

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****Evaluation of Hawaii State Coastal Management Program; Notice of Public Meeting; Request for Comments**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting and opportunity to comment.

**SUMMARY:** The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office for Coastal Management, will hold an in-person public meeting to solicit input on the performance evaluation of the Hawaii Coastal Management Program. NOAA also invites the public to submit written comments.

**DATES:** NOAA will hold an in-person public meeting on Tuesday, August 20, 2024 at 6 p.m. Hawaii Standard Time (HST) at Washington Middle School Cafeteria, 1633 S King Street, Honolulu, Hawaii. NOAA may close the meeting 15 minutes after the conclusion of public testimony and after responding to any clarifying questions from participants. NOAA will consider all relevant written comments received by Friday, August 30, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- *In Person Public Meeting:* Provide oral comments during the in-person public meeting Tuesday, August 20, 2024 at 6 p.m. HST at Washington Middle School Cafeteria, 1633 S King Street, Honolulu, Hawaii.

- *Email:* Send written comments to Susie Holst Rice, Evaluator, NOAA Office for Coastal Management, at [czma.evaluations@noaa.gov](mailto:czma.evaluations@noaa.gov). Include "Comments on Performance Evaluation of the Hawaii Coastal Management Program" in the subject line of the message.

NOAA will accept anonymous comments, however, the written comments NOAA receives are considered part of the public record, and the entirety of the comment, including the name of the commenter, email address, attachments, and other supporting materials, will be publicly accessible. Sensitive personally identifiable information, such as account numbers and Social Security numbers, should not be included with the comment. Comments that are not related to the performance evaluation of

the Hawaii Coastal Management Program or that contain profanity, vulgarity, threats, or other inappropriate language will not be considered.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Susie Holst Rice, Evaluator, NOAA Office for Coastal Management, by email at [susie.holst@noaa.gov](mailto:susie.holst@noaa.gov) or by phone at (978) 225-3420. Copies of the previous evaluation findings and Assessment and Strategies may be viewed and downloaded at <http://coast.noaa.gov/czm/evaluations/>. A copy of the evaluation notification letter and most recent progress report may be obtained upon request by contacting Susie Holst Rice.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 312 of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) requires NOAA to conduct periodic evaluations of federally approved coastal management programs. The evaluation process includes holding one or more public meetings, considering public comments, and consulting with interested Federal, State, and local agencies and members of the public. During the evaluation, NOAA will consider the extent to which the State of Hawaii has met the national objectives, adhered to the management program approved by the Secretary of Commerce, and adhered to the terms of financial assistance under the CZMA. When the evaluation is complete, NOAA's Office for Coastal Management will place a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing the availability of the final evaluation findings.

*Authority:* 16 U.S.C. 1458.

**Keelin Kuipers,**

*Deputy Director, Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2024-12981 Filed 6-12-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-08-P**

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

[RTID-0648-XD998]

**Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Debris Dock Replacement Project, Sausalito, California**

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

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of renewal incidental harassment authorization.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the regulations implementing the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) as amended, notification is hereby given that NMFS has issued a renewal incidental harassment authorization (IHA) to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) to harass marine mammals incidental to construction activities associated with the debris dock replacement project in Sausalito, California.

**DATES:** This authorization is effective from July 15, 2024, through July 14, 2025.

**ADDRESSES:** Electronic copies of the application and supporting documents, as well as a list of the references cited in this document, may be obtained online at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/incidental-take-authorizations-construction-activities>. In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Summer Owens, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 427-8401. Electronic copies of the original application, renewal request, and supporting documents (including **Federal Register** notices of the original proposed and final authorizations, and the previous IHA), as well as a list of the references cited in this document, may be obtained online at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/incidental-take-authorizations-under-marine-mammal-protection-act>. In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed above.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

The MMPA prohibits the "take" of marine mammals, with certain exceptions. Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) direct the Secretary of Commerce (as delegated to NMFS) to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region if certain findings are made and either regulations are promulgated or, if the taking is limited to harassment, an IHA is issued.

Authorization for incidental takings shall be granted if NMFS finds that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for taking for subsistence uses (where relevant). Further, NMFS must prescribe

the permissible methods of taking and other “means of effecting the least practicable adverse impact” on the affected species or stocks and their habitat, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds, and areas of similar significance, and on the availability of such species or stocks for taking for certain subsistence uses (referred to here as “mitigation measures”). NMFS must also prescribe requirements pertaining to monitoring and reporting of such takings. The definition of key terms such as “take,” “harassment,” and “negligible impact” can be found in the MMPA and the NMFS’ implementing regulations (see 16 U.S.C. 1362; 50 CFR 216.103).

NMFS’ regulations implementing the MMPA at 50 CFR 216.107(e) indicate that IHAs may be renewed for additional periods of time not to exceed 1 year for each reauthorization. In the notice of proposed IHA for the initial IHA, NMFS described the circumstances under which we would consider issuing a renewal for this activity, and requested public comment on a potential renewal under those circumstances. Specifically, on a case-by-case basis, NMFS may issue a one-time 1-year renewal of an IHA following notice to the public providing an additional 15 days for public comments when (1) up to another year of identical, or nearly identical, activities as described in the Detailed Description of Specified Activities section of the initial IHA issuance notice is planned or (2) the activities as described in the Description of the Specified Activities and Anticipated Impacts section of the initial IHA issuance notice would not be completed by the time the initial IHA expires and a renewal would allow for completion of the activities beyond that described in the **DATES** section of the notice of issuance of the initial IHA, provided all of the following conditions are met:

(1) A request for renewal is received no later than 60 days prior to the needed renewal IHA effective date (recognizing that the renewal IHA expiration date cannot extend beyond 1 year from expiration of the initial IHA);

(2) The request for renewal must include the following:

- An explanation that the activities to be conducted under the requested renewal IHA are identical to the activities analyzed under the initial IHA, are a subset of the activities, or include changes so minor (*e.g.*, reduction in pile size) that the changes do not affect the previous analyses, mitigation and monitoring requirements, or take estimates (with

the exception of reducing the type or amount of take); and

- A preliminary monitoring report showing the results of the required monitoring to date and an explanation showing that the monitoring results do not indicate impacts of a scale or nature not previously analyzed or authorized;

(3) Upon review of the request for renewal, the status of the affected species or stocks, and any other pertinent information, NMFS determines that there are no more than minor changes in the activities, the mitigation and monitoring measures will remain the same and appropriate, and the findings in the initial IHA remain valid.

An additional public comment period of 15 days (for a total of 45 days), with direct notice by email, phone, or postal service to commenters on the initial IHA, is provided to allow for any additional comments on the proposed renewal. A description of the renewal process may be found on our website at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/incidental-harassment-authorization-renewals>. Any comments received on the potential renewal, along with relevant comments on the initial IHA, have been considered in the development of this proposed IHA renewal, and a summary of agency responses to applicable comments is included in this notice. NMFS will consider any additional public comments prior to making any final decision on the issuance of the requested renewal, and agency responses will be summarized in the final notice of our decision.

#### Summary of Request

On July 14, 2021, NMFS issued an IHA to the U.S. ACOE to take marine mammals incidental to the Debris Dock Replacement Project in Sausalito, California (86 FR 37124, July 14, 2021) effective September 1, 2021–August 31, 2022. As the planned work was never begun, NMFS reissued this IHA three times on request from the ACOE, effective January 5, 2022–January 4, 2023 (86 FR 73261, December 21, 2021), January 1, 2024–December 31, 2024 (88 FR 16412, March 17, 2023), and most recently, effective July 15, 2023–July 14, 2024 (88 FR 38035, June 12, 2023). On April 4, 2024, NMFS received an application for the renewal of the most recent reissued IHA, referred to herein as the initial IHA. As described in the application for renewal IHA, the activities for which incidental take is requested are identical to those covered in the initial authorization. The notice of the proposed renewal IHA was

published on May 13, 2024 (89 FR 41381). There are no changes from the proposed authorization in this final authorization.

#### Description of the Specified Activities and Anticipated Impacts

The proposed activities (including mitigation, monitoring, and reporting) authorized incidental take, and anticipated impacts on the affected stocks are the same as those analyzed and authorized through the previously issued IHA. No work has yet occurred under the IHA, but the ACOE has informed us that they plan to begin the planned work but not finish it prior to expiration of the currently issued IHA.

The purpose of the ACOE’s construction project is to replace the existing decaying dock and other onshore infrastructure used to move marine debris collected from San Francisco Bay onto land for disposal. The location, timing, and nature of the activities, including the types of equipment planned for use, are identical to those described in the initial IHA. The mitigation and monitoring are also as prescribed in the initial IHA.

Species that are expected to be taken by the planned activity include harbor porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*), harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina*), gray whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*), bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), California sea lion (*Zalophus californianus*), northern fur seal (*Callorhinus ursinus*), and northern elephant seal (*Mirounga angustirostris*). A description of the methods and inputs used to estimate take anticipated to occur and, ultimately, the take that was authorized is found in the previous documents referenced above. The data inputs and methods of estimating take are identical to those used in the initial IHA. NMFS has reviewed recent Stock Assessment Reports (SAR), information on relevant Unusual Mortality Events (UME), and recent scientific literature, and determined that no new information affects our original analysis of impacts or take estimates under the initial IHA.

We refer to the documents related to the original IHA, which include the **Federal Register** notice of the issuance of the 2021 IHA for the ACOE’s construction work (86 FR 37124, July 14, 2021), the ACOE’s application, the **Federal Register** notice of the proposed IHA (86 FR 28768, May 28, 2021), all associated references and documents, and **Federal Register** notices of issuance for the reissued IHAs.

#### Detailed Description of the Activity

A detailed description of the demolition and construction activities

for which take is proposed here may be found in the notices of the proposed (86 FR 28768, May 28, 2021) and final IHAs for the 2021 authorization. The location, timing, and nature of the activities, including the types of equipment planned for use, are identical to those described in the previous notices. The renewal IHA is effective for a period from July 15, 2024, to July 14, 2025.

#### *Description of Marine Mammals*

A description of the marine mammals in the area of the activities for which authorization of take is proposed here, including information on abundance, status, distribution, and hearing, may be found in the notices of the proposed and final IHAs for the 2021 authorization. NMFS has reviewed recent SARs, including the draft 2023 SARs, information on relevant UMEs, and other scientific literature, and determined there is no new information that affects which species or stocks have the potential to be affected or the

pertinent information in the Description of the Marine Mammals in the Area of Specified Activities contained in the supporting documents for the initial IHA. Two of the authorized stocks have increased slightly in abundance according to the draft 2023 SARs. The San Francisco/Russian River stock of harbor porpoise has increased from 7,524 to 7,777 and the California breeding stock of northern elephant seal has increased from 179,000 to 187,386. However, these new population abundance estimates do not change estimated take numbers, or influence the findings made in support of the initial IHA.

#### *Potential Effects on Marine Mammals and Their Habitat*

A description of the potential effects of the specified activity on marine mammals and their habitat for the activities for which an authorization of incidental take is proposed here may be found in the notices of the proposed and

final IHAs for the 2021 authorization. NMFS has reviewed recent draft SARs, information on relevant UMEs, and other scientific literature, and determined that there is no new information that affects our initial analysis of impacts on marine mammals and their habitat.

#### *Estimated Take*

A detailed description of the methods and inputs used to estimate take for the specified activity are found in the Notices of the Proposed and Final IHA for the 2021 authorization. Specifically, the source levels, days of operation, and marine mammal density and occurrence data applicable to this authorization remain unchanged from the previously issued IHAs. Similarly, the stocks taken, methods and types of takes, and numbers of takes remain unchanged from the previously issued IHA, as do the number of takes, which are indicated below in table 1.

TABLE 1—SUMMARY OF MARINE MAMMAL TAKES BY SPECIES

Common name	Scientific name	Stock	Level A harassment	Level B harassment	Percent of stock
Harbor Seal .....	<i>Phoca vitulina</i> .....	California .....	2	527	1.7
Harbor Porpoise .....	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i> .....	San Francisco-Russian River	2	21	0.3
California Sea Lion .....	<i>Zalophus californianus</i> .....	U.S .....	2	20	<0.1
Gray Whale .....	<i>Eschrichtius robustus</i> .....	Eastern North Pacific .....	0	2	<0.1
Bottlenose Dolphin .....	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i> .....	California Coastal .....	0	9	2
Northern Elephant Seal .....	<i>Mirounga angustirostris</i> .....	California Breeding .....	0	5	<0.1
Northern Fur Seal .....	<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i> .....	California and Eastern North Pacific.	0	3	<0.1

#### *Description of Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Measures*

The mitigation, monitoring, and reporting measures included as requirements in the authorization are identical to those included in the **Federal Register** notice announcing the issuance of the 2021 IHA and subsequently included in the reissued IHAs, and the discussion of the least practicable adverse impact included in the application and the notice of the proposed and final IHA remains accurate.

#### **Comments and Responses**

A notice of NMFS' proposal to issue an IHA to ACOE was published in the **Federal Register** on May 13, 2024 (89 FR 41381). That notice either described, or referenced descriptions of, ACOE's activity, the marine mammal species that may be affected by the activity, the anticipated effects on marine mammals and their habitat, estimated amount and manner of take, and proposed mitigation, monitoring and reporting

measures. During the 15-day public comment period, NMFS did not receive any public comments.

#### **Determinations**

NMFS has concluded that there is no new information suggesting that our analysis or findings should change from those reached for the initial IHA. Based on the information and analysis contained here and in the referenced documents, NMFS has determined the following: (1) the required mitigation measures will affect the least practicable impact on marine mammal species or stocks and their habitat; (2) the authorized takes will have a negligible impact on the affected marine mammal species or stocks; (3) the authorized takes represent small numbers of marine mammals relative to the affected stock abundances; (4) U.S. ACOE activities will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on taking for subsistence purposes as no relevant subsistence uses of marine mammals are implicated by this action; and (5) appropriate

monitoring and reporting requirements are included.

#### **Endangered Species Act**

Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires that each Federal agency ensure that any action it authorizes, funds, or carries out is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. To ensure ESA compliance for the issuance of IHAs, NMFS consults internally whenever we propose to authorize take for endangered or threatened species.

No incidental take of ESA-listed species is proposed for authorization or expected to result from this activity. Therefore, NMFS has determined that formal consultation under section 7 of the ESA is not required for this action.

#### **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 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 (incidental take authorizations with no anticipated serious injury or mortality) of the Companion Manual for NOAA Administrative Order 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 determined that the issuance of the initial IHA qualified to be categorically excluded from further NEPA review. NMFS has determined that the application of this categorical exclusion remains appropriate for this renewal IHA.

#### Authorization

NMFS has issued a renewal IHA to ACOE for the take of small numbers of seven marine mammal species incidental to the Debris Dock Replacement Project in Sausalito, CA, valid from July 15, 2024 through July 14, 2025.

Dated: June 10, 2024.

Angela Somma,

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

[FR Doc. 2024–12998 Filed 6–12–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XE020]

#### Fisheries of the U.S. Caribbean; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of SEDAR 84 Assessment Webinar VI for U.S. Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper and Stoplight Parrotfish.

**SUMMARY:** The SEDAR 84 assessment process of U.S. Caribbean yellowtail snapper and stoplight parrotfish will consist of a Data Workshop, and a series of assessment webinars, and a Review

Workshop. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**DATES:** The SEDAR 84 Assessment Webinar VI will be held Tuesday, July 2, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Eastern Time.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact Julie A. Neer at SEDAR (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation providing webinar access information. Please request webinar invitations at least 24 hours in advance of each webinar.

**SEDAR address:** 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julie A. Neer, SEDAR Coordinator; (843) 571–4366; email: [Julie.neer@safmc.net](mailto:Julie.neer@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions have implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR is a multi-step process including: (1) Data Workshop, (2) a series of assessment webinars, and (3) A Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a report that compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The assessment webinars produce a report that describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The product of the Review Workshop is an Assessment Summary documenting panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data. Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office, HMS Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and NGO's; International experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

The items of discussion during the Assessment Webinar VI are as follows:

Panelists will review and discuss and finalize the assessment modeling for stoplight parrotfish in St. Croix.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action 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) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least (5) business days prior to each workshop.

**Note:** The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: June 7, 2024.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2024–12886 Filed 6–12–24; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XD818]

#### Taking of Threatened or Endangered Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations; Issuance of Permits

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The NMFS is issuing permits to authorize the incidental, but not intentional, take of specific Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed marine mammal species or stocks under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), in certain U.S. commercial fisheries.

**DATES:** These permits are effective for a 3-year period beginning June 13, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Reference materials for the permits are available on the internet at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/>