

into other protected areas, such as the SAM East zone. The request for removal of gear and no setting of additional gear will be in effect beginning at 0001 hours July 3, 2003, through 2400 hours July 17, 2003, unless terminated sooner or extended by NMFS, through another notification in the **Federal Register**.

The request for voluntary action will be announced to state officials, fishermen, Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team (ALWTRT) members, and other interested parties through e-mail, phone contact, NOAA website, and other appropriate media immediately upon filing with the **Federal Register**.

Classification

In accordance with section 118(f)(9) of the MMPA, the Assistant Administrator (AA) for Fisheries has determined that this action is necessary to implement a take reduction plan to protect North Atlantic right whales.

This action falls within the scope of alternatives and impacts analyzed in the Final EA prepared for the ALWTRP's DAM program. Further analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is not required.

NMFS determined that the regulations establishing the DAM program and actions such as this one taken pursuant to those regulations are consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the approved coastal management program of the U.S. Atlantic coastal states. This determination was submitted for review by the responsible state agencies under section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act. Following state review of the regulations creating the DAM program, no state disagreed with NMFS' conclusion that the DAM program is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the approved coastal management program for that state.

The DAM program under which NMFS is taking this action contains policies with federalism implications warranting preparation of a federalism assessment under Executive Order 13132. Accordingly, in October 2001, the Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental and Legislative Affairs, DOC, provided notice of the DAM program to the appropriate elected officials in states to be affected by actions taken pursuant to the DAM program. Federalism issues raised by state officials were addressed in the final rule implementing the DAM program. A copy of the federalism Summary Impact Statement for that final rule is available upon request (**ADDRESSES**).

The rule implementing the DAM program has been determined to be not significant under Executive Order 12866.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.* and 50 CFR 229.32(g)(3).

Dated: July 2, 2003.

William T. Hogarth,

*Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 03-17321 Filed 7-3-03; 11:08 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 070103D]

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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's (Council) Summer Flounder Monitoring Committee, Scup Monitoring Committee, Black Sea Bass Monitoring Committee, and Bluefish Monitoring Committee will hold public meetings. **DATES:** The meetings will be held on Tuesday, July 22, 2003 beginning at 9 a.m. with the Summer Flounder Monitoring Committee followed by the Scup Monitoring Committee, then the Black Sea Bass Monitoring Committee and the Bluefish Monitoring Committee. **ADDRESSES:** This meeting will be held at the Sheraton BWI, 7032 Elm Road, Baltimore, MD; telephone: 410-859-3300.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Room 2115, 300 S. New Street, Dover, DE 19904.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: 302-674-2331, ext. 19.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of these meetings is to recommend the 2004 commercial management measures, commercial quotas, and recreational harvest limits for summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass. The Bluefish Monitoring Committee will meet to recommend commercial management measures, recreational management measures, and a commercial quota and recreational harvest limit for bluefish for 2004.

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

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Joanna Davis at the Council Office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: July 1, 2003.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 03-17243 Filed 7-8-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 070103E]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling public meetings of its Scallop Oversight Committee in July, 2003 to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate. **DATES:** The meetings will be held between July 22-31, 2003. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held in Warwick, RI and Revere, MA. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific locations.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Tuesday, July 22, 2003 at 9 a.m.*—Scallop Oversight Committee Meeting.

Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel, 801 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick, RI 02886; telephone: (401) 732-6000.

The Scallop Committee will review written public comments on Draft Amendment 10 and develop recommendations for final alternatives. The Plan Development Team will also report on revised TAC estimates and associated trip/day-at-sea allocations under various potential preferred and non-preferred alternatives. The committee will also consider strategies in Amendment 10 for initial 2004 alternatives without area rotation and controlled area access in effect. Other alternatives and issues related to Amendment 10 and scallop management may be discussed.

Thursday, July 31, 2003 at 9 a.m.—Scallop Oversight Committee Meeting.

Location: Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, 407 Squire Road, Revere, MA 02151; telephone: (781) 284-7200.

As a follow-up to the meeting on July 22, the Scallop Committee will finalize its recommendations for the Amendment 10 proposed action. Other alternatives and issues related to Amendment 10 and scallop management may be discussed and recommendations of the Committee will be presented at the Council meeting on August 14 in Peabody, MA.

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 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 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 aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: July 1, 2003.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 03-17242 Filed 7-8-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 060303E]

Marine Mammals; File No. 545-1488

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Craig Matkin, North Gulf Oceanic Society, 60920 Mary Allen Avenue, Homer, AK 99603, has been issued an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 545-1488-01.

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)713-0376; and

Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; phone (907)586-7221; fax (907)586-7249.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jill Lewandowski or Carrie Hubard, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 21, 2003, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 2751) that an amendment of Permit No. 545-1488, issued May 7, 1999 (64 FR 24592), had been requested by the above-named organization. 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 permit amendment adds the deployment of tags (short-term radio, satellite, acoustic recording, and underwater video tags) by close approach and biopsy sampling on the following species (except where noted in parentheses, additional annual takes beyond those already authorized under Permit No. 545-1488 include 150 photo-identification, 25 tagging and 30 biopsy sampling per species per year): killer whale (60 tagged and 64 biopsy sampled

individuals per year), gray whale, harbor porpoise, Dall's porpoise, Pacific white-sided dolphin, Baird's beaked whale, Cuvier's beaked whale and Stejneger's beaked whales. The purpose of the amendment, as noted in the application, is to examine diving behavior, feeding, and movements of whales and to obtain information on elusive and rarely studied species.

Dated: July 2, 2003.

Stephen L. Leatherly,

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

[FR Doc. 03-17241 Filed 7-8-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 070103C]

Marine Mammals; Photography Permit Application No. 997-1704

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

ACTION: Correction.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that this corrects the document published on June 26, 2003, announcing that Bob McLaughlin, P.O. Box 496, 339 Glenwood, Eastsound, Washington 98245, had applied in due form for a permit to take several species of non-listed marine mammals for purposes of commercial/educational photography. **DATES:** This action is effective July 9, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the offices listed in the original document published on June 26, 2003, as well as:

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562)980-4001; fax (562)980-4018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Jefferies or Ruth Johnson, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The last sentence of the first paragraph under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** in document 68 FR 38011 is revised to read as follows, "However, in the meantime, NMFS has received and is processing this request as a "pilot" application for Level B Harassment of non-listed marine mammals for photographic purposes."