

business for the day. The Panel will reconvene on Tuesday, July 23, 2013 and will continue through Friday, July 26, 2013 beginning at 8:30 a.m. and ending at 5:30 p.m. each day, or as necessary to complete business. The Panel will adjourn on Friday, July 26.

The Stock Assessment Review Panel for the cowcod and Pacific sanddabs stock assessments will be held beginning at 8:30 a.m., Monday, August 5, 2013 and end at 5:30 p.m. or as necessary to complete business for the day. The Panel will reconvene on Tuesday, August 6, 2013 and will continue through Friday, August 9, 2013 beginning at 8:30 a.m. and ending at 5:30 p.m. each day, or as necessary to complete business. The Panel will adjourn on Friday, August 9.

The meetings will be held in Santa Cruz, CA and Seattle, WA. The specific meetings and their locations are listed below.

The Stock Assessment Review Panel for the data moderate stock assessments will be held at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Santa Cruz Laboratory, 110 Shaffer Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95060; telephone: (831) 420-3900.

The Stock Assessment Review Panel for the Petrale sole and darkblotched rockfish stock assessments will be held at the Silver Cloud University Inn, 5036 25th Avenue NE., Seattle, WA 98105; telephone: (206) 526-5200.

The Stock Assessment Review Panel for the roughey rockfish and aurora rockfish stock assessments will be held at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northwest Fisheries Science, The Auditorium, 2725 Montlake Blvd. East, Seattle, WA 98112-2097; telephone: (206) 860-3200.

The Stock Assessment Review Panel for the shortspine thornyhead and longspine thornyhead stock assessments will be held at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northwest Fisheries Science, The Auditorium, 2725 Montlake Blvd. East, Seattle, WA 98112-2097; telephone: (206) 860-3200.

The Stock Assessment Review Panel for the cowcod and Pacific sanddabs stock assessments will be held at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Santa Cruz Laboratory, 110 Shaffer Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95060; telephone: (831) 420-3900.

The purpose of the Stock Assessment Review Panels is to review draft 2013 stock assessment documents and any other pertinent information for stock assessments using data-moderate methods as well as category 1 benchmark stock assessments for petrale sole, darkblotched rockfish, roughey

rockfish, aurora rockfish, shortspine thornyhead, longspine thornyhead, cowcod and Pacific sanddabs, work with the Stock Assessment Teams to make necessary revisions; and produce Stock Assessment Review Panel reports for use by the Pacific Council family and other interested persons for developing management recommendations for 2015-16 fisheries. No management actions will be decided by the STAR Panels. The Panel's role will be development of recommendations and reports for consideration by the Pacific Council at its June meeting in Garden Grove, CA and its September meeting in Boise, ID.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the meeting agenda may come before the STAR Panels participants for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal Stock Assessment Review Panel action during these meetings. Panel 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 Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Panel participants' intent to take final action to address the emergency.

All visitors to the National Marine Fisheries Service science centers should bring photo identification to the meeting location. Visitors who are foreign nationals (defined as a person who is not a citizen or national of the United States) will require additional security clearance to access the NOAA facilities. Foreign national visitors should contact Ms. Stacey Miller at (541) 961-8475 at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting date to initiate the security clearance process.

Special Accommodations

The meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Ms. Carolyn Porter at (503) 820-2280 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 26, 2013.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2013-07364 Filed 3-28-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC602

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

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) announces its intent to hold a workshop in conjunction with a joint meeting of the Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish and Ecosystems and Ocean Planning Advisory Panels. The purpose of the workshop is to facilitate development of spatial alternatives for deep sea coral protection areas for inclusion in Amendment 16 to the Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fishery Management Plan.

DATES: The workshop will be held on Thursday, April 18, 2013, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The workshop will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn Baltimore/Arundel Mills, 7491-A New Ridge Road, Hanover, MD, 21076; telephone: (410) 878-7200.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N. State Street, 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, 800 N. State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 526-5255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This workshop will address the need for a refined set of deep sea coral protection area options for inclusion in Amendment 16 to the Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fishery Management Plan (Protections for Deep Sea Corals). The Council will solicit the input of the Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Advisory Panel, the Ecosystems and Ocean Planning Advisory Panel, additional deep sea coral experts, and additional fishing industry participants with an interest in or knowledge of fishing occurring in potential protection areas. Goals of the workshop include an enhanced understanding of fishing effort in relation to deep sea coral distribution in the Mid-Atlantic, and production of a jointly developed set of alternatives for deep sea coral protection

zones to be considered at future public hearings and Council meetings.

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 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

The meeting is 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: March 26, 2013.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2013-07362 Filed 3-28-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA713

Endangered Species; File No. 16547-01

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

ACTION: Notice, issuance of permit modification

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 11110 Kimages Road; Charles City, Virginia 23030 [Albert Spells: Responsible Party], has been issued a permit modification to take Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*) for purposes of scientific research.

ADDRESSES: The permit modification 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
- Northeast Region, NMFS, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930;

phone (978) 281-9328; fax (978) 281-9394.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Malcolm Mohead or Colette Cairns, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 7, 2012, notice was published in the *Federal Register* (77 FR 73024) that a request for a scientific research permit modification to take Atlantic sturgeon had been submitted by the above-named applicant. The requested permit modification has been issued under the authority of 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).

Permit No. 16547 currently authorizes the permit holder to: evaluate the abundance of Atlantic sturgeon within the Chesapeake Distinct Population Segment (DPS); including the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries above and below 22 parts per thousand salinity. Researchers are currently authorized to capture adult, juvenile and early life stages (ELS) of Atlantic sturgeon using gill nets, trawls, fyke nets, trammel nets, pound nets and egg mats; and to measure, weigh, tissue sample, Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) Tag, and Floy tag appropriately sized animals. A subset can be tagged either externally or internally with telemetry tags dependent on the life stage (adult, sub-adult and juvenile) and the salinity level where captured; or also externally satellite tagged.

The permit holder now is authorized to: telemetry tag adult or juvenile Atlantic sturgeon with either internal or external telemetry tags without respect to salinity level in the waters of Virginia and Maryland. All previous activities are authorized; however, the numbers of adult and sub-adult Atlantic sturgeon taken will be reduced from 425 to 350 per year, while numbers of juvenile Atlantic sturgeon taken will be reduced from 175 to 125 annually. The permit holder is also authorized to internally telemetry tag 50 juvenile Atlantic sturgeon. The numbers of ELS will also be increased from 25 to 50 annually while using a film crew to document the activity. The modification will be valid until the permit expires on April 5, 2017.

Dated: March 26, 2013.

Helen Golde,

Acting Chief, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2013-07342 Filed 3-28-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC430

Small Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Cape Wind's High Resolution Survey in Nantucket Sound, MA

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of an incidental harassment authorization.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), notification is hereby given that NMFS has issued an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) to Cape Wind Associates (CWA) to take marine mammals, by harassment, incidental to pre-construction high resolution survey activities in Nantucket Sound.

DATES: Effective April 1, 2013, through March 31, 2014.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the IHA and application are available by writing to Michael Payne, Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

An electronic copy of the application containing a list of references used in this document may be obtained by visiting the internet at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/permits/incidental.htm#applications>. NMFS prepared its own Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in 2011, which are available at the same internet address. Documents cited in this notice may be viewed, by appointment, during regular business hours, at the aforementioned address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michelle Magliocca, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) direct the Secretary of Commerce to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specific geographical region if certain findings are made and either regulations are issued or, if the taking is limited to harassment, a notice of a proposed