

References

- Carretta *et al.* 2021. U.S. Pacific Marine Mammal Stock Assessments: 2020, U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS–SWFSC–646.
- DFO 2020. 2019 status of Northwest Atlantic harp seals, (*Pagophilus groenlandicus*). Department of Fisheries and Oceans. DFO Can. Sci. Advis. Sec. Sci. Rep. 2020/020. 14 pp.
- Hayes, S.A., E. Josephson, K. Maze-Foley, P.E. Rosel, and J. Turek. 2021. US Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico marine mammal stock assessments 2020. NOAA Tech Memo NMFS–NE–271. 403 pp.
- Muto, M. M., V. T. Helker, B. J. Delean, N. C. Young, J. C. Freed, R. P. Angliss, N. A. Friday, P. L. Boveng, J. M. Breiwick, B. M. Brost, M. F. Cameron, P. J. Clapham, J. L. Crance, S. P. Dahle, M. E. Dahlheim, B. S. Fadely, M. C. Ferguson, L. W. Fritz, K. T. Goetz, R. C. Hobbs, Y. V. Ivashchenko, A. S. Kennedy, J. M. London, S. A. Mizroch, R. R. Ream, E. L. Richmond, K. E. W. Shelden, K. L. Sweeney, R. G. Towell, P. R. Wade, J. M. Waite, and A. N. Zerbini. 2021. Alaska marine mammal stock assessments, 2020. U.S. Dep. Commer., NOAA Tech. Memo. NMFS–AFSC–421. 398 p.
- NMFS. 2021, August 11. 2017–2021 North Atlantic Right Whale Unusual Mortality Event. <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-life-distress/2017-2021-north-atlantic-right-whale-unusual-mortality-event>.
- Pace, R.M. 2021. Revisions and further evaluations of the right whale abundance model: improvements for hypothesis testing. NOAA Tech Memo NMFS–NE 269. 54 pp.
- Pace, R.M., III, P.J. Corkeron and S.D. Kraus. 2017. State-space mark-recapture estimates reveal a recent decline in abundance of North Atlantic right whales. *Ecol. and Evol.* 7:8730–8741. DOI: 10.1002/ece3.3406

Dated: October 19, 2021.

Evan Howell,

*Director, Office of Science and Technology,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2021–23225 Filed 10–22–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS®) Advisory Committee Public Meeting

AGENCY: U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS®), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of a virtual meeting of the U. S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS®) Advisory Committee (Committee). The meeting is open to the public and an opportunity for oral and written comments will be provided.

DATES: The meeting will be held November 29, 2021, and December 06, 2021. The times and the agenda topics described below are subject to change.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held virtually. To register for the meeting and/or submit public comments, use this link <https://forms.gle/qrem9uwCcyjB1vHEA> or email Laura.Gewain@noaa.gov. Refer to the U.S. IOOS Advisory Committee website at <http://ioos.noaa.gov/community/u-s-ioos-advisory-committee/> for the most up-to-date information including the agenda and dial-in information.

Instructions: The meeting will be open to public participation each day (check agenda on website to confirm times). The Committee expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously submitted verbal or written statements. In general, each individual or group making a verbal presentation will be limited to a total time of three (3) minutes. Written comments should be received by the Designated Federal Official by November 22, 2021, to provide sufficient time for Committee review. Written comments received after November 22, 2021, will be distributed to the Committee, but may not be reviewed prior to the meeting date. To submit written comments, please fill out the brief form at <https://forms.gle/qrem9uwCcyjB1vHEA> or email your comments, your name as it appears on your driver's license, and the organization/company affiliation you represent to Laura Gewain, Laura.Gewain@noaa.gov.

Special Accommodations: These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Krisa Arzayus, Designated Federal Official by phone (240–533–9455) or email (Krisa.Arzayus@noaa.gov) or email Laura Gewain (Laura.Gewain@noaa.gov) by November 15, 2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Krisa Arzayus, Designated Federal Official, U.S. IOOS Advisory Committee, U.S. IOOS Program, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910; Phone 240–533–9455; Fax 301–713–3281; email krisa.arzayus@noaa.gov or visit the U.S. IOOS Advisory Committee website at <http://ioos.noaa.gov/community/u-s-ioos-advisory-committee/>.

ioos.noaa.gov/community/u-s-ioos-advisory-committee/.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee was established by the NOAA Administrator as directed by Section 12304 of the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act, part of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111–11), and reauthorized under the Coordinated Ocean Observations and Research Act of 2020 (Pub. L. No: 116–271). The Committee advises the NOAA Administrator and the Interagency Ocean Observation Committee (IOOC) on matters related to the responsibilities and authorities set forth in section 12302 of the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009 and other appropriate matters as the Under Secretary refers to the Committee for review and advice.

The Committee will provide advice on:

- (a) Administration, operation, management, and maintenance of the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System (the System);
- (b) expansion and periodic modernization and upgrade of technology components of the System;
- (c) identification of end-user communities, their needs for information provided by the System, and the System's effectiveness in disseminating information to end-user communities and to the general public; and
- (d) additional priorities, including—
 - (1) a national surface current mapping network designed to improve fine scale sea surface mapping using high frequency radar technology and other emerging technologies to address national priorities, including Coast Guard search and rescue operation planning and harmful algal bloom forecasting and detection that—
 - (i) is comprised of existing high frequency radar and other sea surface current mapping infrastructure operated by national programs and regional coastal observing systems;
 - (ii) incorporates new high frequency radar assets or other fine scale sea surface mapping technology assets, and other assets needed to fill gaps in coverage on United States coastlines; and
 - (iii) follows a deployment plan that prioritizes closing gaps in high frequency radar infrastructure in the United States, starting with areas demonstrating significant sea surface current data needs, especially in areas where additional data will improve Coast Guard search and rescue models;
 - (2) fleet acquisition for unmanned maritime systems for deployment and

data integration to fulfill the purposes of this subtitle;

(3) an integrative survey program for application of unmanned maritime systems to the real-time or near real-time collection and transmission of sea floor, water column, and sea surface data on biology, chemistry, geology, physics, and hydrography;

(4) remote sensing and data assimilation to develop new analytical methodologies to assimilate data from the System into hydrodynamic models;

(5) integrated, multi-State monitoring to assess sources, movement, and fate of sediments in coastal regions;

(6) a multi-region marine sound monitoring system to be—

(i) planned in consultation with the Interagency Ocean Observation Committee, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Department of the Navy, and academic research institutions; and

(ii) developed, installed, and operated in coordination with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Department of the Navy, and academic research institutions; and

(e) any other purpose identified by the Administrator or the Council.

Matters to be considered:

The meeting will focus on (1) providing the Committee with programmatic updates from the U.S. IOOS program and the IOOC and (2) presentations and discussion to determine the work plan for the Committee over the next three years. The latest version of the agenda will be posted at <http://ioos.noaa.gov/community/u-s-ioos-advisory-committee/>.

Carl C. Gouldman,

Director, U. S. Integrated Ocean Observing System Office, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2021–23142 Filed 10–22–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–JE–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XA936]

Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Shark Fishery Review

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

ACTION: Notice of availability of the Atlantic shark fishery review (SHARE) document; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the availability of the draft SHARE document. As part of the overall review of the current state of the shark fishery, NMFS examined all aspects of commercial and recreational shark fisheries conservation and management, shark depredation, and additional factors affecting the shark fishery. As a comprehensive review of the shark fishery, the SHARE document identifies areas of success and concerns in the fishery and identifies potential future revisions to regulations and management measures. NMFS anticipates that revisions to the regulations and/or management measures would occur via future rulemaking and would include appropriate opportunity for public comment.

DATES: Written comments must be received by January 3, 2022. NMFS will hold one public webinar, at which public comments will be accepted, on December 8, 2021. For specific dates and times, see the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

ADDRESSES: Electronic copies of this document may be obtained on the internet at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/atlantic-shark-fishery-review-share>.

You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2021–0027, via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to www.regulations.gov, enter NOAA–NMFS–2021–0027 into the search box, click the “Comment” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

Instructions: Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on www.regulations.gov without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter “N/A” in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Guy DuBeck (Guy.DuBeck@noaa.gov) or Karyl Brewster-Geisz (Karyl.Brewster-Geisz@noaa.gov) by email, or by phone at (301) 427–8503.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), NMFS is responsible for the sustainable management of Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) (16 U.S.C. 1852(a)(3)) and must comply with all applicable provisions of the Act when implementing conservation and management measures for shark stocks and fisheries. Under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, conservation and management measures must prevent overfishing while achieving, on a continuing basis, the optimum yield from each fishery (16 U.S.C. 1851(a)(1)). Where a fishery is determined to be in or approaching an overfished condition, NMFS must adopt conservation and management measures to prevent or end overfishing and rebuild the fishery. (16 U.S.C. 1853(a)(10); 1854(e)). In addition, NMFS must, among other things, comply with the Magnuson-Stevens Act’s ten National Standards, including a requirement to use the best scientific information available as well as to consider potential impacts on residents of different States, efficiency, costs, fishing communities, bycatch, and safety at sea (16 U.S.C. 1851 (a)(1–10)). Internationally, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) has issued recommendations for the conservation of shark species caught in association with ICCAT fisheries, while the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) has passed measures that place requirements or restrictions on the trade of some shark species and shark fins. The purpose of the SHARE document is to analyze trends within the commercial and recreational shark fisheries to identify main areas of success and concerns with conservation and management measures and find ways to improve management of the shark fishery.

Atlantic shark fisheries have been federally managed since 1993. Unlike stock assessments, which focus on abundance of stocks and their status, SHARE focuses on the overall state of fishery to assist in determining next steps for management. NMFS began this review after noticing certain trends in the fishery. In the commercial fishery, trends include reduced landings, a decrease in active vessels, and an increase in shark discards. In the recreational fishery, trends include an increase in catch and release rates, an increase in effort by state-water or shore-based fishermen, and a decrease in targeted pelagic shark trips. Through