

the year, issuing subsequent editions no later than December 31st on an annual basis;

3. Establishing, maintaining, and operating, on a continuous basis, an electronic version of the directory that is available to the public via the Internet for World Trade Week, usually the third week in May;

4. Inviting U.S. firms to participate in the directory as registrants, free of cost, or as display advertisers for a competitively determined fee;

5. Collaborating with OETCA on the design of a revised CFS registration form to be used in hard-copy and on-line;

6. Ensuring that the directory contains appropriate material only, particularly ensuring that the directory promotes U.S. exports and not U.S. companies seeking to import or attract foreign investment; and,

7. Providing OETCA the opportunity to review and comment on the content of the directory.

A copy of the Export Yellow Pages® print directory and additional information on the responsibilities of the parties may be obtained through the contact above. The electronic directory can be accessed via the Internet at <http://export.uswest.com>.

OETCA is looking for a partner that:

(1) Has a successful track record in publishing, preferably involving both directory-type publications and Internet-based services, and the timely distribution of publications both domestically and internationally;

(2) Has sufficient financial resources to ensure a sustainable long-term partnership;

(3) Has dedicated managerial and staff resources to ensure the continued development and improvement of the product and its distribution;

(4) Will provide strong customer service, to meet the needs of the advertisers in the directory and the Department of Commerce;

(5) Has demonstrated managerial and technical ability to continually enhance the quality of both the printed and electronic versions of the directory, including substantial experience with the use of interactive media;

(6) Has the ability to develop and support the use of the electronic version of the directory as a medium for electronic commerce; and

(7) Has a demonstrated interest in export activities and in assisting OETCA in fulfilling its mandate to promote exports of U.S. goods and services.

Interested parties should send a proposal (including a proposed time line for the issuance of both the print and electronic versions of the directory), as well as corporate bona fides

including financial data (in audited form if available), to the above address. The proposal can also be sent by fax at (202) 482-1790.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. The information collection requirements in this notice have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under OMB Control No. 0625-0120.

Authority: 15 U.S.C. § 175; 22 U.S.C. § 2455(f); and, 15 U.S.C. §§ 4001-4003.

Dated: February 13, 1998.

Morton Schnabel,

Acting Director, Office of Export Trading Company Affairs.

[FR Doc. 98-4321 Filed 2-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 010698C]

International Whaling Commission; Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: NOAA makes use of a public Interagency Committee to assist in preparing for meetings of the International Whaling Commission (IWC). This notice sets forth guidelines for participating on the Committee and a tentative schedule of meetings and other important dates.

DATES: March 6, 1998, 2:00 p.m. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for additional information and tentative dates of additional interagency meetings in 1998.

ADDRESSES: The March 6, 1998, meeting will be held in Room 1863, Herbert C. Hoover Building, Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution, Washington, DC. Copies of nominations for the U.S. Delegation to the May IWC meetings should be sent to Catherine Corson, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 13th floor, SSMC3, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Catherine Corson, telephone: (301) 713-2322.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The March 6, 1998, Interagency Committee meeting will review recent events relating to the IWC and will review the agenda for the 1998 IWC annual meeting.

The Secretary of Commerce is charged with the responsibility of discharging the obligations of the United States under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, 1946. This authority has been delegated to the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, who is also the U.S. Commissioner to the IWC. The U.S. Commissioner has primary responsibility for the preparation and negotiation of U.S. positions on international issues concerning whaling and for all matters involving the IWC. He is staffed by the Department of Commerce and assisted by the Department of State, the Department of the Interior, the Marine Mammal Commission, and by other interested agencies.

Each year, NOAA conducts meetings and other activities to prepare for the annual meeting of the IWC. The major purpose of the preparatory meetings is to provide input in the development of policy by individuals and non-governmental organizations interested in whale conservation. NOAA believes that this participation is important for the effective development and implementation of U.S. policy concerning whaling. Any person with an identifiable interest in United States whale conservation policy may participate in the meetings, but NOAA reserves the authority to inquire about the interest of any person who appears at a meeting and to determine the appropriateness of that person's participation. Foreign nationals and persons who represent foreign governments may not attend. These stringent measures are necessary to promote the candid exchange of information and to establish the necessary basis for the relatively open process of preparing for IWC meetings that characterizes current practices.

Tentative Meeting Schedule

The tentative schedule of additional meetings and deadlines, including those of the IWC, during 1998 follows. Confirmation of Interagency Committee meeting times, dates and locations will be provided in future Federal Register notices.

March 1, 1998: Nominations for the U.S. Delegation to the May IWC meetings are due to the U.S.

Commissioner, with a copy to Catherine Corson (see ADDRESSES). All persons wishing to be considered for the U.S. Commissioner's recommendation to the Department of State concerning the composition of the delegation should ensure that nominations are received by this date. Prospective Congressional advisers to the Delegation should contact the Department of State directly.

April 23, 1998: 2:00 p.m., Room 1863, Herbert C. Hoover Building, Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution, Washington, DC: Tentative Interagency Committee meeting to review recent events relating to the IWC and to review U.S. positions for the 1998 IWC annual meeting.

April 27 to May 9, 1998 (Oman): IWC Scientific Committee Meeting.

May 11 to 20, 1998 (Oman): IWC 50th Annual Meeting.

Special Accommodations

Department of Commerce meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Catherine Corson at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: February 17, 1998.

Patricia Montanio,

Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 98-4364 Filed 2-17-98; 3:44 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 021398A]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Western Pacific Fishery Council (Council) will hold meetings of its Bottomfish and Crustaceans Plan Teams in Honolulu, HI.

DATES: The Bottomfish Plan Team (BPT) meeting will be held on March 11-13, 1998, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., each day. The Crustaceans Plan Team (CPT) meeting will be held on March 17-19, 1998, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., each day.

ADDRESSES: Both meetings will be held at the Council office conference room, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BPT will discuss and may make recommendations to the Council on a draft comprehensive amendment to implement new Sustainable Fishery Act (SFA) requirements (bycatch, fishing sectors, fishing communities, overfishing, essential fish habitat); a draft amendment with management options to restore overfished Main Hawaiian Island (MHI) onaga and ehu, or address the situation in other ways; and draft island-area modules for the 1997 bottomfish annual report. Other agenda items that the BPT will discuss and may take action on include:

1. State and Federal research on MHI overfished bottomfish;
2. Possible addition of generic level management unit species to the fishery management plan;
3. Improvements to annual report modules, including reconsideration of geographic reporting of overfishing indicator;
4. Update on the status of the draft amendment for the limited access program for the Mau Zone in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI); and
5. Other business as required.

The CPT will discuss and make recommendations to the Council on a draft comprehensive amendment to implement new SFA requirements (bycatch, fishing sectors, fishing communities, overfishing, essential fish habitat); the draft 1997 NWHI lobster annual report; and the addition of new areas (Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and U.S. Possessions) to Permit Area 3.

Other agenda items that the CPT will discuss and may take action on include:

1. Research and data collection plans for 1998;
2. Determination of the 1998 harvest guideline, including estimation of exploitable population size and establishment of separate bank quotas;
3. Status of framework regulatory changes: Vessel Monitoring System vessel transit of 50 mile closed area, announce harvest guideline 28 February, add May to closed season for MHI Federal waters; and
4. Other business as required.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before these Teams for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Action will be restricted to those issues

specifically identified in the agenda listed in 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 Kitty M. Simonds, 808-522-8220 (voice) or 808-522-8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to meeting date.

Dated: February 13, 1998.

Gary C. Matlock,

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

[FR Doc. 98-4365 Filed 2-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 021298A]

Marine Mammals

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Christopher W. Clark, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14850, has been issued an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 875-1401.

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

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Director, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (562/980-4001).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeannie Drevenak, 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 23, 1997, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 61093) that an amendment of Permit No. 875-1401, issued September 8, 1997 (62 FR 48611) had been requested by the above-name individual. The requested amendment has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the provisions of § 216.39 of the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), and the provisions of § 222.25 of the