

headed whales (*Peponocephala electra*), pilot whales (*Globicephala macrorhynchus*), and sperm whales (*Physeter macrocephalus*).

Pursuant to these regulations, NMFS has issued an LOA to ExxonMobil Production Company. Issuance of the LOA is based on a finding made in the preamble to the final rule that the total taking by these activities (with monitoring, mitigation, and reporting measures) will result in no more than a negligible impact on the affected species or stock(s) of marine mammals and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on subsistence uses. NMFS also finds that the applicant will meet the requirements contained in the implementing regulations and LOA, including monitoring, mitigation, and reporting requirements.

Dated: April 16, 2009.

**James H. Lecky,**

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

[FR Doc. E9-9264 Filed 4-21-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XO20**

#### Endangered Species; File No. 13544 and No. 13573

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

**ACTION:** Issuance of permits.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Jeffrey Schmid, Conservancy of Southwest Florida, 1450 Merrihue Drive, Naples, FL 34102 has been issued a permit to take Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*), loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), and green (*Chelonia mydas*) sea turtles for purposes of scientific research. Michael Salmon, Florida Atlantic University, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991 has been issued a permit to take green sea turtles for purposes of scientific research.

**ADDRESSES:** The permits and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

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)427-2521.

Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Ave South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701; phone (727)824-5312; fax (727)824-5309.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kate Swails or Patrick Opay, (301)713-2289.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On July 24, 2008, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (73 FR 43211) that a request for a scientific research permit to take sea turtles had been submitted by Dr. Schmid. On September 3, 2008, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (73 FR 51446) that a request for a scientific research permit to take sea turtles had been submitted by Dr. Salmon. The requested permits have 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).

Dr. Schmid's research activities will characterize the aggregations of marine turtles in the nearshore waters of Lee County in southwest Florida. The permit holder will annually capture 130 Kemp's ridley, 50 loggerhead, 20 green, and five hawksbill turtles. Turtles will be collected in Pine Island Sound, San Carlos Bay, Estero Bay, and adjacent Gulf of Mexico waters using a large-mesh, run-around strike net. Turtles will be measured, weighed, and tagged with Inconel and passive integrated transponder tags. Tissue samples will be collected for genetic and stable isotope analyses. A subset of Kemp's ridleys will be held for 24-48 hrs. for fecal sample collection. Another subset of Kemp's ridleys will receive electronic transmitters to investigate their movements, home range, and habitat associations. The permit is a five-year permit.

Dr. Salmon will study when green sea turtle navigation is guided by magnetic versus solar cues. Animals will be captured by hand, handled, weighed, measured, flipper and passive integrated transponder tagged, transported, temporarily held for experiments in an outdoor tank arena, and released. Researchers will capture and conduct research on up to 40 animals on near shore reefs of Palm Beach County, Florida over the course of the permit. The permit is issued for 3 years.

Issuance of these permits, as required by the ESA, 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 or threatened species, and (3) are consistent with the purposes and

policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: April 17, 2009.

**P. Michael Payne,**

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

[FR Doc. E9-9252 Filed 4-21-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XO83**

#### New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice; public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council's (Council) VMS/ Enforcement Committee will meet to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Friday, May 8, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** *Meeting address:* The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Ferncroft Hotel, 50 Ferncroft Road, Danvers, MA 01923; Telephone: (978) 777-2500; Fax: (978) 750-7991.

*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; telephone: (978)465-0492.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The items of discussion in the committee's agenda are as follows:

(1) The committee will review and discuss management alternatives under development in Amendment 4 to the Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan (FMP), which may include measures to establish annual catch limits and accountability measures, a catch monitoring program for the Atlantic herring fishery, management measures to address/minimize bycatch, and measures to address access by herring vessels to groundfish closed areas; and develop Enforcement Committee recommendations for Herring Committee/Council consideration.

(2) The enforcement discussion regarding Amendment 4 to the Herring FMP will likely focus on the details of

the proposed alternatives to establish a catch monitoring program, including: provisions for "maximized retention" and other measures to address slippage and minimize bycatch; measures to implement a dockside monitoring program; measures to improve reporting, compliance, and quota monitoring; and measures to address at-sea monitoring (including measures to improve observer working conditions and data collection);

(3) Other business.

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 Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: April 17, 2009.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. E9-9189 Filed 4-21-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-X027**

#### International Whaling Commission; 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting; Announcement of Public Meetings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of meetings.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces the date, time, and location of the public meetings being held prior to the 61<sup>st</sup> annual International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting.

**DATES:** The public meetings will be held May 27 and May 29, 2009, at 1 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting on May 27<sup>th</sup> will be held in the Chesapeake Room of the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 8777 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup> will be held in the NOAA Western Regional Center Auditorium, 7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Seattle, WA 98115.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ryan Wulff, 301-713-9090, Extension 196.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Secretary of Commerce is charged with the responsibility of discharging the domestic obligations of the United States under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, 1946. The U.S. Commissioner has responsibility for the preparation and negotiation of U.S. positions on international issues concerning whaling and for all matters involving the IWC. He is staffed by the Department of Commerce and assisted by the Department of State, the Department of the Interior, the Marine Mammal Commission, and by other agencies.

Once the draft agenda for the annual IWC meeting is completed, it will be posted on the IWC Secretariat's website at <http://www.iwcoffice.org>.

NOAA will hold meetings prior to the annual IWC meeting to discuss the tentative U.S. positions for the upcoming IWC meeting, including the upcoming report of the Small Working Group. Because the meeting discusses U.S. positions, the substance of the meeting must be kept confidential. Any U.S. citizen with an identifiable interest in U.S. whale conservation policy may participate, but NOAA reserves the authority to inquire about the interests of any person who appears at a meeting and to determine the appropriateness of that person's participation.

Persons who represent foreign interests may not attend. These stringent measures are necessary to protect the confidentiality of U.S. negotiating positions and are a necessary basis for the relatively open process of preparing for IWC meetings.

The May 27<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held at 1 p.m. in the Chesapeake Room of the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 8777 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. The meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup> will be held at 1 p.m. in the NOAA Western Regional Center Auditorium, 7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Seattle, WA 98115. WA. Photo identification is required to enter the building.

#### Special Accommodations

Both meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language

interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Ryan Wulff, 301-713-9090 by May 4, 2009.

Dated: April 16, 2009.

**Rebecca J. Lent,**

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

[FR Doc. E9-9256 Filed 4-21-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Defense Acquisition Regulations System; Information Collection Requirement; Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Requests for Equitable Adjustment (OMB Control Number 0704-0397)

**AGENCY:** Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments regarding a proposed extension of an approved information collection requirement.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), DoD announces the proposed extension of a public information collection requirement and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. DoD invites comments on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of DoD, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved this information collection for use through April 30, 2009. DoD proposes that OMB extend its approval for use for three additional years.

**DATES:** DoD will consider all comments received by June 22, 2009.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by OMB Control Number 0704-0397, using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *E-mail:* [dfars@osd.mil](mailto:dfars@osd.mil). Include OMB Control Number 0704-0397 in the subject line of the message.