

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before 11:59 p.m., EST, on August 23, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Electronic copies of the Draft Handbook may also be obtained on the internet at: <http://www.legislative.noaa.gov/>.

Written comments may be sent by any of the following methods:

- Email to the following address: noaa.tribalhandbook@noaa.gov;
- Mail or hand deliver to Heather Sagar, Department of Commerce (DOC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW., Room 51027, Washington, DC 20230. Mark the outside of the envelope "Draft NOAA Tribal Handbook"; or
- Fax at (202) 482-1844.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information on the Draft Handbook, contact Heather Sagar by phone at (202) 482-1568 or by fax at (202) 482-1844.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 30, 1995, Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown signed DOC's first American Indian and Alaska Native Policy. That policy recognized the unique legal and political status of federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments, and the Federal Government's trust responsibility to American Indian tribes. The policy acknowledged the right of American Indian Tribes and Alaska Natives to self-government which flows from their inherent sovereignty and relationship with the Federal government. The goal of the policy was to ensure that tribal rights and concerns were addressed through consultation tribal governments prior to implementing any action when developing legislation, regulations, or policies that would affect tribal governments, their economic and social development activities, and their lands and resources.

On April 26, 2012, Secretary of Commerce John Bryson issued DAO 218-8 to implement the requirements of Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments (November 6, 2000), and the Presidential Memorandum on Tribal Consultation (2009). On May 21, 2013, Acting Secretary Rebecca Blank issued a new Tribal Policy that builds upon and expands the 1995 DOC Policy. The 2013 policy establishes the manner in which the Department works with tribes on a government-to-government basis when formulating or implementing policies that have tribal implications. This DOC policy outlines consultation procedures for all Department operating units when

developing policies that have tribal implications.

This Draft Handbook is intended to assist NOAA, including its regional and field staff, in conducting effective government-to-government consultations and fulfilling NOAA's obligations under Executive Order 13175 and DAO 218-8 on Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, and the Department of Commerce Tribal Consultation Policy.

Authority: Executive Order 13175 of November 6, 2000 "Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments" (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000) and Presidential Memorandum of November 5, 2009 "Tribal Consultation" (74 FR 57881, November 9, 2009).

Dated: June 14, 2013.

Eric C. Schwaab,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Conservation and Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2013-15011 Filed 6-21-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC718

New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC); Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of cancellation of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) has cancelled the public meeting of its *Ad hoc Sturgeon* Committee that was scheduled for Wednesday, June 26, 2013 beginning at 9:30 a.m. in Holiday Inn, Peabody, MA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The initial notice was published on June 10, 2013 (78 FR 34654) and the meeting will be rescheduled at a later date and announced in the **Federal Register**.

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

Dated: June 18, 2013.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2013-14934 Filed 6-21-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC554

Marine Mammals; File No. 17952

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a permit has been issued to Daniel P. Costa, Ph.D., Department of Biology and Institute of Marine Sciences, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064 to conduct scientific research on California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*).

ADDRESSES: The permit and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 427-8401; fax (301) 713-0376;

Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0700; phone (206) 526-6150; fax (206) 526-6426; and

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562) 980-4001; fax (562) 980-4018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Colette Cairns or Amy Sloan, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 13, 2013, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (78 FR 15933) that a request for a permit to conduct research on the species identified above had been submitted by the above-named applicant. The requested permit has been issued 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).

The permit authorizes Dr. Costa to continue long-term research on California sea lions in California studying their foraging, diving, energetics, food habits, and at sea distribution. Dr. Costa is authorized to capture, sample, tag and release California sea lion pups, juveniles, and adults. The permit authorizes Dr. Costa to recapture tagged California sea lions throughout their U.S. range. Harassment of California sea lions, harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*), and northern elephant seals (*Mirounga angustirostris*) annually