

Dated: January 7, 2014.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2014-00241 Filed 1-9-14; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XD050**

#### Fisheries of the South Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of SEDAR Steering Committee meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The SEDAR Steering Committee will meet via webinar. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**DATES:** The Steering Committee webinar will be held on January 30, 2014, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., EST.

**ADDRESSES:** The webinar will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact John Carmichael at SEDAR (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation providing webinar access information. Please request meeting information at least 24 hours in advance.

*SEDAR address:* 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Carmichael, SEDAR Program Manager; telephone: (843) 571-4366; email: [john.carmichael@safmc.net](mailto:john.carmichael@safmc.net). Andrea Grabman, SEDAR Administrative Assistant; telephone: (843) 571-4366; email: [Andrea.Grabman@safmc.net](mailto:Andrea.Grabman@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This meeting is being held to consider items discussed by the SEDAR Steering Committee at its prior meeting, held on October 1-2, 2013. Because several Steering Committee members were not allowed to attend that meeting due to the Federal Government shutdown, the Committee did not take final action on the agenda topics.

Items to discuss at this meeting:

1. SEDAR process: workshops, participation, and best practices.
2. SEDAR project scheduling: improving planning and scheduling efficiency.

#### 3. SEDAR assessment schedule.

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 intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### Special Accommodations

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the SEDAR office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

**Note:** The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: January 7, 2014.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

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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; receipt of application for permit amendment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that The Pacific Whale Foundation [Responsible Party: Gregory Kaufman], 300 Maalaea Road, Suite 211, Wailuku, HI 96793, has applied for an amendment to Scientific Research Permit No. 16479-01.

**DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before February 10, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** The application and related documents are available for review by selecting "Records Open for Public Comment" from the *Features* box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 16479 from the list of available applications.

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

Written comments on this application should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, at the address listed above. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile to (301) 713-0376, or by email to [NMFSPR1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFSPR1Comments@noaa.gov). Please include the File No. in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division at the address listed above. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject amendment to Permit No. 16479-01 is requested 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 (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).

Permit No. 16479, issued on September 18, 2012 (77 FR 59594), authorizes the permit holder to conduct vessel-based research on humpback whales in waters around Maui, Hawaii to quantify the potential for near misses between vessels and humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), and define the probability of 'surprise encounters' with humpback whales. Up to 567 humpback whales may be approached annually for photo-identification and behavioral observation and up to 240 Hawaiian insular false killer whales (*Pseudorca crassidens*) may be incidentally harassed during research. A minor amendment (No. 01) to the permit was issued on August 23, 2013, authorizing the field season to start in December versus January of each permit year. The Permit Holder is requesting the permit be amended to authorize research activities (approaches for

photo-identification and behavioral observation) on the false killer whales to study their occurrence, distribution, movement, site fidelity, abundance, social organization, home ranges, and life history. The number of takes authorized for the stock would not change. The permit expires on June 1, 2017.

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 activities proposed are consistent with the Proposed Action Alternative in the Environmental Assessment (EA) on Effects of Issuing Marine Mammal Scientific Research Permit No. 16479 (NMFS 2012). 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 September 17, 2012. That EA and FONSI are available upon request. A new FONSI will be prepared for this action.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: January 7, 2014.

**P. Michael Payne,**

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

[FR Doc. 2014-00228 Filed 1-9-14; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XW11**

#### Marine Mammals; File No. 14514

**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. 14514 has been issued to the University of Florida, Aquatic Animal Program, College of Veterinary Medicine, Gainesville, FL 32610 (Thomas Waltzek, Responsible Party).

**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

Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, Saint Petersburg, FL 33701; phone (727) 824-5312; fax (727) 824-5309.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Amy Sloan or Jennifer Skidmore, (301) 427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

On September 17, 2013, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (78 FR 57133) that a request for an amendment Permit No. 14514 to receive, import, and export marine mammal specimens for scientific research 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.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

Permit No. 14514-01 authorizes an increase the number of animals from which pinniped samples may be received, imported, or exported from 100 to 700 animals per year for additional studies on viral pathogens (adenovirus and herpesvirus). The permit amendment also authorizes personnel changes.

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.

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.

Dated: January 6, 2014.

**P. Michael Payne,**

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

[FR Doc. 2014-00180 Filed 1-9-14; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XC766**

#### Marine Mammals; File No. 17429

**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 Sea Life Park Hawaii, 41-202 Kalanianaʻole Highway, Waimanalo, HI 96795 (Jerry Pupillo, Responsible Party), to maintain non-releasable Hawaiian monk seals (*Monachus schauinslandi*) in captivity for enhancement purposes.

**DATES:** Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before February 10, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** The permit 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 Pacific Islands Region, NMFS, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Room 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814-4700; phone (808) 944-2200; fax (808) 973-2941.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Amy Sloan or Jennifer Skidmore, (301) 427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On August 20, 2013, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (78 FR 51146) that a request for a permit to conduct enhancement 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 (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 222-226).