

Councils. Each member of the Advisory Committee appointed under paragraph (1) shall serve for a term of 2 years and be eligible for reappointment. The Committee meets at least twice a year during which members receive information and provide advice on ICCAT-related matters. All members of the Advisory Committee are appointed in their individual professional capacity and undergo a background screening. Any individual appointed to the Committee who is unable to attend all or part of an Advisory Committee meeting may not appoint another person to attend such meetings as his or her proxy. Members of the Advisory Committee shall receive no compensation for their services. The Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of State may pay the necessary travel expenses of members of the Advisory Committee. The terms of all currently appointed Advisory Committee members expire on December 31, 2020. NMFS is soliciting nominees to serve as members of the Advisory Committee for a term of 2 years that will begin January 1, 2021 and expire December 31, 2022.

Section 971b–1 of ATCA specifies that the U.S. Commissioners may establish species working groups for the purpose of providing advice and recommendations to the U.S. Commissioners and to the Advisory Committee on matters relating to the conservation and management of any highly migratory species covered by the ICCAT Convention. Any species working group shall consist of no more than seven members of the Advisory Committee and no more than four Technical Advisors, as considered

necessary by the Commissioners. Currently, there are four species working groups advising the Committee and the U.S. Commissioners: A Bluefin Tuna Working Group, a Swordfish/Sharks Working Group, a Billfish Working Group, and a Bigeye, Albacore, Yellowfin, and Skipjack Tunas Working Group. Technical Advisors to the species working groups serve at the pleasure of the Commissioners; therefore, the Commissioners can choose to alter these appointments at any time. As with Committee Members, Technical Advisors may not be represented by a proxy during meetings of the Advisory Committee.

#### Procedure for Submitting Nominations

Nominations to the Advisory Committee, or to a species working group, should include a letter of interest and a resume or curriculum vitae. Self-nominations are acceptable. Letters of recommendation are useful but not required. When making a nomination, please specify which appointment (Advisory Committee member or Technical Advisor to a species working group) is being sought. Nominees may also indicate which of the species working groups is preferred, although placement on the requested group is not guaranteed.

Dated: September 13, 2020.

**Alexa Cole,**

*Director, Office of International Affairs and Seafood Inspection, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2020–20489 Filed 9–16–20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XA486]

#### Marine Mammals and Endangered Species

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

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of permits and permit amendments.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that permits and permit amendments have been issued to the following entities under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA), as applicable.

**ADDRESSES:** The permits and related documents are available for review upon written request via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Shasta McClenahan (Permit No. 23467–01); Jennifer Skidmore (Permit Nos. 18902–01 and 19590–02), and Erin Markin (Permit No. 23836); at (301) 427–8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notices were published in the **Federal Register** on the dates listed below that requests for a permit or permit amendment had been submitted by the below-named applicants. To locate the **Federal Register** notice that announced our receipt of the application and a complete description of the research, go to [www.federalregister.gov](http://www.federalregister.gov) and search on the permit number provided in Table 1 below.

TABLE 1—ISSUED PERMITS AND PERMIT AMENDMENTS

Permit No.	RTID	Applicant	Previous <b>Federal Register</b> notice	Issuance date
18902–01	0648–XD856	Colleen Reichmuth, Ph.D., Long Marine Laboratory, University of California at Santa Cruz, 100 Shaffer Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95064.	81 FR 2846; January 19, 2016.	August 31, 2020.
19590–02	0648–XE022	Terrie M. Williams, Ph.D., Long Marine Laboratory, University of California Santa Cruz, 115 McAllister Way, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.	80 FR 59738; October 2, 2015.	August 31, 2020.
23467–01	0648–XA119	Sarah Conner, Wild Space Productions, St. Stephens House, Colston Avenue, Bristol, BS1 4ST, United Kingdom.	85 FR 21837; April 20, 2020 ..	August 3, 2020.
23836	0648–XA232	Wildstar Films, Ltd., Embassy House, Queens Avenue, Bristol, BS8 1SB, United Kingdom (Responsible Party: Jo Harvey).	85 FR 36377; June 16, 2020	August 21, 2020.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activities proposed are categorically

excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

As required by the ESA, as applicable, issuance of these permit was based on

a finding that such permits: (1) Were applied for in good faith; (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of such endangered species; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and

policies set forth in Section 2 of the ESA.

**Authority:** The requested permits have been issued under the MMPA of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), the ESA of 1973, as amended (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), as applicable.

Dated: September 14, 2020.

**Julia Marie Harrison,**

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

[FR Doc. 2020–20495 Filed 9–16–20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XA493]

#### 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 (Council) will hold a 1-day meeting via webinar of its Reef Fish Advisory Panel (AP).

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020, from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., EDT.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will take place via webinar; you may register by visiting [www.gulfcouncil.org](http://www.gulfcouncil.org) and clicking on the Advisory Panel 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:** Ryan Rindone, Lead Fishery Biologist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; [ryan.rindone@gulfcouncil.org](mailto:ryan.rindone@gulfcouncil.org), telephone: (813) 348–1630.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Tuesday, October 6, 2020; 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m., EDT**

The meeting will begin with Introductions and Adoption of Agenda, and review of Scope of Work. The AP will review presentations, documents, Draft Reef Fish Amendment 53: Red Grouper Allocations and Annual Catch Levels and Targets, SEDAR 67: Gulf of

Mexico Vermilion Snapper Stock Assessment, SEDAR 64: Southeastern U.S. Yellowtail Snapper Stock Assessment, Gray Triggerfish Interim Analysis, and Draft Reef Fish Framework Action: Modification of the Gulf of Mexico Lane Snapper Annual Catch Limit.

The AP will review a Public Hearing Draft Amendment 36B: Modifications to Commercial Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Programs, receive a presentation on *Testing assumptions about sex change and spatial management in the protogynous gag grouper, Mycteroperca microlepis*; and, receive public comments.

#### —Meeting Adjourns

The meeting will be broadcast via webinar. You may register for the webinar by visiting [www.gulfcouncil.org](http://www.gulfcouncil.org) and clicking on the AP 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](http://www.gulfcouncil.org) as they become available.

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 of the Advisory Panel 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 14, 2020.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2020–20535 Filed 9–16–20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO–P–2020–0036]

#### Deferred-Fee Provisional Patent Application Pilot Program and Collaboration Database To Encourage Inventions Related To COVID–19

**AGENCY:** United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Patents and published patent applications provide a key source of free-flowing technical information among the world's brightest minds, thus promoting further innovation. The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO or Office) recognizes that its charge to issue high-quality patents to inventors goes hand-in-hand with dissemination of this important information. Such information flow is now more important than ever in view of the urgent challenges posed by COVID–19. Therefore, the USPTO is implementing a deferred-fee provisional patent application pilot program (the program) to promote the expedited exchange of information about inventions designed to combat COVID–19. Under this program, the USPTO will permit applicants to defer payment of the provisional application filing fee until the filing of a corresponding nonprovisional application. In turn, applicants must agree that the technical subject matter disclosed in their provisional applications will be made available to the public via a searchable collaboration database maintained on the USPTO's website. To qualify for the program, the subject matter disclosed in the provisional application must concern a product or process related to COVID–19, and such product or process must be subject to an applicable Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval for COVID–19 use, whether such approval has been obtained, is pending, or will be sought prior to marketing the subject matter for COVID–19.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by November 16, 2020 to ensure consideration.

**Pilot Duration:** The deferred-fee provisional patent application pilot program will accept certifications and requests for participation for a period of 12 months, beginning on September 17, 2020. The USPTO may extend the pilot program (with or without modifications) or terminate it depending on the workload and resources needed to administer it, feedback from the public, and its effectiveness. Depending on feedback and public interest, the technological scope could also be expanded beyond COVID–19 to other areas that are the focus of pioneering or rapid innovation. If the pilot program is extended or terminated, the USPTO will notify the public. The USPTO may also make the program permanent via the rule-making process.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent by email addressed to [Covid19ProvisionalApplication@uspto.gov](mailto:Covid19ProvisionalApplication@uspto.gov). If submission of comments by