

Caribbean, Gulf, Mid-Atlantic, and New England Fishery Management Councils to support and participate in the management of these species.

Specifically, the South Atlantic Council would establish a dolphin and wahoo management committee comprised of members of all the Councils concerned as well as an advisory panel comprised of fishery representatives from the various Councils' jurisdictions. The South Atlantic Council indicates the FMP would preferably provide for consistent measures throughout the full range of dolphin and wahoo, but, where possible, the management program would be tailored to each Council's jurisdiction.

Inclusion of dolphin in the proposed FMP would require its removal from the Coastal Pelagics FMP by amendment to this fishery management plan. The Gulf and South Atlantic Councils jointly developed and amend the Coastal Pelagics FMP (managed species include king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, cero, cobia, dolphin, little tunny, and in the Gulf only, bluefish). The Coastal Pelagics FMP is implemented under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Act by regulations at 50 CFR part 622. Presently, those regulations specify authorized and unauthorized fishing gears for dolphin in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico EEZ, and corresponding dolphin possession limits for those gears.

The South Atlantic Council indicates, based on available information, that increased harvesting of dolphin and wahoo off the southern Atlantic states has contributed to localized depletion and user group conflicts. These problems are attributed to recent increases in fishing effort and market demand spurred by the popularity of dolphin among restaurant patrons. Available landings information indicates that the pelagic longlining fleet is directing increased effort toward dolphin, perhaps to offset declining swordfish catches. Considering that this fleet operates throughout the Atlantic EEZ, there is increasing opportunity for occurrences of localized overfishing of dolphin elsewhere in the EEZ, possibly leading to an overfished condition of the stock.

The South Atlantic Council believes that the present situation requires timely remedial action to prevent overfishing and serious user group conflicts before they occur off the southern Atlantic states or elsewhere in the Atlantic EEZ. In considering the increasing fishing pressure on dolphin and wahoo, and the sparse information available on stock structure and status, the South Atlantic Council perceives a

need to provide management throughout their range. Consequently, the South Atlantic Council requests authorization to develop an FMP that would provide comprehensive management and protection of dolphin and wahoo in the EEZ of the Atlantic Ocean.

NMFS requests public comments on the South Atlantic Council's proposal to be designated as the Council to prepare a new FMP to manage dolphin and wahoo throughout the Atlantic Ocean. Written comments will be reviewed and considered prior to NMFS' decision on this request.

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

Dated: March 2, 1998.

Gary C. Matlock,

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

[FR Doc. 98-5838 Filed 3-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 030398D]

Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene a public meeting of the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Technical Review Panel (TRP).

DATES: The meeting is scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1, 1998, and adjourn at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 2, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Wyndham Riverfront Hotel, 701 Convention Center Boulevard, New Orleans, LA 70130; telephone: 504-524-8200.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne Swingle, Executive Director; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: At this meeting, the TRP will review the technical accuracy and adequacy of a revised preliminary draft of the Generic Amendment Addressing EFH Requirements in the Fishery

Management Plans of the Gulf of Mexico. EFH amendments are mandated by the recent passage of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

The TRP will review each section and provide comments. Based on the review, the TRP will develop recommendations for consideration by drafters of the document.

A copy of the agenda can be obtained by calling 813-228-2815.

Although other issues not on the agenda may come before the TRP for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed as available by this notice.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see ADDRESSES) by March 25, 1998.

Dated: March 3, 1998.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 98-6000 Filed 3-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 030398E]

Marine Mammals

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

ACTION: Receipt of application for amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Mr. Michael deGruy, The Film Crew, 629 State Street, Suite 222, Santa Barbara, CA 93101, has requested an amendment to Photography Permit No. 860-1374.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before April 8, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The amendment request and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS,

1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802 (562/980-4001).

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this request should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular amendment request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at 301/713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or other electronic media.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Trevor Spradlin, 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment to Permit No. 860-1374, issued on October 15, 1997, (62 FR 54836) is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

Permit No. 860-1374 authorizes the permit holder to take by Level B harassment gray whales (*Eschrichtius robustus*) and northern elephant seals (*Mirounga angustirostris*) in California waters for purposes of commercial photography. The permit holder requests authorization to include 50 California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*).

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: March 3, 1998.

Art Jeffers,

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

[FR Doc. 98-6002 Filed 3-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[OMB Control No. 9000-0077]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request Entitled Quality Assurance Requirements

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for comments regarding an extension to an existing OMB clearance (9000-0077).

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat will be submitting to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection requirement concerning Quality Assurance Requirements. The clearance currently expires on June 30, 1998.

DATES: Comments may be submitted on or before May 8, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Linda Klein, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, GSA (202) 501-3775.

ADDRESSES: Comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, should be submitted to: FAR Desk Officer, OMB, Room 10102, NEOB, Washington, DC 20503, and a copy to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat, 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4037, Washington, DC 20405. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0077, Quality Assurance Requirements, in all correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

Supplies and services acquired under Government contracts must conform to the contract's quality and quantity requirements. FAR Part 46 prescribes inspection, acceptance, warranty, and other measures associated with quality requirements. Standard clauses related to inspection (a) Require the contractor to provide and maintain an inspection system that is acceptable to the Government; (b) give the Government the right to make inspections and test while work is in process; and (c) require the contractor to keep complete, and

make available to the Government, records of its inspection work.

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .25 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

The annual reporting burden is estimated as follows: Respondents, 950; responses per respondent, 1; total annual responses, 950; preparation hours per response, .25; and total response burden hours, 237.5 (238).

C. Annual Recordkeeping Burden

The annual recordkeeping burden is estimated as follows: Recordkeepers, 58,060; hours per recordkeeper, .68; and total recordkeeping burden hours, 39,481. The total annual burden is 238+39,481=39,719.

Obtaining Copies of Proposals

Requester may obtain a copy of the justification from the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (VRS), Room 4037, 1800 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 501-4755. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0077, Quality Assurance Requirements, in all correspondence.

Dated: March 3, 1998.

Sharon A. Kiser,

FAR Secretariat.

[FR Doc. 98-5879 Filed 3-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

HQ USAF Scientific Advisory Board Meeting

The Air and Space Command & Control Agency (ASC2A) Advisory Group Panel Meeting in support of the HQ USAF Scientific Advisory Board will meet at Langley Air Force Base, VA on April 9-10, 1998 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to gather information and receive briefings.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with Section 552b of Title 5, United States Code, specifically subparagraphs (1) and (4) thereof.