

SUMMARY: The Visiting Committee on Advanced Technology (VCAT or Committee), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), will meet in open session on Tuesday, October 16, 2012, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mountain Time and Wednesday, October 17, 2012, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Mountain Time. The VCAT is composed of fifteen members appointed by the Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology who are eminent in such fields as business, research, new product development, engineering, labor, education, management consulting, environment, and international relations.

DATES: The VCAT will meet on Tuesday, October 16, 2012, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mountain Time and Wednesday, October 17, 2012, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Mountain Time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in Building 81, Room 1A116, at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Boulder, Colorado 80305–3328. Please note admittance instructions under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephanie Shaw, VCAT, NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899–1060, telephone number 301–975–2667. Ms. Shaw's email address is stephanie.shaw@nist.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 278 and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App.

The purpose of this meeting is to review and make recommendations regarding general policy for NIST, its organization, its budget, and its programs within the framework of applicable national policies as set forth by the President and the Congress. The agenda will include an update on NIST followed by presentations and discussions on NIST's R&D planning and its activities and programs related to the Centers of Excellence, manufacturing, and next generation of measurement services. The VCAT Subcommittee on Safety will review and discuss its recent activities. The meeting also will include laboratory tours and conclude with a wrap-up discussion of recommendations and the path forward for the 2012 VCAT Annual Report. The agenda may change to accommodate Committee business. The final agenda will be posted on the NIST web site at <http://www.nist.gov/director/vcat/agenda.cfm>.

Individuals and representatives of organizations who would like to offer

comments and suggestions related to the Committee's affairs are invited to request a place on the agenda. On October 17, approximately one-half hour will be reserved in the morning for public comments and speaking times will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. The amount of time per speaker will be determined by the number of requests received, but is likely to be about 3 minutes each. The exact time for public comments will be included in the final agenda that will be posted on the NIST Web site at <http://www.nist.gov/director/vcat/agenda.cfm>. Questions from the public will not be considered during this period. Speakers who wish to expand upon their oral statements, those who had wished to speak, but could not be accommodated on the agenda, and those who were unable to attend in person are invited to submit written statements to the VCAT, NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, MS 1060, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899, via fax at 301–216–0529 or electronically by email to gail.ehrlich@nist.gov.

All visitors to the NIST site are required to pre-register to be admitted. Please submit your name, time of arrival, email address and phone number to Stephanie Shaw by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Tuesday, October 9, 2012. Non-U.S. citizens must also submit their country of citizenship, title, employer/sponsor, and address. Ms. Shaw's email address is stephanie.shaw@nist.gov and her phone number is 301–975–2667.

Dated: September 25, 2012.

Willie E. May,

Associate Director for Laboratory Programs.

[FR Doc. 2012–23895 Filed 9–27–12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XC260

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

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council), its Visioning and Strategic Planning Working Group, and Spiny Dogfish Committee will hold public meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held Monday October 15, 2012 through Thursday, October 18, 2012. See

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Ocean Place, One Ocean Blvd., Long Branch, NJ 07740; telephone: (732) 571–4000.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N. State St., Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674–2331.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Monday, October 15, 2012

1 p.m. until 5 p.m.—The Visioning and Strategic Planning Working Group will meet.

Tuesday, October 16, 2012

9 a.m. until 5 p.m.—The Visioning and Strategic Planning Working Group will meet.

5 p.m. until 6 p.m.—There will be a Public Listening Session.

Wednesday, October 17, 2012

9 a.m.—The Council will convene.

9 a.m. until 10 a.m.—The Council will receive a presentation regarding the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSA) Summer Flounder Study.

10 a.m. until noon—Delaware Special Management Zone (SMZ) request will be discussed.

1 p.m. until 2 p.m.—Dogfish Amendment 3 will be discussed.

2 p.m. until 3 p.m.—Spiny Dogfish Specifications will be approved as a Committee of the Whole.

3 p.m. until 4 p.m.—Framework 7 (Meeting 2) and 8 (Meeting 1) to the Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish FMP will be discussed.

4 p.m. until 5 p.m.—The Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology (SBRM) Fishery Management Action Team (FMAT) Report will be given.

Thursday, October 18, 2012

9 a.m. until 10 a.m.—The Council will receive a presentation from the Science Center for Marine Fisheries (SCeMFIS).

10 a.m. until 1 p.m.—The Council will hold its regular Business Session to approve the August 2012 minutes; receive the South Atlantic Council Liaison, Organizational, Executive Director's, and Science Reports, and, conduct any continuing and/or new business.

Agenda items by day for the Council's Committees and the Council itself are:

On Monday, October 15—The Visioning and Strategic Planning

Working Group will finalize the mission statement, review top themes from the Visioning Project, and discuss objectives, strategies, and tactics for three to four strategic goals.

On Tuesday, October 16—The Visioning and Strategic Planning Working Group will review the outcomes from Day 1 and discuss objectives, strategies, and tactics for three to four strategic goals (continued from Day 1). During the Public Listening Session there will be a Clean Ocean Zone presentation with a question and answer session and an interactive session with leadership.

On Wednesday, October 17—There will be a MSE Summer Flounder Study with a presentation on recreational management approaches as examined by Partnership for Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Science (PMAFS) project investigators. The Council will review and approve options for designation of Delaware artificial reefs in the EEZ and schedule public hearings for the Delaware SMZ request. The Council will approve and adopt final measures in Amendment 3 to the Spiny Dogfish FMP. The Spiny Dogfish Committee will meet as a Committee of the Whole to review the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and the Spiny Dogfish Monitoring Committee recommendations for 2013–15 and adopt recommendations for 2013–15 management measures. Framework 7 (Meeting 2) and 8 (Meeting 1) to Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish FMP will be discussed to (1) consider changing butterfish catch cap for the longfin squid fishery to a butterfish discard cap, (2) consider adding butterfish cap closure authority in trimester 2, and (3) consider procedure for transferring quota between landings and discards in the butterfish cap near the end of the year. The Council will discuss the SBRM FMAT Report to consider approval of alternatives for analysis and possible inclusion in the new SBRM Amendment now under development.

On Thursday, October 18—The Council will receive a presentation on SCoMFIS cooperative research. The Council will hold its regular Business Session to approve the August minutes, receive the South Atlantic Liaison Report, receive Organizational Reports, the Executive Director's Report, the Science Report, and conduct any continuing and/or new business.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those

issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. 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 Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council'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 aid should be directed to M. Jan Saunders, (302)-526-5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: September 24, 2012.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2012-23850 Filed 9-27-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA626

Marine Mammals; File No. 16163

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 a major amendment to Permit No. 16163 has been issued to the Northwest Fisheries Science Center (Dr. M. Bradley Hanson, Principal Investigator), 2725 Montlake Blvd. East, Seattle, Washington 98112-2097.

ADDRESSES: The permit amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

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; and

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joselyd Garcia-Reyes or Jennifer Skidmore, (301)427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 25, 2012, notice was published in the

Federal Register (77 FR 37878) that a request for an amendment to Permit No. 16163 to conduct research on cetacean species in U.S. and international waters in the Pacific Ocean, including waters of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, and Hawaii had been submitted by the above-named applicant. The requested permit amendment 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 amendment authorizes an increase in takes associated with Level B harassment from 25 each per year to 2500 for short-beaked common (*Delphinus delphis*) and long-beaked common (*D. capensis*) dolphins. The amended permit is valid through the expiration date of the original permit, June 6, 2017.

A supplemental environmental assessment (SEA) analyzing the effects of the permitted activities on the human environment was prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*). Based on the analyses in the SEA, NMFS determined that issuance of the permit amendment 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 September 17, 2012.

Dated: September 20, 2012.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. 2012-23964 Filed 9-27-12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA840

Marine Mammals; File No. 16479

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit.