

mammals in an LOA if it will exceed “small numbers.” In short, when an acceptable estimate of the individual marine mammals taken is available, if the estimated number of individual animals taken is up to, but not greater than, one-third of the best available abundance estimate, NMFS will determine that the numbers of marine mammals taken of a species or stock are small. For more information please see NMFS’ discussion of the MMPA’s small numbers requirement provided in the final rule (86 FR 5322, 5438, January 19, 2021).

The take numbers for authorization, which are determined as described above, are used by NMFS in making the necessary small numbers determinations, through comparison with the best available abundance estimates (see discussion at 86 FR 5322, 5391, January 19, 2021). For this comparison, NMFS’ approach is to use the maximum theoretical population, determined through review of current stock assessment reports (SAR; <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/marine-mammal-stock-assessments>) and model-

predicted abundance information (<https://seamap.env.duke.edu/models/Duke/GOM/>). For the latter, for taxa where a density surface model could be produced, we use the maximum mean seasonal (*i.e.*, 3-month) abundance prediction for purposes of comparison as a precautionary smoothing of month-to-month fluctuations and in consideration of a corresponding lack of data in the literature regarding seasonal distribution of marine mammals in the GOM. Information supporting the small numbers determinations is provided in Table 1.

TABLE 1—TAKE ANALYSIS

Species	Authorized take ¹	Abundance ²	Percent abundance
Rice’s whale ³	0	51	n/a
Sperm whale	0	2,207	n/a
<i>Kogia</i> spp.	0	4,373	n/a
Beaked whales	0	3,768	n/a
Rough-toothed dolphin	40	4,853	n/a
Bottlenose dolphin	62	176,108	0.0
Clymene dolphin	0	11,895	n/a
Atlantic spotted dolphin	⁵ 26	74,785	0.0
Pantropical spotted dolphin	0	102,361	n/a
Spinner dolphin	0	25,114	n/a
Striped dolphin	0	5,229	n/a
Fraser’s dolphin	0	1,665	n/a
Risso’s dolphin	0	3,764	n/a
Melon-headed whale	0	7,003	n/a
Pygmy killer whale	0	2,126	n/a
False killer whale	0	3,204	n/a
Killer whale	0	267	n/a
Short-finned pilot whale	0	1,981	n/a

¹ Scalar ratios were not applied in this case due to brief survey duration.

² Best abundance estimate. For most taxa, the best abundance estimate for purposes of comparison with take estimates is considered here to be the model-predicted abundance (Roberts *et al.*, 2016). For those taxa where a density surface model predicting abundance by month was produced, the maximum mean seasonal abundance was used. For those taxa where abundance is not predicted by month, only mean annual abundance is available. For the killer whale, the larger estimated SAR abundance estimate is used.

³ The final rule refers to the GOM Bryde’s whale (*Balaenoptera edeni*). These whales were subsequently described as a new species, Rice’s whale (*Balaenoptera ricei*) (Rosel *et al.*, 2021).

⁴ Modeled take of one decreased to zero. For rough-toothed dolphin, use of the exposure modeling produces results that are smaller than the average GOM group size (*i.e.*, estimated exposure value of 1, relative to assumed average group size of 14) (Maze-Foley and Mullin, 2006). NMFS’ typical practice is to increase exposure estimates to the assumed average group size for a species in order to ensure that, if the species is encountered, exposures will not exceed the authorized take number. However, given the very short survey duration and small estimated exposure value NMFS has determined that is unlikely the species would be encountered at all. As a result, in this case NMFS has not authorized take for this species.

⁵ Modeled take of 21 increased to account for potential encounter with group of average size (Maze-Foley and Mullin, 2006).

Based on the analysis contained herein of Echo’s proposed survey activity described in its LOA application and the anticipated take of marine mammals, NMFS finds that small numbers of marine mammals will be taken relative to the affected species or stock sizes (*i.e.*, less than one-third of the best available abundance estimate) and therefore the taking is of no more than small numbers.

Authorization

NMFS has determined that the level of taking for this LOA request is consistent with the findings made for the total taking allowable under the incidental take regulations and that the

amount of take authorized under the LOA is of no more than small numbers. Accordingly, we have issued an LOA to Echo authorizing the take of marine mammals incidental to its geophysical survey activity, as described above.

Dated: October 19, 2023.

Kimberly Damon-Randall,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XD446]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting; Correction

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

ACTION: Notice of correction of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is

scheduling a public meeting of its Joint Groundfish Committee, Advisory Panel and Recreational Advisory Panel 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 webinar will be held on Monday, November 13, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: Webinar registration URL information: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4122443360576842070>.

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: The original notice published in the **Federal Register** on October 5, 2023 (88 FR 69158). This republishes the notice in its entirety due to the meeting now being a joint committee meeting.

Agenda

The Groundfish Committee, Advisory Panel and Recreational Advisory Panel will meet to review draft alternatives and draft impacts analysis and recommend preferred alternatives in Framework Adjustment 66/ Specifications and Management Measures to the Committee/Council. They will possibly recommend 2024 Council priorities to the Committee/Council as well as receive an update on Framework Adjustment 68/Acceptable Biological Catches (ABC) Control Rules and the Atlantic Cod Transition Plan. Other business will be discussed if 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: October 19, 2023.

Key Israel Marquez,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

[Docket ID: USA-2023-HQ-0015]

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

AGENCY: Department of the Army, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice of a new system of records.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, the Department of the Army proposes to establish a new system of records titled, Army Safety Management Program Records (ASMPR)-A0385-1 DAS. It supports the management and prevention of work-related illnesses and injuries by individuals engaged in DoD work-related activities while on or off the worksite. The system automates accidents, mishaps, safety inspections, and workplace hazard investigation data collection, identifies causal factors and potentially unsafe practices or conditions, and makes recommendations for corrective actions to prevent recurrence and reduce hazardous conditions. Additionally, DoD is issuing a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, which proposes to exempt this system of records from certain provisions of the Privacy Act, elsewhere in today's issue of the **Federal Register**.

DATES: This system of records is effective upon publication; however, comments on the Routine Uses will be accepted on or before November 24, 2023. The Routine Uses are effective at the close of the comment period.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

* *Federal Rulemaking Portal:* <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

* *Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of

Defense for Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Transparency, Regulatory Directorate, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Attn: Mailbox 24, Suite 08D09, Alexandria, VA 22350-1700.

Instructions: All submissions received must include the agency name and docket number for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the internet at <https://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Joyce Luton, Department of the Army, Records Management Directorate, Attention: Army Privacy and Civil Liberties Office, 9301 Chapek Road (Building 1458), Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5605, or by calling (571) 515-0213.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Army Safety Management Information Program Records (ASMPR) documents safety mishaps and occupational incidents that require a safety investigation or an occupational health report as mandated by Federal law or DoD and Army policies. The system of records supports the operation of the Army's safety and occupational health program, which seeks to protect personnel from accidental death, injury, or occupational illness and apply risk management strategies to eliminate occupational injury or illness and loss of mission capability and resources, both on and off duty. This system of records describes Army's collection, use, and maintenance of records about an individual associated with accidents, mishaps, safety inspections, workplace hazards, and general risk management.

DoD SORNs have been published in the **Federal Register** and are available from the address in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** or at the Defense Privacy, Civil Liberties, and Freedom of Information Directorate website at <https://dpcl.d.defense.gov>.

II. Privacy Act

Under the Privacy Act, a "system of records" is a group of records under the control of an agency from which information is retrieved by the name of an individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual. In the Privacy Act, an individual is defined as a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident.