

submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period.

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing e-mail comments is *NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov*. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: File No. 13614.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jennifer Skidmore or Kristy Beard, (301)713-2289.

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

The applicant requests authorization to import one male pilot whale from the Lisbon Zoo (Jardim Zoológico de Lisboa), Estrada de Benfica, 158 - 160, 1549 - 004, Lisboa, Portugal to Sea World of California. The applicant requests this import for the purpose of public display. The receiving facility, Sea World of California, 1720 South Shores Road, San Diego, CA 92109-7995 is: (1) open to the public on regularly scheduled basis with access that is not limited or restricted other than by charging for an admission fee; (2) offers an educational program based on professionally accepted standards of the AZA and the Alliance for Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums; and (3) holds an Exhibitor's License, number 93-C-0069, issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture under the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2131 - 59).

In addition to determining whether the applicant meets the three public display criteria, NMFS must determine whether the applicant has demonstrated that the proposed activity is humane and does not represent any unnecessary risks to the health and welfare of marine mammals; that the proposed activity by itself, or in combination with other activities, will not likely have a significant adverse impact on the species or stock; and that the applicant's expertise, facilities and resources are adequate to accomplish successfully the objectives and activities stated in the application.

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 this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: October 10, 2008.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. E8-24596 Filed 10-15-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XL21

Marine Mammals; File No. 633-1763

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application for amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Center for Coastal Studies (CCS) has requested an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 633-1763.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before November 17, 2008.

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/index.cfm>, and then selecting File No. 633-1763 from the list of available applications. These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

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.

Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978)281-9300; fax (978)281-9394; and

Southeast Region, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33701; phone (727)824-5312; fax (727)824-5309.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this request should be submitted to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should

set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular amendment request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301)427-2521, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period.

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing e-mail comments is *NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov*. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: File No. 633-1763.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kristy Beard or Kate Swails, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment to Permit No. 633-1763, issued on April 21, 2005 (70 FR 22299) is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act 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), and the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*). Permit No. 633-1763 authorizes the permit holder to harass North Atlantic right whales (*Eubalaena glacialis*) during close approaches for aerial and vessel surveys with associated photo-identification and behavioral observations in the Gulf of Maine, Cape Cod Bay, Great South Channel, and Georgia Bight, and the collection and export of sloughed right whale skin. The original application submitted by CCS included a request to collect biopsy samples from North Atlantic right whales. At the time of permit issuance, takes for biopsy samples were not authorized. NMFS is now reviewing the biopsy sample portion of the request as an amendment to Permit No. 633-1763. CCS requests authorization to biopsy sample up to 30 North Atlantic right whales annually during close vessel approaches for photo-identification and behavioral observation; authorization is requested to biopsy up to 10 of these right whales two times to contribute to individual whale's health assessments. This work would continue long-term population monitoring to determine status and trends of this species in the North Atlantic. The amendment would be valid until the permit expires on May 1, 2010.

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

Dated: October 9, 2008.

P. Michael Payne,

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

[FR Doc. E8-24597 Filed 10-15-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XL24

Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of open public meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC). This will be the second meeting to be held in the calendar year 2008. Agenda topics are provided under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice. All full Committee sessions will be open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held November 12-14, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hotel Chateau LeMoyne, 301 Rue Dauphine, New Orleans, LA 70112; (504) 581-1303

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mark Holliday, MAFAC Executive Director; (301) 713-2239 x120; e-mail: Mark.Holliday@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As required by section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, notice is hereby given of a meeting of MAFAC. MAFAC was established by the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) on February 17, 1971, to advise the Secretary on all living marine resource matters that are the responsibility of the Department of Commerce. This committee advises and

reviews the adequacy of living marine resource policies and programs to meet the needs of commercial and recreational fisheries, and environmental, State, consumer, academic, tribal, governmental and other national interests. The complete charter and summaries of prior meetings are located online at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ocs/mafac/>.

Matters To Be Considered

The order in which these matters are considered is subject to change.

November 12, 2008

The meeting will begin with opening remarks and introductions to the full committee from Dr. Jim Balsiger, Acting Assistant Administrator for NOAA Fisheries. The remainder of the day will cover various MAFAC administration and organizational matters, including: new member orientation; review of travel, financial disclosure and ethics requirements; and subcommittee organization, chairmanship, current issues, and future issues.

November 13, 2008

Updates will be presented on: Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization; seafood inspection; and ecolabeling and seafood certification. Other topics to be discussed are the NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office and Gulf of Mexico Regional Fishery Management Council experiences with individual fishery quotas, and the pending aquaculture amendment.

November 14, 2008

The Committee will hear presentations and discuss policies influencing U.S. fisheries infrastructure, with specific reference to the federal/NOAA/state agency response to the effects of recent hurricane events on Gulf coast fisheries, including supporting infrastructure. This will be followed by a discussion of how to annually appraise progress on the MAFAC 2020 report recommendations, and a decision on the process for advancing/communicating the ideas

contained in the MAFAC transition paper. The meeting will conclude with a review of action items and next steps, and a decision on the time and place of the spring 2009 meeting.

Special Accommodations

The meeting location is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mark Holliday, MAFAC Executive Director; (301) 713-2239 x120 by 5 p.m. October 27, 2008.

Dated: October 9, 2008.

James W. Balsiger,

*Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. E8-24594 Filed 10-15-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

[Transmittal Nos. 08-101]

36(b)(1) Arms Sales Notification

AGENCY: Department of Defense, Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense is publishing the unclassified text of a section 36(b)(1) arms sales notification. This is published to fulfill the requirements of section 155 of Public Law 104-164 dated 21 July 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. B. English, DSCA/DBO/CFM, (703) 601-3740.

The following is a copy of a letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Transmittals 08-101 with attached transmittal, policy justification, and Sensitivity of Technology.

Dated: October 7, 2008.

Patricia L. Toppings,

*OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer,
Department of Defense.*

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