

designated critical habitat. To ensure ESA compliance for the issuance of IHAs, NMFS consults internally whenever we propose to authorize take for endangered or threatened species.

No incidental take of ESA-listed species is authorized or expected to result from this activity. Therefore, NMFS has determined that formal consultation under section 7 of the ESA is not required for this action.

National Environmental Policy Act

To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) 216-6A, NMFS must review our action (*i.e.*, the issuance of an IHA) with respect to potential impacts on the human environment.

This action is consistent with categories of activities identified in Categorical Exclusion B4 (IHAs with no anticipated serious injury or mortality) of the Companion Manual for NOAA Administrative Order 216-6A, which do not individually or cumulatively have the potential for significant impacts on the quality of the human environment and for which we have not identified any extraordinary circumstances that would preclude this categorical exclusion. Accordingly, NMFS has determined that the issuance of the IHA qualifies to be categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Authorization

NMFS has issued an IHA to UT for the potential harassment of small numbers of three marine mammal species incidental to the marine geophysical survey in coastal waters off of Texas that includes the previously explained mitigation, monitoring and reporting requirements.

Dated: September 22, 2023.

Catherine Marzin,

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

[FR Doc. 2023-21089 Filed 9-26-23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XD404]

Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will hold a one day in-person meeting of its Shrimp Advisory Panel (AP).

DATES: The meeting will convene Thursday, October 19, 2023, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., EDT. For agenda details, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place at the Gulf Council office. Registration information will be available on the Council's website by visiting www.gulfcouncil.org and clicking on the Shrimp AP meeting on the calendar.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 4107 W. Spruce Street, Suite 200, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Matt Freeman, Economist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; matt.freeman@gulfcouncil.org; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following items are on the agenda, though agenda items may be addressed out of order (changes will be noted on the Council's website when possible.) Thursday, October 19, 2023; 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. EST (7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. CST).

Meeting will begin with Adoption of Agenda, Approval of Summaries from the March 15-16, 2023, meeting and the May 18, 2023, meeting, and Scope of Work. The AP will review and discuss Council Actions in Response to Motions from the April and May 2023 Shrimp AP Meetings, receive a presentation on National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) cellular vessel monitoring system Project, discuss a collaborative path forward to Understand Inshore Shrimping Effort to Inform Sea Turtle Restoration Efforts in the Gulf of Mexico.

The AP will receive updates from Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) on Gulf Wind Energy, on re-initiation of Shrimp Biological Opinion due to Sawfish and Giant Manta Rays, and on Endangered Species Act Listing and Critical Habitat Rule.

The AP will review and discuss SEDAR 87 Assessment update for Brown, White and Pink Shrimp and receive information update on Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource and Damage Assessment projects.

Lastly, the AP will receive any public testimony and discuss other business items.

Meeting Adjourns—

The in-person meeting will be broadcast via webinar. You may register by visiting www.gulfcouncil.org and clicking on the Shrimp Advisory Panel meeting on the calendar.

The Agenda is subject to change, and the latest version along with other meeting materials will be posted on www.gulfcouncil.org as they become available.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agenda may come before the Advisory Panel for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Actions 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 Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take action to address the emergency at least 5 working days prior to the meeting.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid or accommodations should be directed to Kathy Pereira, kathy.pereira@gulfcouncil.org, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: September 22, 2023.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2023-21060 Filed 9-26-23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XD405]

Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will hold a meeting of its Law Enforcement Technical Committee (LETC), in conjunction with the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's Law Enforcement Committee (LEC).

DATES: The meeting will convene on Wednesday, October 18, 2023; beginning at 8:30 a.m. until 12 p.m., CDT. The Committees will be in a closed session from 7:30 a.m. until 8:15 a.m. CDT.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel, located at Two Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA 70130; (504) 561-0500. Please visit the Gulf Council website (www.gulfcouncil.org) for agenda and meeting materials information.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 4107 W Spruce Street, Suite 200, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. John Froeschke, Deputy Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; john.froeschke@gulfcouncil.org, telephone: (813) 348-1630, and Mr. Steve VanderKooy, Inter-jurisdictional Fisheries (IJF) Coordinator, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission; svanderkooy@gsmfc.org, telephone: (228) 875-5912.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following items of discussion are on the agenda, though agenda items may be addressed out of order and any changes will be noted on the Council's website when possible.

Joint Gulf Council's Law Enforcement Technical Committee (LETC) and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's Law Enforcement Committee (LEC) Meeting Agenda, Wednesday, October 18, 2023; Beginning at 8:30 a.m.—12 p.m., CDT

The joint meeting will begin in a **CLOSED SESSION** from 7:30 a.m.—8:15 a.m. with introductions, case work discussions and any other business.

General session will begin at approximately 8:30 a.m. with introductions and adoption of agenda, and approval of minutes from the Joint LEC/LETC virtual meeting from March 2023 and election of Joint Committee Chair and Vice Chair.

The Gulf Council LETC will hold a discussion on Red Snapper Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) advanced landing notifications from 2022 including a review of the Proportion of Inspected to Non-Inspected Red Snapper IFQ landings and Sale of Recreationally Caught Fish; and will review the Nomination Process for the 2023 Officer/Team of the Year Award.

The GSMFC LEC will review the IJF Program Activity for Gray (Mangrove) Snapper Profile Status and Commission Pubs.

The committee will present the State Report Highlights from Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), NOAA Office of Law Enforcement (OLE), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS); and will discuss any Other Business items.
— Meeting Adjourns

The Agenda is subject to change, and the latest version along with other meeting materials will be posted on www.gulfcouncil.org.

The Law Enforcement Technical Committee consists of principal law enforcement officers in each of the Gulf States, as well as the NOAA OLE, USFWS, the USCG, and the NOAA Office of General Counsel for Law Enforcement.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agenda may come before this group for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Actions will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda 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 action to address the emergency.

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

Dated: September 22, 2023.

Rey 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

[RTID 0648-XC044]

Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to U.S. Coast Guard Construction in Astoria, Oregon

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

ACTION: Notice; proposed incidental harassment authorization; request for comments on proposed authorization and possible renewal.

SUMMARY: NMFS has received a request from the United States Coast Guard (USCG) for authorization to take marine mammals incidental to the East Tongue Point (ETP) construction project in Astoria, Oregon. Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposal to issue an incidental harassment authorization (IHA) to incidentally take marine mammals during the specified activities. NMFS is also requesting

comments on a possible one-time, 1-year renewal that could be issued under certain circumstances and if all requirements are met, as described in Request for Public Comments at the end of this notice. NMFS will consider public comments prior to making any final decision on the issuance of the requested MMPA authorization and agency responses will be summarized in the final notice of our decision.

DATES: Comments and information must be received no later than October 27, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Jolie Harrison, Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service and should be submitted via email to ITP.harlacher@noaa.gov. Electronic copies of the application and supporting documents, as well as a list of the references cited in this document, may be obtained online at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/incidental-take-authorizations-construction-activities>. In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed below.

Instructions: NMFS is not responsible for comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period. Comments, including all attachments, must not exceed a 25-megabyte file size. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted online at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/incidental-take-authorizations-construction-activities> without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The MMPA prohibits the “take” of marine mammals, with certain exceptions. Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) direct the Secretary of Commerce (as delegated to NMFS) 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 specified