

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

USFWS prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) of Restoring Wildlife Habitat on Rat Island, AK, and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), which analyzed the proposed issuance of an IHA for these activities and operations. A copy of the EA and FONSI are available upon request (see **ADDRESSES**). NMFS is reviewing this EA and will either adopt it or prepare its own NEPA document before making a determination on the issuance of an IHA to the USFWS on this activity.

Conclusions

Based on the USFWS' application, as well as the analysis contained herein, NMFS has preliminarily determined that the impact of the described rat extermination at Rat Island will result, at most, in a temporary modification in behavior by small numbers of Steller sea lions and Pacific harbor seals, in the form of head alerts, movement away from personnel, watercraft and aircraft, and/or flushing from the beach. In addition, no take by injury or death is anticipated, and take by harassment will be at the lowest level practicable due to incorporation of the mitigation measures mentioned previously in this document. NMFS has further preliminarily determined that the anticipated takes will have a negligible impact on the affected species and not have an unmitigable adverse impact on subsistence uses of marine mammals.

Proposed Authorization

NMFS proposes to issue an IHA to the USFWS for the harassment of Steller sea lions and Pacific harbor seals incidental to non-native rat population extermination operations, provided the previously mentioned mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are incorporated.

Dated: June 12, 2008.

Tammy C. Adams,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****National Sea Grant Review Panel**

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming meeting of the Sea Grant Review Panel. The meeting will have several purposes. Panel members will discuss and provide advice to the National Sea Grant College Program in fisheries extension enhancement, the November Panel Meeting in Baton Rouge and Sea Grant re-authorization.

DATES: The announced meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 15, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Conference Call. Public access is available at SSMC Bldg 3, Room #5836, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Gina Barrera, National Sea Grant College Program, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 11875, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, (301) 734-1077.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Panel, which consists of a balanced representation from academia, industry, state government and citizens groups, was established in 1976 by Section 209 of the Sea Grant Improvement Act (Pub. L. 94-461, 33 U.S.C. 1128). The Panel advises the Secretary of Commerce and the Director of the National Sea Grant College Program with respect to operations under the Act, and such other matters as the Secretary refers to them for review and advice. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

Tuesday, July 15, 2008—11 a.m. to 1 p.m., EST

Agenda

- I. Fisheries Extension Enhancement Committee Report.
- II. Update on the November Panel meeting in Baton Rouge.
- III. Update on Sea Grant Re-authorization.

This meeting will be open to the public.

Dated: June 12, 2008.

Terry Bevels,

Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN: 0648-XI34

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Groundfish Allocation Committee (GAC) will hold a working meeting, which is open to the public.

DATES: The GAC meeting will be held Wednesday, July 9, 2008, from 1 p.m. until business for the day is completed. The GAC will reconvene Thursday, July 10, 2008, at 8:30 a.m. until their business is completed.

ADDRESSES: The GAC meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Downtown Convention Center, Belmont C Room, 1441 NE Second Avenue, Portland, OR 97232. telephone: (503) 241-2401.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. LB Boydston, Open Access Fishery Coordinator; telephone: (916) 844-4358.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the GAC meeting is to consider draft alternatives and other material for a contemplated limited entry licensing system for West Coast open access groundfish fisheries (open access license limitation). No management actions will be decided by the GAC. The GAC's role will be development of recommendations and refinement of draft alternatives for analysis in a contemplated environmental impact statement for open access license limitation. The GAC recommendations will be provided for consideration by the Council at its September 2008 meeting in Boise, ID.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the meeting agenda may come before the GAC for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal GAC action during this meeting. GAC 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 305a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act,