

information regarding the distribution and abundance of the stock, population growth rates and trends, estimates of annual human-caused mortality and serious injury from all sources, descriptions of the fisheries with which the stock interacts, and the status of the stock. Initial reports were completed in 1995.

The MMPA requires NMFS and FWS to review the SARs at least annually for strategic stocks and stocks for which significant new information is available, and at least once every 3 years for non-strategic stocks. NMFS and the FWS are required to revise a SAR if the status of the stock has changed or can be more accurately determined. NMFS, in conjunction with the Alaska, Atlantic, and Pacific Scientific Review Groups (SRGs), reviewed the status of marine mammal stocks as required and revised reports in the Alaska, Atlantic, and Pacific regions to incorporate new information. NMFS solicits public comments on the draft 2006 SARs.

Alaska Reports

In the Alaska region, 18 reports were revised, and 18 were not revised. Most changes were updates of abundance or mortality estimates and did not change the status of the stock. SARs for the Alaska harbor seals (Southeast Alaska, Gulf of Alaska, and Bering Sea stocks) were updated to include recent information on abundance, trends in abundance, fishery-related serious injury and mortality, and subsistence harvest levels. Although the abundance estimates now reflected in the Alaska harbor seal SARs are higher than the estimates in the past, this apparent increase is due to changes in analytical procedures and does not necessarily reflect changes in abundance. The best available information on Alaska harbor seal stock structure suggests that there are more than the current three stocks identified in the stock assessment reports; NMFS, in cooperation with appropriate Alaska Native organizations, is evaluating the new genetic information and anticipates making a joint recommendation regarding stock structure in 2006.

Abundance estimates and Potential Biological Removal (PBR) levels increased for northern fur seals and Steller sea lions. The increase in the northern fur seal abundance was due to a recent survey of one rookery on Bogoslof Island, which was last assessed in 1998 and has grown appreciably since that time. The western Steller sea lion stock assessment report acknowledges that genetics differences between animals in western Alaska and Russia may be sufficient to support a

designation of an Asian stock of Steller sea lions.

The PBR level for Dall's porpoise is no longer calculated because the abundance estimate is more than 8 years old and, according to NMFS' guidelines for preparing SARs, is considered unreliable for use in conservation decisions. The fisheries with which this stock overlaps are observed regularly and have had low levels of Dall's porpoise serious injury or mortality over at least the past 10 years. Because the best available information indicates that human-related serious injury and mortality is likely not a major concern, the stock remains classified as "not strategic".

The PBR level for the Cook Inlet stock of beluga whales is no longer calculated. The abundance is well below the maximum estimate in the late 1970s, and the population may be declining due to unidentified causes. Therefore, underlying assumption (that reducing or eliminating human-caused mortality would allow the population to increase) of the PBR approach does not appear to be valid, and NMFS cannot estimate a maximum number of animals that may be removed from the population while allowing the population to recover to its optimum sustainable population levels.

The three stocks of harbor porpoise in the Alaska region (Southeast Alaska, Gulf of Alaska, and Bering Sea stocks) were changed from "not strategic" to "strategic". For each stock, abundance estimates are old. A number of fisheries in Alaska overlap harbor porpoise distribution and may take porpoise; however, few fisheries have observer data for estimating mortality. Furthermore, harbor porpoise sightings on surveys for killer whales in Southeast Alaska indicate fewer porpoise sightings per unit effort in recent years than in earlier surveys. NMFS has, therefore, labeled these three stocks of harbor porpoise as "strategic" stocks as a precautionary approach.

The status of Pacific white-sided dolphin, North Pacific stock, was changed from "strategic" to "not strategic". There are no recent, reliable estimates of abundance and mortality/serious injury for this stock; however, white-sided dolphins have been seen during historical surveys in portions of the stock's range at densities that suggest sufficient numbers of dolphins to sustain the low levels of mortality that were previously estimated since the termination of high-seas driftnet fishing in 1991.

Atlantic Reports

Sixteen reports (four strategic and 12 non-strategic) were revised in the

Atlantic region, and 39 reports, including all reports for marine mammals in the Gulf of Mexico, were not revised. Most updates were to include new abundance and mortality estimates and did not change the status of the affected stocks.

Estimates of incidental mortality and serious injury for the northeast and mid-Atlantic bottom trawl fisheries were not completed in time for this draft release. SRG review of the estimates will be completed prior to the commencement of the Atlantic trawl take reduction team meeting in September 2006. Therefore, mortality estimates and strategic status determinations are pending for long-finned and short-finned pilot whales, common dolphin, Risso's dolphin and Atlantic white-sided dolphin and will be included in the draft 2007 reports.

Pacific Reports

Of the 61 reports in the Pacific region, nine were revised for 2006. All revisions were updates to abundance and PBR or mortality estimates, and none resulted in a change of the MMPA status (strategic or not strategic). The SAR for killer whales, Eastern North Pacific southern resident stock, was revised to indicate its listing as endangered under the ESA; however, the stock was already "strategic" under the MMPA due to its earlier designation as depleted.

Dated: July 25, 2006.

James H. Lecky,

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

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BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Publication of North American Datum of 1983 State Plane Coordinates in Feet in New Jersey

AGENCY: National Geodetic Survey (NGS), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Geodetic Survey (NGS) will publish North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) State Plane Coordinate (SPC) grid values, in both meters, and U.S. Survey Feet (1 ft = 1200/3937 m) in New Jersey, for all well defined geodetic survey control monuments maintained by NGS in the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS) and computed from various geodetic positioning utilities. The

adoption of this standard is implemented in accordance with NGS policy and a request from the New Jersey Department of Transportation, the New Jersey Society of Professional Land Surveyors, and the New Jersey Bureau Office of Information Technology.

DATES: Individuals or organizations wishing to submit comments on the Publication of North American Datum of 1983 State Plane Coordinates in feet in New Jersey, should do by August 28, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to the attention of David Doyle, Chief Geodetic Surveyor, Office of the National Geodetic Survey, National Ocean Service (N/NGS2), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, fax 301-713-4324, or via e-mail Dave.Doyle@noaa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to David Doyle, Chief Geodetic Surveyor, National Geodetic Survey (N/NGS2), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910; Phone: (301-713-3178).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Abstract

In 1991, NGS adopted a policy that defines the conditions under which NAD 83 State Plane Coordinates (SPCs) would be published in feet in addition to meters. As outlined in that policy, each state or territory must adopt NAD 83 legislation (typically referenced as Codes, Laws or Statutes), which specifically defines a conversion to either U.S. Survey or International Feet as defined by the U.S. Bureau of Standards in **Federal Register** Notice 59-5442. To date, 48 states have adopted the NAD 83 legislation however, for various reasons, only 33 included a specific definition of the relationship between meters and feet. This lack of uniformity has led to confusion and misuse of SPCs as provided in various NGS products, services and tools, and created errors in mapping, charting and surveying programs in numerous states due to inconsistent coordinate conversions.

Dated: July 20, 2006.

David B. Zilkoski,

Director, Office of National Geodetic Survey, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 06-6523 Filed 7-27-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Publication of North American Datum of 1983 State Plane Coordinates in Feet in Nevada

AGENCY: National Geodetic Survey (NGS), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Geodetic Survey (NGS) will published North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) State Plane Coordinate (SPC) grid values, in both meters, and U.S. Survey Feet (1 ft = 1200/3937 m) in Nevada, for all well defined geodetic survey control monuments maintained by NGS in the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS) and computed from various geodetic positioning utilities. The adoption of this standard is implemented in accordance with NGS policy and a request from the Nevada Department of Transportation, the Nevada Association of Land Surveyors, and the Nevada Bureau of Mines.

DATES: Individuals or organizations wishing to submit comments on the Publication of North American Datum of 1983 State Plane Coordinates in feet in Nevada, should do by August 28, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to the attention of David Doyle, Chief Geodetic Surveyor, Office of the National Geodetic Survey, National Ocean Service (N/NGS2), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, fax 301-713-4324, or via e-mail Dave.Doyle@noaa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to David Doyle, Chief Geodetic Surveyor, National Geodetic Survey (N/NGS2), 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910; Phone: (301-713-3178).

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however, for various reasons, only 33 included a specific definition of the relationship between meters and feet. This lack of uniformity has led to confusion and misuse of SPCs as provided in various NGS products, services and tools, and created errors in mapping, charting and surveying programs in numerous states due to inconsistent coordinate conversions.

Dated: July 20, 2006.

David B. Zilkoski,

Director, Office of National Geodetic Survey, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071806B]

U.S. Climate Change Science Program Synthesis and Assessment Product Draft Prospectus 3.2

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for public comments.

SUMMARY: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration publish this notice to announce the availability of the draft Prospectus for one of the U.S. Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) Synthesis and Assessment Products (Products) for public comment. This draft Prospectus addresses the following CCSP Topic:

Product 3.2 Climate Projections Based on Emissions Scenarios for long-lived radioactively trace gases and future climate impacts of radioactive gases and aerosols

After consideration of comments received on the draft Prospectus, the final Prospectus along with the comments received will be published on the CCSP web site.

DATES: Comments must be received by August 28, 2006.

ADDRESSES: The draft Prospectus is posted on the CCSP Program Office web site. The web addresses to access the draft Prospectus is:

Product 3.2 (Climate Projections)
<http://www.climatechange.gov/Library/sap/sap3-2/default.htm>

Detailed instructions for making comments on the draft Prospectus is provided with the Prospectus. Comments should be prepared in accordance with these instructions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Vanessa Richardson, Climate Change