

Committee will address coral management and provide guidance on the utilization of deepwater coral modelling for management and resubmission of Coral Amendment 10.

**SEDAR Committee, Thursday, December 7, 2023, 1:30 p.m. Until 2:30 p.m.**

The Committee will receive a report from the SEDAR Steering Committee, address Terms of Reference for the SEDAR assessment of Florida Keys/East Coast Florida and Gulf of Mexico hogfish (SEDAR 94), review the SEDAR schedule, and select species to consider for 2027 assessments.

**Council Session II, Thursday, December 7, 2023, 2:30 p.m. Until 5 p.m. and Friday, December 8, 2023, 8:30 a.m. Until 12 p.m.**

The Council will receive a litigation brief if needed, receive a staff report, and a report from the Council Coordination Committee. The Council will review Allocations Review Guidelines and consider approval, receive an update on stakeholder meetings planning, and receive a presentation on offshore wind activities. The Council will approve topics for a meeting of the Law Enforcement AP and receive reports from NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office and the Southeast Fisheries Science Center. The Council will receive Committee reports, review its workplan, review upcoming meetings, and take action as necessary. The Council will discuss any other business as needed.

Documents regarding these issues are available from the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**).

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before these groups for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. 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**

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: November 13, 2023.

**Rey Israel Marquez,**

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

[FR Doc. 2023-25356 Filed 11-15-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**[RTID 0648-XD524]**

**Marine Mammals; File No. 27670**

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

**ACTION:** Notice; receipt of application.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Iris Segura-Garcia, Ph.D., Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution, Florida Atlantic University, 5600 US 1, Fort Pierce, FL 34946, has applied in due form for a permit to receive and import cetacean parts for scientific research.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before December 18, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** The application and related documents are available for review by selecting "Records Open for Public Comment" from the "Features" box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species (APPS) home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 27670 from the list of available applications. These documents are also available upon written request via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov).

Written comments on this application should be submitted via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). Please include File No. 27670 in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request via email to [NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov](mailto:NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov). The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Erin Markin, Ph.D., or Shasta McClenahan, Ph.D., (301) 427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216), 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).

The applicant proposes to receive and import parts for research from up to 200 individual cetaceans of any species. Sources of samples may include animals in foreign countries stranded alive or dead or that died during rehabilitation, animals in captivity, and samples from other authorized persons. The parts would be used to understand cetaceans (1) foraging strategies when exposed to limited resources and/or disturbed habitats, (2) food web health, and (3) exposure to environmental toxicants and biomarkers of exposure and health effects. The permit would be valid for 5 years from the date of issuance.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: November 13, 2023.

**Julia M. Harrison,**

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

[FR Doc. 2023-25330 Filed 11-15-23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**[RTID 0648-XD530]**

**Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Exempted Fishing Permit Application**

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

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Regional Administrator, West Coast Region, NMFS, announces receipt of an exempted fishing permit (EFP) application, and is considering issuance of an EFP that seeks exemption from the requirements at requiring vessel owners and operators to retain sablefish, rex sole, Pacific sanddab and California halibut when on a declared optimized retention bottom trawl or non-whiting midwater trawl trip. At this

time, NMFS is considering allowing participants in the EFP to add sablefish and rex sole to their Vessel Monitoring Plans' (VMP) allowable discard list. NMFS does not expect to add the other two species to this EFP because Pacific sanddab is already listed as an allowable discard, thus no exemption is needed, and NMFS intends to address California halibut discard rules through a future regulatory change rather than an EFP. NMFS requests public comment on the application.

**DATES:** Comments must be received by December 1, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2023–0143 by the following method:

- *Electronic Submissions:* Submit all public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and enter NOAA–NMFS–2023–0143 in the Search box. Click on the “Comment” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments. The EFP application will be available under Supporting and Related Materials through the same link.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Matt Dunlap, West Coast Region, NMFS, (206) 526–6119, [matthew.dunlap@noaa.gov](mailto:matthew.dunlap@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This action is authorized by the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan and the regulations implementing the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act at 50 CFR 600.745, which state that EFPs may be used to authorize fishing activities that would otherwise be prohibited.

On June 28, 2019 (84 FR 31146), at the recommendation of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), NMFS published a final rule that authorized the use of electronic monitoring (EM) in

place of human observers to meet requirements for 100-percent at-sea monitoring for catcher vessels in the groundfish trawl catch share fishery (Trawl Rationalization Program). EM video systems are used to record catch and discards by the vessel crew while at sea. Vessel operators are responsible for recording catch and discards in a logbook, which is then used to debit individual fishing quota (IFQ) accounts and cooperative allocations. The Council recommended, and NMFS implemented, a delay to the start of the regulatory program (86 FR 5525, October 6, 2021) until January 2024.

The EFP applicant, California Groundfish Collective, seeks to add sablefish, rex sole, Pacific sanddab and California halibut to the allowable discard list for EFP participants for 2024, just as these species have been allowable discards in the 2023 EM EFP. Extending the allowable discarding of sablefish and rex sole into 2024 via an EFP will provide data that could be used by the Council and NMFS to make informed decisions on refining EM discard regulations. NMFS does not expect to include Pacific sanddab in the EFP because that species is already an allowable discard in the regulations. NMFS expects to address California halibut discard rules via a future regulatory change, not an EFP. The EFP application is for approximately 20 trawl gear vessels that use EM. Additional EFP participants that join EM under the regulatory program may apply at a later date.

If approved, NMFS would issue the permits for the EFP project to the applicant and vessel owners or designated representatives as the “EFP holder.” NMFS intends to use an adaptive management approach in which NMFS may revise requirements and protocols to improve the program without issuing another **Federal Register** notice, provided that the modifications fall within the scope of the original EFP. NMFS would also accept additional applications to participate in the same, or similar, exempted fishing activity.

The Regional Administrator has made a preliminary determination that the application described above contains all of the required information and, at least in part, constitutes an activity appropriate for further consideration. After publication of this document in the **Federal Register**, and review and consideration of any public comments received, NMFS may approve and issue permits for the EFP project. NMFS may approve the application in its entirety or may make any alterations needed to achieve the goals of the EFP.

*Authority:* 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*; 50 CFR 600.745. This action is authorized by Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan and the regulations implementing the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act at 50 CFR 600.745, which states that EFPs may be used to authorize fishing activities that would otherwise be prohibited.

Dated: November 13, 2023.

**Kelly Denit,**

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

[FR Doc. 2023–25319 Filed 11–15–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

[Req No.–OS–2024–00040–FR]

### Notice of Availability of Roundtable on Military Spouse Hiring Meeting

**AGENCY:** Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)), Department of Defense (DoD).

**ACTION:** Notice of roundtable on military spouse hiring.

**SUMMARY:** The DoD is publishing this notice to announce the Roundtable on Military Spouse Hiring will take place pursuant to the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). This Roundtable will bring together stakeholders from the government, private sector, and military families, to discuss the landscape of opportunities and challenges surrounding military spouse hiring.

**DATES:** Thursday, November 16, 2023 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST).

**ADDRESSES:** Mark Center Conference Room 17, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22311.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Josie Beets, [josie.e.beets.civ@mail.mil](mailto:josie.e.beets.civ@mail.mil), (202) 570–8977; mailing address: 4800 Mark Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22311.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In compliance with the 2023 NDAA, section 578, USD(P&R) announces an industry roundtable on military spouse hiring.

*Authority:* Sec. 578, Public Law 117–263, Stat. 2395.

*Purpose:* The purpose of the roundtable is to bring together stakeholders from the government, private sector, and military families, to discuss the landscape of opportunities and challenges surrounding military spouse hiring, the resources available