

responses from the public, including key stakeholders from the private sector (*i.e.*, industry, including start-ups and SMEs, academic community, and civil society organizations), standards developing organizations (SDOs), and international partners. The questions reflect the four Objectives in the USG NSSCET. However, the questions are not intended to limit the topics that may be addressed. Responses may include any topic believed to have implications for the implementation of the USG NSSCET.

When responding, commenters may address the practices of their organization(s) or a group of organizations with which they are familiar. Commenters may also provide information about the type, size, and location of the organization(s). Provision of such information is optional and will not affect NIST's consideration.

General Questions

1. Are there potential benefits, opportunities, or risks associated with increased U.S. participation in standards development activities for CET?

2. What are the potential risks or implications of decreased U.S. participation in standards development activities for CET?

3. What are the most important challenges faced by the private sector (*i.e.*, industry, including start-ups and small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), academic community, and civil society organizations) when participating in standards development activities for CET, and how can these challenges be addressed?

USG NSSCET Objective 1: Investment

4. How can the U.S. Government establish policies that promote standards development for CET as a critical component of U.S. innovation culture?

5. How can the U.S. Government utilize Federal spending on research and development to drive technical contributions for CET standards development activities?

6. How can the U.S. Government facilitate the adoption of standards-based CET by industry stakeholders, including start-ups and small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)?

7. How can the U.S. Government better support publicly funded and private research in standards development activities for CET?

USG NSSCET Objective 2: Participation

8. How can the U.S. Government increase the amount and consistency of private sector (*i.e.*, industry, including

start-ups and small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), academic community, and civil society organizations) engagement in standards development activities for CET?

9. How can the U.S. Government improve communications among the public and private sector (*i.e.*, industry, including start-ups and small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), academic community, and civil society organizations) to address potential participation gaps in standards development activities for CET?

10. How can the U.S. Government foster early collaboration with private sector (*i.e.*, industry, including start-ups and small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), academic community, and civil society organizations) stakeholders to identify standards for CET that would encourage market and regulatory acceptance as needed? At what stage is early collaboration most effective?

11. What roles do the academic community and civil society organizations play in standards development activities for CET, and how can they increase their contributions to a private sector-led system?

12. How can the U.S. Government better support state, local, and tribal governments in participating in standards development activities for CET?

USG NSSCET Objective 3: Workforce

13. How can the U.S. Government leverage existing or develop new digital tools and resources that facilitate access to standards development processes, and increase engagement by private sector (*i.e.*, industry, including start-ups and small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), academic community, and civil society organizations) CET stakeholders?

14. How can the U.S. Government incentivize the modification of existing curricula and/or the creation of new curricula, to include faculty professional development, by educational institutions for pedagogy to support standards development activities for CET?

15. What standards development activities for CET can U.S. government and private sector (*i.e.*, industry, including start-ups and small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), academic community, and civil society organizations) stakeholders promote or develop to encourage increased participation by students and trainees?

16. How can the U.S. Government support both private sector and public sector recognition for standards

development expertise and how can this recognition be utilized to increase standards development activities for CET?

USG NSSCET Objective 4: Integrity and Inclusivity

17. How can the U.S. Government work with private sector (*i.e.*, industry, including start-ups and small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), academic community, and civil society organizations) stakeholders to more effectively coordinate with international partners and reinforce private sector-led standards development activities for CET?

18. How should the U.S. Government share information on standards development activities for CET with like-minded partners and allies?

19. What standards information and tools can the U.S. government develop and promote to ensure U.S. exporters can compete in global markets for CET?

20. How can the U.S. Government further advance the design and implementation of technical assistance programs for CET that enable broad and inclusive participation by developing countries in international SDOs?

21. How can the U.S. Government work with international partners to ensure that standards for CET are developed in a way that supports U.S. interests, including a commitment to free and fair market competition in which the best technologies come to market?

22. How can the U.S. Government make the United States a more desirable location to hold international standards meetings, events, and activities for CET?

Alicia Chambers,

NIST Executive Secretariat.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XD161]

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Hearings; Correction

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

ACTION: Notice of correction to public hearings and webinars.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold two virtual/webinar public

hearings to solicit public comments on Joint Amendment with the Gulf and South Atlantic Council's to Address Electronic Reporting for Commercial Vessels participating in the coastal logbook program.

DATES: The public hearings will take place Monday, September 18, 2023 at 10 a.m., EDT and Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 6 p.m., EDT and will conclude no later than 3 hours after the start time of each webinar. For specific dates and times, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**. Written public comments must be received on or before 5 p.m. EDT on October 17, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Please visit the Gulf Council website at www.gulfcouncil.org for meeting materials and webinar registration information. If you prefer to "listen in", you may access the log-on information by visiting our website at www.gulfcouncil.org.

Meeting addresses: The public hearings will be held virtual/webinars. For specific locations, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

Public comments: Comments may be submitted online through the Council's public portal by visiting www.gulfcouncil.org and clicking on "CONTACT US".

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Emily Muehlstein; Public Information Officer; emily.muehlstein@gulfcouncil.org, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The original notice published in the **Federal Register** on July 31, 2023 (88 FR 49451). The hearings were scheduled for August 29th and 30th. The hearing dates had to be changed due to a hurricane.

The agenda for the following three webinar public hearings are as follows: Council and NOAA staff will begin with a presentation on the proposed management change addressed in the Amendment Addressing Electronic Reporting for Commercial Vessels. The Gulf and South Atlantic Councils are currently considering requiring federal commercial permit holders to submit commercial coastal logbooks electronically, rather than mailing paper logbooks. This amendment would impact commercial Reef Fish and Coastal Migratory Pelagic permit holders in the Gulf of Mexico and commercial Snapper/Grouper and Dolphin/Wahoo permit holders in the South Atlantic.

Staff and a Council member will be available to answer any questions, and the public will have the opportunity to provide testimony on the amendment

and other related testimony at the end of each public hearing webinar.

Webinars:

Tuesday, September 18, 2023; webinar to begin at 10 a.m., EDT.

Wednesday, September 19, 2023; webinar to begin at 6 p.m., EDT.

Visit www.gulfcouncil.org website and click on the "meetings" tab for registration information. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

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

Dated: August 31, 2023.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XD182]

Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Columbia East Lateral XPRESS Project

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

ACTION: Notice; proposed incidental harassment authorization; request for comments on proposed authorization and possible renewal.

SUMMARY: NMFS has received a request from TC Energy Columbia Gulf Transmission, LLC for authorization to take marine mammals incidental to the East Lateral XPRESS Project in Barataria Bay, Louisiana. Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposal to issue an incidental harassment authorization (IHA) to incidentally take marine mammals during the specified activities. NMFS is also requesting comments on a possible one-time, one-year renewal that could be issued under certain circumstances and if all requirements are met, as described in Request for Public Comments at the end of this notice. NMFS will consider public comments prior to making any final decision on the issuance of the requested MMPA authorization and agency responses will be summarized in the final notice of our decision.

DATES: Comments and information must be received no later than October 10, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to Jolie Harrison, Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service and should be submitted via email to ITP.StevenTucker@noaa.gov.

Instructions: NMFS is not responsible for comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period. Comments, including all attachments, must not exceed a 25-megabyte file size. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted online at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/incidental-take-authorizations-oil-and-gas> without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

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-oil-and-gas>. In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Tucker, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 427-8401.

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 proposed or, if the taking is limited to harassment, a notice of a proposed IHA is provided to the public for review.

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