

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 of the webinar participants 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 Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt at (503) 820-2411 at least 10 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: November 21, 2018.

**Key Israel Marquez,**

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

[FR Doc. 2018-25829 Filed 11-26-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XG632**

#### Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice; public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Northeast Trawl Advisory Panel (NTAP) of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council will hold a meeting.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Monday, December 17, beginning at 9 a.m. and conclude by 4:30 p.m. For agenda details, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) office located on 28 Tarzwell Dr., Narragansett, RI 02882 and available via webinar (<http://www.mafmc.org/ntap>).

*Council address:* Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N. State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674-2331; [www.mafmc.org](http://www.mafmc.org).

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of this meeting is to: (1) Review results of the Nov. 19th Working Group

meeting, (2) update on the status of the flume tank experiments, (3) update on evaluation of effect of wingspread on assessment results, (4) update on results of the 2018 fall survey, (5) update on the project to collect and evaluate fishery ecological knowledge of Gulf of Maine flatfish distribution shifts and their impacts on the availability to fishery independent surveys and (6) discuss other business and next steps for the NTAP.

### Special Accommodations

These meetings are 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) 526-5251 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: November 21, 2018.

**Key Israel Marquez,**

*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-XG636**

#### Fisheries of the South Atlantic; 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 59 Assessment Scoping webinar.

**SUMMARY:** The SEDAR 59 assessment of the South Atlantic stock of Greater Amberjack will consist of a series of webinars. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**DATES:** A SEDAR 59 Assessment Scoping webinar will be held on Friday, December 14, 2018, from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m.

### ADDRESSES:

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

*SEDAR address:* South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405. [www.sedarweb.org](http://www.sedarweb.org).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julia Byrd, SEDAR Coordinator, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405; phone: (843) 571-4366; email: [julia.byrd@safmc.net](mailto:julia.byrd@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions, have implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. The product of the SEDAR webinar series will be a report which compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses, and describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include: Data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs); international experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

The items of discussion in the Assessment Scoping webinar are as follows:

Participants will review data and discuss data issues, as necessary, and initial modeling issues.

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 SAFMC office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 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: November 21, 2018.

**Key Israel Marquez,**

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

[FR Doc. 2018-25827 Filed 11-26-18; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**XRIN 0648-XF763**

#### Marine Mammals; Pinniped Removal Authority; Approval of Application

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS announces the approval of an application from the state of Oregon (state) for lethal removal of individually identifiable predatory California sea lions (CSL; *Zalophus californianus*) in the vicinity of Willamette Falls to minimize pinniped predation on Upper Willamette River (UWR) spring-run Chinook salmon (*Onchorhynchus spp.*) and UWR winter steelhead, both listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), in the Willamette River in Oregon. This authorization is pursuant to section 120 of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). NMFS also announces availability of decision documents and other information relied upon in making this determination.

**ADDRESSES:** Additional information about our determination may be obtained by visiting the NMFS West Coast Region's website: <http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov>, or by writing to us at: NMFS West Coast Region, Protected Resources Division, 1201 Lloyd Blvd., Suite 1100, Portland, OR 97232.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Robert Anderson at the above address, by phone at (503) 231-2226, or by email at, [robert.c.anderson@noaa.gov](mailto:robert.c.anderson@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## Background

Section 120 of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361, *et seq.*) allows the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, and the West Coast Regional Administrator of NMFS, the discretion to authorize the intentional lethal taking of individually identifiable pinnipeds that are having a significant negative impact on salmonid fishery stocks that are either: (1) Listed under the ESA, (2) approaching a threatened or endangered status, or (3) migrate through the Ballard Locks in Seattle. The authorization applies only to pinnipeds that are not: (1) Listed under the ESA, (2) designated as depleted, or (3) designated a strategic stock.

On October 6, 2017, NMFS received an application signed by the director of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) on the state's behalf, requesting authorization under section 120 of the MMPA to intentionally take, by lethal methods, individually identifiable predatory CSL in the vicinity of Willamette Falls, which were then having a significant negative impact on the recovery of threatened UWR spring-run Chinook salmon and UWR winter steelhead. As required under the MMPA, NMFS convened a Pinniped-Fishery Interaction Task Force (Task Force). The role of the Task Force is to recommend to NMFS approval or denial of the state's application along with recommendations of the proposed location, time, and method of such taking, criteria for evaluating the success of the action, and the duration of the intentional lethal taking authority. The Task Force must also suggest non-lethal alternatives, if available and practicable, including a recommended course of action.

Pursuant to the MMPA, NMFS determined that the state's application contained sufficient information to warrant convening the Task Force. On November 9, 2017, NMFS published a notice in the **Federal Register** (82 FR 52083), announcing receipt of the state's application, and soliciting public comments on the application and any additional information that NMFS should consider in making its decision. On August 20-22, 2018, NMFS convened a Task Force that was open to the public. The Task Force reviewed the state's application, public comments on the application, and other information related to CSL predation on UWR spring-run Chinook salmon and UWR winter steelhead at Willamette Falls. The Task Force completed and submitted its report to NMFS on October 15, 2018. The majority of Task

Force members present at the meeting (12 of 16) recommended that NMFS approve the state's application, while 1 Task Force member recommended that NMFS deny the state's application, and 3 Task Force members abstained. All decision documents, including a copy of the authorization, are available on NMFS's West Coast Region web page (see **ADDRESSES**).

## Findings

As required under section 7(a)(2) under the ESA, NMFS completed informal consultation, and in accordance with NEPA, NMFS completed an environmental assessment with a finding of no significant impact. In considering a state's application to lethally remove pinnipeds, NMFS is also required, pursuant to section 120(b)(1) of the MMPA, to determine that individually identifiable pinnipeds are having a significant negative impact on the decline or recovery of at-risk salmonid fishery stocks. Based on these requirements, considerations, and analyses, NMFS has determined that the requirements of section 120 of the MMPA have been met and it is therefore reasonable to issue an authorization to the state for the lethal removal of individually identifiable predatory CSL through 2023.

Dated: November 21, 2018.

**Donna Wieting,**

*Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2018-25871 Filed 11-26-18; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### U.S. Strategic Command Strategic Advisory Group; Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** Office of the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff, U.S. Strategic Command Strategic Advisory Group, Department of Defense.

**ACTION:** Notice of Federal Advisory Committee meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Defense (DoD) is publishing this notice to announce that the following Federal Advisory Committee meeting of the U.S. Strategic Command Strategic Advisory Group will take place.

**DATES:** Day 1—Closed to the public Thursday, November 29, 2018, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Day 2—Closed to the public Friday, November 30, 2018, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.