

takes authorized is small relative to estimated survey abundance, even if each take occurred to a new individual. Additionally, the range of the Alaska stock of minke whales is extensive, stretching from the Canadian Pacific coast to the Chukchi Sea, and Hoonah's planned project area will impact a small portion of this range.

Based on the analysis contained herein of the planned activity (including the mitigation and monitoring measures) and the anticipated take of marine mammals, NMFS finds that small numbers of marine mammals would be taken relative to the population size of the affected species or stocks.

Unmitigable Adverse Impact Analysis and Determination

In order to issue an IHA, NMFS must find that the specified activity will not have an "unmitigable adverse impact" on the subsistence uses of the affected marine mammal species or stocks by Alaskan Natives. NMFS has defined "unmitigable adverse impact" in 50 CFR 216.103 as an impact resulting from the specified activity: (1) That is likely to reduce the availability of the species to a level insufficient for a harvest to meet subsistence needs by: (i) Causing the marine mammals to abandon or avoid hunting areas; (ii) Directly displacing subsistence users; or (iii) Placing physical barriers between the marine mammals and the subsistence hunters; and (2) That cannot be sufficiently mitigated by other measures to increase the availability of marine mammals to allow subsistence needs to be met.

Alaska Natives have traditionally harvested subsistence resources, including marine mammals, in the Glacier Bay and Icy Strait for a millennia. Present day Hoonah is the principle village of the Huna Tribe, and according to Ian Johnson, Hoonah Indian Association's Environmental Coordinator, no known marine mammal harvest takes place in the immediate HMIC area (Johnson 2024). Limited subsistence harvests of marine mammals within Port Fredrick has occurred in the past, with the most recent recorded/documented harvests of marine mammals in Hoonah in 2012. The planned activity will take place in Port Fredrick, and no activities overlap with current subsistence hunting areas; therefore, there are no relevant subsistence uses of marine mammals adversely impacted by this action. The project is not likely to adversely impact the availability of any marine mammal species or stocks that are commonly used for subsistence purposes or to

impact subsistence harvest of marine mammals in the region.

Based on the description of the specified activity, the measures described to minimize adverse effects on the availability of marine mammals for subsistence purposes, and the mitigation and monitoring measures, NMFS has determined that there will not be an unmitigable adverse impact on subsistence uses from Hoonah's planned activities.

Endangered Species Act

There are two marine mammal species (Mexico DPS humpback whale and western DPS Steller sea lion) with confirmed occurrence in the project area that are listed as endangered under the ESA. The NMFS Alaska Regional Office issued a Biological Opinion on February 20, 2025 under section 7 of the ESA, on the issuance of an IHA to Hoonah under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA by the NMFS Office of Protected Resources. The Biological Opinion concluded that the planned action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of Mexico DPS humpback whales or western DPS Steller sea lions, and is not likely to destroy or adversely modify Mexico DPS humpback whale and western DPS Steller sea lion critical habitat.

National Environmental Policy Act

To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and NOAA Administrative Order (NAO) 216-6A, NMFS must review our proposed action (*i.e.*, the issuance of an IHA) with respect to potential impacts on the human environment.

This action is consistent with categories of activities identified in Categorical Exclusion B4 (IHAs with no anticipated serious injury or mortality) of the Companion Manual for NAO 216-6A, which do not individually or cumulatively have the potential for significant impacts on the quality of the human environment and for which we have not identified any extraordinary circumstances that would preclude this categorical exclusion. Accordingly, NMFS has determined that the issuance of this IHA qualifies to be categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Authorization

NMFS has issued an IHA to Hoonah for the potential harassment of small numbers of eight marine mammal species incidental to the Hoonah Cargo Dock Project in Hoonah, Alaska, that includes the previously explained mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements.

Dated: March 10, 2025.

Kimberly Damon-Randall,

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

[FR Doc. 2025-04071 Filed 3-13-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XE749]

New England 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 New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is holding a public meeting of its Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) via webinar to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: This meeting will be held on Friday, April 4, 2025, beginning at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES:

Webinar Registration information:
<https://nefmc-org.zoom.us/j/648756K9S7uxwrsadkelQg>

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cate O'Keefe, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will meet to Consider revising recommendations for the overfishing limits (OFL) and acceptable biological catches (ABC) for Atlantic herring: specifically review updated information provided by the Council's Atlantic Herring Plan Development Team (PDT) and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Atlantic Herring Technical Committee (TC) including: (1) Stock projections with an updated fishing year (FY) 2024 fishery catch estimate and a risk analysis prepared by the PDT/TC, and (2) Outcomes from the March 2025 peer review of the Research Track Stock Assessment and recommend Atlantic

herring OFLs and ABCs for FYs 2025 and 2026, based on the new information and consider default specifications for FY2027. The Committee will also receive an overview of and discuss the SSC work plan for 2025. They will also provide input on potential themes for the ninth meeting of the Council Coordination Committee's Scientific Coordination Subcommittee. Other business will be discussed, as necessary.

Although non-emergency issues not contained on the agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency. The public also should be aware that the meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 U.S.C. 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Cate O'Keefe, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: March 10, 2025.

Key Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2025-04054 Filed 3-13-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XE745]

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold public meetings of the Council including a joint session with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) Policy Board.

DATES: The meetings will be held Tuesday, April 8 through Thursday, April 10, 2025. For agenda details, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

ADDRESSES: This meeting will be an in-person meeting with a virtual option. Council members, other meeting participants, and members of the public will have the option to participate in person at the Seaview Dolce Hotel (401 South New York Road, Galloway, NJ 08205) or virtually via Webex webinar. Webinar connection instructions and briefing materials will be available at: <https://www.mafmc.org/briefing/april-2025>.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N State St., Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674-2331; www.mafmc.org.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D. Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: (302) 526-5255. The Council's website, www.mafmc.org, also has details on the meeting location, proposed agenda, webinar listen-in access, and briefing materials.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following items are on the agenda, although agenda items may be addressed out of order (changes will be noted on the Council's website when possible.)

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

2025 Mid-Atlantic State of the Ecosystem Report—Dr. Sarah Gaichas, NEFSC

Review report and provide feedback

2025 Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) Risk Assessment Report

Review report and provide feedback

Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) 5-Year Review

Review and approve report

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Council Convenes With Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) Policy Board

Recreational Measures Setting Process Framework/Addenda

Review public comments

Review FMAT/PDT recommendations

Review Advisory Panel input

Consider final action

LUNCH

Recreational Sector Separation and Data Collection Amendment

Review scoping comments

Review FMAT/PDT and Advisory Panel input

Discuss scope of action and next steps

ASMFC Policy Board Adjourns

Gear Making/On-Demand Gear Framework

Review the purpose of the framework
Provide guidance on draft alternatives

Council Awards Presentation

Presentation of the 2024 Ricks E. Savage Award and the 2025 James A. Ruhle Cooperative Research Award

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Business Session

Committee Reports (SSC); Executive Director's Report; Organization Reports; and Liaison Reports

Other Business and General Public Comment

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions 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).

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid should be directed to Shelley Spedden, (302) 526-5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: March 11, 2025.

Key Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2025-04118 Filed 3-13-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Evaluation of National Estuarine Research Reserve; Notice of Public Meeting; Request for Comments

AGENCY: Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce.