

and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226).

Notices were published in the **Federal Register** on the dates listed below that

a permit had been issued to the below-named permit holders. To locate the **Federal Register** notice that announced our receipt of the application, notice of

issuance, and a complete description of the research, go to www.regulations.gov and search on the permit number provided in the table below.

File No.	RIN	Permit holder	Federal Register notice of issuance	Permit issuance date
14450	0648–XS35	NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center (Responsible Party: Bonnie Ponwith, Ph.D.), 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, FL 33149.	79 FR 13042; March 7, 2014	March 4, 2014.
14856	0648–XB157	Bruce R. Mate, Ph.D., Hatfield Marine Science Center, Oregon State University, Newport, OR 97365.	78 FR 3346; January 21, 2014 ...	February 25, 2014.
16239	0648–XC268	Dan Engelhaupt, Ph.D., HDR, 5700 Lake Wright Drive, Norfolk, VA 23502.	78 FR 60852; October 2, 2013 ...	September 11, 2013.
17312	0648–XC268	Scripps Institution of Oceanography, (Responsible Party: John Hildebrand, Ph.D.), University of California, 8635 Discovery Way, La Jolla, CA 92093.	78 FR 60852; October 2, 2013 ...	September 11, 2013.
18636	0648–XE075	Iain Kerr, D.H.L., Ocean Alliance, 32 Horton Street, Gloucester, MA 01930.	81 FR 13342; March 14, 2016	February 17, 2016.

The permit holders are requesting amendments to their respective permits to authorize take of the Gulf of Mexico Bryde's whale (*Balaenoptera edeni*) due to NMFS' proposed rule to list this subspecies as endangered under the ESA (81 FR 88639). Combined, the permits currently authorize the following research activities for the species: manned and unmanned aerial surveys and vessel-based surveys for passive acoustic recordings, above and underwater photography and videography, photo-identification, behavioral observations, biological sampling (feces, sloughed skin, exhaled air, and skin and blubber biopsy), tracking, and tagging (suction-cup, dart/barb, and implantable). The permit holders seek to amend their permits to add dedicated takes for the Gulf of Mexico Bryde's whale using these methods should NMFS list the species under the ESA. Details of specific methods and take numbers are available in each application for amendment. The amended permits would be valid through the respective permit's current expiration date.

If the proposed ESA listing becomes final, the Permits and Conservation Division proposes to conditionally authorize the take of Gulf of Mexico Bryde's whales so that no more than the entire population (currently estimated at 33 whales) may be taken annually by methods that may result in Level A harassment (mainly biopsy and tagging) across all permits combined. Authorized takes may be re-authorized and reallocated among permits on an annual or other specified basis after evaluating the status of the species, management needs, researchers' plans, and reported takes by permit holders during the prior year.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that an environmental assessment (EA) is the appropriate level of analysis for these actions. A batched EA is being prepared to examine whether significant environmental impacts could result from issuance of the proposed scientific research permit amendments.

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: November 17, 2017.

Julia Harrison,

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

[FR Doc. 2017–25340 Filed 11–22–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XF844

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 will hold its 161st meeting in December to discuss the items contained in the agenda in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

DATES: The meetings will be held on December 12–13, 2017, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Marriott Resort San Juan Stellaris Casino Hotel, 1309 Ashford Avenue, Condado, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00907.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 270 Muñoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 401, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918–1903, telephone: (787) 766–5926.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

December 12, 2017, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

- Call to Order
- Adoption of Agenda
- Consideration of 160th Council Meeting Verbatim Transcriptions
- Executive Director's Report
 - Status of the Caribbean Fisheries after the storms Irma and María
 - Puerto Rico
 - U.S. Virgin Island
- Scientific and Statistical Committee Meeting Report—Richard Appeldoorn
- Island-based Fishery Management Plans: Review of “Final” Draft Environmental Impact Statement Draft Actions and Alternatives for Each Island Group
 - Action 1: Species to Manage
 - Action 2: Species Groupings
 - Action 3: Reference Points
 - Action 4: Essential Fish Habitat for Stocks Not Previously Managed in Federal Waters
 - Action 5: Framework Measures
 - Next Steps/Timeline Review
- Ecosystem-based Fishery Management
 - Roadmap Implementation Plan Status Report
 - Update on Fishery Ecosystem Plan Development
- Other Business

—Public Comment Period—
(5-minutes presentations)

December 12, 2017, 5:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.

- Administrative Matters
- CY 2017
- Closed Session

December 13, 2017, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

- Outreach and Education Report—
Alida Ortiz
- Enforcement Issues:
 - Puerto Rico-DNER
 - U.S. Virgin Islands-DPNR
 - U.S. Coast Guard
 - NMFS/NOAA
- Meetings Attended by Council
Members and Staff
- Other Business
- Public Comment Period—
(5-minute presentations)
- Next Meeting

The order of business may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the completion of agenda items. The meeting will begin on December 12, 2017 at 9 a.m. Other than the start time, interested parties should be aware that discussions may start earlier or later than indicated. In addition, the meeting may be extended from, or completed prior to the date established in this notice.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions 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 Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. For more information or request for sign language interpretation and other auxiliary aids, please contact Mr. Miguel A. Rolón, Executive Director, Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 270 Muñoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 401, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00918–1903, telephone: (787) 766–5926, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: November 17, 2017.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2017–25366 Filed 11–22–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Greater Atlantic Region Vessel Identification Requirements.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0350.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular (extension of a currently approved information collection).

Number of Respondents: 3,665.

Average Hours per Response: 45 minutes.

Burden Hours: 2,749.

Needs and Uses: Regulations at 50 CFR 648.8 and 697.8 require that owners of vessels over 25 ft (7.6 m) in registered length that have Federal permits to fish in the Greater Atlantic Region display the vessel's name and official number. The name and number must be of a specific size at specified locations: The vessel name must be affixed to the port and starboard sides of the bow and, if possible, on its stern. The official number must be displayed on the port and starboard sides of the deckhouse or hull, and on an appropriate weather deck so as to be clearly visible from enforcement vessels and aircraft. The display of the identifying characters aids in fishery law enforcement.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: Annually.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

This information collection request may be viewed at reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed

information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395–5806.

Dated: November 20, 2017.

Sarah Brabson,

NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2017–25378 Filed 11–22–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XE477

SAW–SARC 64 Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: NMFS and the Northeast Regional Stock Assessment Workshop (SAW) will convene the 64th SAW Stock Assessment Review Committee for the purpose of reviewing the stock assessment of Atlantic mackerel. The Northeast Regional SAW is a formal scientific peer-review process for evaluating and presenting stock assessment results to managers for fish stocks in the offshore U.S. waters of the northwest Atlantic. Assessments are prepared by SAW working groups and reviewed by an independent panel of stock assessment experts called the Stock Assessment Review Committee, or SARC. The public is invited to attend the presentations and discussions between the review panel and the scientists who have participated in the stock assessment process.

DATES: The public portion of the Stock Assessment Review Committee Meeting will be held from November 28, 2017–November 30, 2017. The meeting will commence on November 28, 2017 at 10 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. Please see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for the daily meeting agenda.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the S.H. Clark Conference Room in the Aquarium Building of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sheena Steiner, 508–495–2177; email: sheena.steiner@noaa.gov; or, James