⁴ By this Notice, NTIA is implementing its responsibilities under the President's November 2004 Executive Memorandum. The FCC is also designating spectrum and establishing procedures for the Test-Bed through a public notice. Public Notice, Federal Communications Commission Designates Spectrum and Provides Guidance for Participation in a Spectrum Sharing Innovation Test-Bed, ET Docket No. 06-89.

⁵ Report 1, *supra* note 2, Recommendation 11; Report 2, *supra* note 2, Recommendation 6(b).

⁶ National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Docket, No. 060602142-6142-01, Notice of Inquiry, 71 FR 33282 (June 8, 2006).

¹ Presidential Memorandum on Spectrum Policy for the 21st Century, 69 FR 1568 (Jan. 9, 2004), 39 Weekly Comp. Pres. Doc. 726, 727 (May 29, 2003), available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/06/20030605-4.html>.

² Department of Commerce, *Spectrum Policy for the 21st Century - The President's Spectrum Policy Initiative: Report 1 Recommendations of the Federal*