

scientific and commercial information, we are soliciting new information from the public, governmental agencies, Tribes, the scientific community, industry, environmental entities, and any other interested parties concerning the status of the Chinese river dolphin/Baiji/Yangtze River dolphin (*Lipotes vexillifer*). Categories of requested information include: (1) species biology including, but not limited to, population trends, distribution, abundance, demographics, and genetics; (2) habitat conditions including, but not limited to, amount, distribution, and important features for conservation; (3) status and trends of threats to the species and its habitats; (4) conservation measures that have been implemented that benefit the species, including monitoring data demonstrating effectiveness of such measures; and (5) other new information, data, or corrections including, but not limited to, taxonomic or nomenclatural changes and improved analytical methods for evaluating extinction risk.

If you wish to provide information for the review, you may submit your information and materials electronically (see **ADDRESSES** section). We request that all information be accompanied by supporting documentation such as maps, bibliographic references, or reprints of pertinent publications.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: September 27, 2024.

Lisa Manning,

Acting Chief, Endangered Species Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XE288]

Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review Workshops Advisory Panel

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

ACTION: Notice; nominations for shark stock assessment advisory panel.

SUMMARY: NMFS solicits nominations for the Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR) Workshops Advisory Panel, also known as the “SEDAR Pool.” The SEDAR Pool

is comprised of a group of individuals who, if selected review data and advise NMFS on the scientific information, data, and models used in stock assessments for oceanic sharks in the Atlantic Ocean, including the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea. NMFS is seeking nominations for 5-year appointments (2025–2030). NMFS will consider individuals with definable interests in recreational and commercial fishing and related industries, including those from the environmental community, academia, and non-governmental organizations, for membership on the SEDAR Pool.

DATES: Submit nominations on or before November 4, 2024.

ADDRESSES: You may submit nominations and request the SEDAR Pool Statement of Organization, Practices, and Procedures electronically via email to SEDAR.pool@noaa.gov.

Additional information on SEDAR and the SEDAR guidelines can be found at <http://sedarweb.org/>. The terms of reference for the SEDAR Pool, along with a list of current members, can be found at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/atlantic-highly-migratory-species/southeast-data-assessment-and-review-and-atlantic-highly>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Karyl Brewster-Geisz or Delisse Ortiz at 301–427–8503.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: HMS fisheries (tunas, billfish, swordfish, and sharks) are managed under the 2006 Consolidated HMS Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and its amendments pursuant to the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act; 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*) and consistent with the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*). HMS implementing regulations are at 50 CFR part 635.

Background

NMFS established the SEDAR Pool consistent with section 302(g) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. NMFS may select individuals of the SEDAR Pool to review and advise NMFS on the scientific information, data, and models used in stock assessments for oceanic sharks in the Atlantic Ocean, including the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea. While NMFS created the SEDAR Pool specifically for consultation on Atlantic shark stock assessments, NMFS may expand consultation to other HMS, as needed.

NMFS may select individuals in the SEDAR Pool to participate in the various data and assessment workshops

during the stock assessment process. The primary responsibility of selected individuals is to review and provide advice regarding the scientific information, data, and models that NMFS will use or consider for use in the relevant stock assessment. In order to ensure that the peer review is unbiased, individuals who participated in a data and/or assessment workshop for a particular stock assessment cannot serve as a peer reviewer for the same stock assessment. However, these individuals may be asked to attend the review workshop to answer specific questions from the reviewers concerning the data and/or assessment workshops. Members of the SEDAR Pool may serve as members of other advisory panels or committees established under section 302(g) concurrent with, or following, their service on the SEDAR Pool.

Procedures and Guidelines

A. Participants

The SEDAR Pool is comprised of individuals that represent the commercial and recreational fishing communities for Atlantic sharks, the environmental community active in the conservation and management of Atlantic sharks, and the academic community that have relevant expertise with sharks and/or stock assessment methodologies for marine fish species. Additionally, individuals who may not necessarily work directly with sharks, but who are involved in fisheries with similar life history, biology, and fishery issues may be part of the SEDAR Pool. Members of the SEDAR Pool must have demonstrated experience in the fisheries, related industries, research, teaching, writing, conservation, or management of marine organisms. The distribution of representation among the interested parties is not defined or limited.

Additional members of the SEDAR Pool may also include representatives from the 5 Atlantic Regional Fishery Management Councils, the 18 Atlantic states, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, and the relevant interstate commissions (Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission).

If NMFS requires additional members to ensure a diverse pool of individuals for data or assessment workshops, NMFS may request individuals to become members of the SEDAR Pool outside of the annual nomination period.

SEDAR Pool members serve at the discretion of the Secretary. Not all members will attend each SEDAR workshop. Rather, NMFS will invite

certain members to participate at specific stock assessment workshops dependent on their ability to participate, discuss, and offer scientific input and advice regarding the species being assessed.

NMFS is not obligated to fulfill any requests (*e.g.*, requests for an assessment of a certain species) that may be made by the SEDAR Pool or its individual members. Members of the SEDAR Pool who are invited to attend stock assessment workshops will not be compensated for their services, but may be reimbursed for their travel-related expenses to attend such workshops.

B. Nomination Procedures for Appointments to the SEDAR Pool

Member tenure is 5 years. Nominations are sought for terms beginning early in 2025 and expiring in 2030. Nomination packages should include:

1. The name, address, phone number, and email of the applicant or nominee;
2. A description of the applicant's or nominee's interest in Atlantic shark stock assessments or the Atlantic shark fishery;
3. A statement of the applicant's or nominee's background and/or qualifications; and
4. A written commitment that the applicant or nominee shall participate actively and in good faith in the tasks of the SEDAR Pool, as requested.

C. Meeting Schedule

Individual members of the SEDAR Pool meet to participate in stock assessments at the discretion of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS. Stock assessment timing, frequency, and relevant species will vary depending on the needs determined by NMFS and SEDAR staff. NMFS is currently assessing the status of the hammerhead shark species in the hammerhead shark management group (scalped and Carolina hammerhead, smooth hammerhead, and great hammerhead). SEDAR released the final research assessment in February 2024 and NMFS expects to complete the operational assessment, which will provide the final stock assessment results and management advice, in late 2024. Beginning in 2025, following the completion of the hammerhead stock assessments, NMFS plans to assess the sandbar shark stock. Once the sandbar shark assessment is complete, NMFS plans to assess the bull shark stock starting at some point in 2026. All meetings are open for observation by the public.

Dated: September 26, 2024.

Karen H. Abrams,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; NOAA Geospatial Metadata

AGENCY: National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection, request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before December 2, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments to Adrienne Thomas, NOAA PRA Officer, at NOAA.PRA@noaa.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 0648–0024 in the subject line of your comments. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or specific questions related to collection activities should be directed to James Primrose, IT Specialist, NOAA/National Centers for Environmental Information, 325 Broadway, Boulder CO 80305, 720–248–8122, James.Primrose@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

This request is for renewal and extension of a currently approved information collection. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) collects, generates, retains, and redistributes geospatial metadata in a wide array of

data formats covering diverse aspects of earth, biological, and space sciences. To fully understand and reuse these data over the course of many years, NOAA provides several metadata documentation tools for various communities of users to enable them to easily create complete, standards-based descriptive information about geospatial data. The following tools, in use by NOAA Program offices, are authorized to collect geospatial metadata consistent with Executive Order 12906, NOAA Administrative Order 212–15, and the 2013 Office of Science and Technology Policy Memorandum 'Public Access to Research Results'. Geospatial metadata collected by the listed tools are voluntary, but the ability for data documented by relevant geospatial metadata is significantly degraded if metadata are incomplete, inaccurate or otherwise less than the information collection tool supports. The collections approved under this control number include: (1) National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service: Send2NCEI web application; (2) National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service: Advanced Tracking and Resource tool for Archive Collections (ATRAC) web application; (3) National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service: Collection Metadata Editing Tool (CoMET) web application; (4) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS): InPort metadata authoring tool; and (5) Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR): Science Data Information System (SDIS) metadata and data submission tool.

Collecting geospatial metadata is necessary to fully understand, use, and reuse geospatial data, geospatial metadata because metadata provides contextual information about data formats, bounding areas, use and access limitations (if any). Geospatial metadata from this information collection also supports multiple search and discovery catalog services, such as data.gov, NASA Global Change Master Directory (GCMD), and many others.

Information will be collected from data producers (primarily university, private industry, and government-funded scientific researchers) in multiple fields of geosciences, biological and atmospheric sciences, and socio-economic sciences. Geospatial metadata typically includes descriptive information about specific observed, calculated, or modeled data (*e.g.*, title, abstract, purpose statement, descriptive discovery keywords), characteristics of the described data (*e.g.*, date and spatial range of data collection activities, data processing steps, collected/measured