

recommended by the MAFMC and NEFMC in order to increase the timeliness and availability of data submitted through VTRs, reduce the reporting burden on commercial vessel operators, and increase the accuracy and quality of data. The training workshop will review step by step instructions for filling out an eVTR using an approved software application.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Shelley Spedden at the Mid-Atlantic Council Office (302) 526-5251 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: October 13, 2021.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2021-22634 Filed 10-15-21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XG584

Request for Public Comment Regarding an Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Decision on a Proposed Waiver and Regulations Governing the Taking of Marine Mammals; Extension of Public Comment Period

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

ACTION: Notice; extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the extension of the public comment period on the Administrative Law Judge's recommended decision on NMFS' proposal to issue a waiver and regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act to allow the Makah Indian Tribe to take a limited number of Eastern North Pacific gray whales for ceremonial and subsistence purposes. We announced a 20-day comment period to end on October 19, 2021. Today, we extend the public comment period on the recommended decision by 25 days to November 13, 2021. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted.

DATES: The deadline for the receipt of comments is extended from October 19, 2021 until November 13, 2021.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA-NMFS-2019-0037, by any of the following methods:

- **Electronic Submission:** Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to www.regulations.gov/docket?D=NOAA-NMFS-2019-0037, click the "Comment Now!" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

- **Mail:** Attn: Grace Ferrara, NMFS West Coast Region, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115. Include the identifier "NOAA-NMFS-2019-0037" in the comments.

Instructions: Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on www.regulations.gov without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jaclyn Taylor, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910; tel: (301) 427-8402; email: jaclyn.taylor@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS has proposed to issue a waiver and regulations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act to allow the Makah Indian Tribe to take a limited number of Eastern North Pacific gray whales for ceremonial and subsistence purposes. A hearing to consider the proposed waiver and regulations took place on November 14-21, 2019, in Seattle, Washington before Administrative Law Judge George J. Jordan. On September 23, 2021, Judge Jordan transmitted his recommended decision to NMFS along with the hearing transcript and other required documentation. On September 29, 2021, we announced a 20-day comment period on the recommended decision. During the comment period, we received requests to extend the public comment period. We considered the request and concluded that a 25-day extension should allow sufficient time for the public and the parties to submit comments. We are therefore extending the close of the public comment period from October 19, 2021 to November 13, 2021.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1371 *et seq.*

Dated: October 12, 2021.

Samuel D. Rauch, III,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2021-22563 Filed 10-15-21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XB473]

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of scoping hearings.

SUMMARY: The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a series of scoping meetings via webinar pertaining to Amendment 44 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region. The amendment adjusts the acceptable biological catch for yellowtail snapper based on results of the latest stock assessment and considers adjusting the jurisdictional allocation (between the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico). In addition, the amendment would modify catch levels, and sector allocations for the South Atlantic. The Council is also requesting input on potential commercial management measures.

DATES: The scoping meetings will be held via webinar on November 2 and 3, 2021.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via webinar.

Council address: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N Charleston, SC 29405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer, SAFMC; phone: (843) 571-4366 or toll free: (866) SAFMC-10; fax: (843) 769-4520; email: kim.iverson@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The scoping meetings will be conducted via webinar and accessible via the internet from the Council's website at <https://safmc.net/safmc-meetings/public-hearings-scoping-meetings/>. The scoping meetings will begin at 6 p.m. Registration for the webinars is required. Registration information, a copy of the scoping materials, an online public comment form and any

additional information as needed will be posted on the Council's website at <https://safmc.net/safmc-meetings/public-hearings-scoping-meetings/> as it becomes available. Public comments must be received by 5 p.m. on November 5, 2021.

Amendment 44 to the Snapper Grouper FMP

The Council must adjust catch levels for yellowtail snapper in response to the most recent stock assessment for the species in the region (SEDAR 64 2019). Yellowtail snapper is considered a single stock distributed in the South Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf). The stock assessment results indicated the stock is not overfished nor undergoing overfishing. However, catch levels must be adjusted based on the acceptable biological catch recommended by the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Councils' Scientific and Statistical Committees (SSC). The acceptable biological catch must first be allocated between the two regions. In addition, the Council is considering modifications to catch levels, sector allocations and possibly establishing commercial management measures.

During the scoping meetings, Council staff will present an overview of the amendment and will be available for informal discussions and to answer questions via webinar. Members of the public will have an opportunity to go on record to provide their comments for consideration by the Council.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) 5 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: October 12, 2021.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2021-22560 Filed 10-15-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XB451]

Fisheries of the South Atlantic; South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Joint meeting of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Citizen Science Operations and Projects Advisory Committees via webinar.

SUMMARY: The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a joint meeting of its Citizen Science Operations and Projects Advisory Committees via webinar on November 1, 2021.

DATES: The Citizen Science Operations and Projects Advisory Committees joint meeting will be held via webinar on Monday, November 1, 2021 from 1 p.m. until 4 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 (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation providing webinar access information. Please request webinar invitations at least 24 hours in advance of each webinar. There will be an opportunity for public comment at the beginning of the meeting.

Council address: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N Charleston, SC 29405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julia Byrd, Citizen Science Program Manager, SAFMC; phone: (843) 302-8439 or toll free: (866) SAFMC-10; fax: (843) 769-4520; email: julia.byrd@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Citizen Science Operations and Projects Advisory Committees serve as advisors to the Council's Citizen Science Program. Operations Committee members include representatives from the Council's Citizen Science Advisory Panel, NOAA Fisheries' Southeast Regional Office, NOAA Fisheries' Southeast Fisheries Science Center, and the Council's Science and Statistical Committee. Their responsibilities include developing programmatic recommendations, reviewing policies, providing program direction/multi-partner support, identifying citizen

science research needs, and providing general advice. Projects Advisory Committee members include representatives from the Council's fishery Advisory Panels (AP), Habitat & Ecosystem AP, and Outreach & Communication AP. Their responsibilities include identifying citizen science research and data needs across all the Council's fishery management plans; assisting with development of volunteer engagement strategies for recruiting, training, retaining, and communicating with volunteers; and serving as outreach ambassadors for the Program. Agenda items include:

1. Review and update the Council's citizen science research priorities
2. Citizen Science Program Update and
3. Other Business

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) 3 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: October 12, 2021.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2021-22558 Filed 10-15-21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XB467]

South Atlantic 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 South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of its Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management (Habitat) AP.

DATES: The Habitat AP will meet via webinar on Wednesday November 3, 2021, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Thursday, November 4, 2021, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: The meeting will be held via webinar.