

impact on the affected marine mammal species or stocks; (3) the authorized takes represent small numbers of marine mammals relative to the affected stock abundances; (4) ONR's activities will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on taking for subsistence purposes as no relevant subsistence uses of marine mammals are implicated by this action, and; (5) appropriate monitoring and reporting requirements are included.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

In August 2022, the U.S. Navy prepared an Overseas Environmental Assessment (OEA) analyzing the project. Prior to issuing the IHA for the project, we reviewed the 2022 OEA and the public comments received, determined that a separate NEPA analysis was not necessary, and subsequently adopted the document and issued our own Finding of No Significant Impact in support of the issuance of an IHA (87 FR 57458; September 20, 2022).

We have reviewed ONR's application for a renewed IHA for ongoing ARA from September 2023 to September 2024 and the 2022 IHA monitoring report. Based on that review, we have determined that the planned action is identical to that considered in the previous IHA. In addition, no significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns have been identified. Thus, we have determined that the preparation of a new or supplemental NEPA document is not necessary.

Endangered Species Act

Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA, 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires that each Federal agency insure that any action it authorizes, funds, or carries out is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. To ensure ESA compliance for the issuance of IHAs, NMFS consults internally whenever we propose to authorize take for endangered or threatened species, in this case with the Alaska Regional Office.

There is one marine mammal species (Arctic ringed seal) with confirmed occurrence in the study area that is listed as threatened under the ESA. The NMFS Alaska Regional OPR Division issued a Biological Opinion on September 13, 2022 under section 7 of the ESA, on the issuance of an IHA to ONR under section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA by the NMFS Permits and Conservation Division. The Biological

Opinion concluded that the action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of Arctic ringed seals, and is not likely to destroy or adversely modify Arctic ringed seal critical habitat.

Renewal

NMFS has issued a Renewal IHA to ONR for the take of marine mammals incidental to conducting Arctic Research Activities in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas through September 13, 2024.

Dated: September 20, 2023.

Catherine Marzin,

Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XD365]

Pacific 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 Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Pacific Council) will convene a joint meeting of the Salmon Technical Team (STT) and the Scientific and Statistical Committee's Salmon Subcommittee (SSC-SC). The Model Evaluation Workgroup may also contribute and participate in this meeting.

DATES: The online meeting will be held from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday October 11, 2023, and from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 12, 2023, as needed. All times are Pacific Daylight Time. Meeting times are an estimate, the meeting will end when business for the day has been completed.

ADDRESSES: This meeting will be held online. Specific meeting information, including directions on how to join the meeting and system requirements will be provided in the meeting announcement on the Pacific Council's website (see www.pcouncil.org). You may send an email to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt (kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov) or contact him at (503) 820-2412 for technical assistance.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE

Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robin Ehlke, Staff Officer, Pacific Council; telephone: (503) 820-2410.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meeting is to conduct a salmon methodology review to discuss and review proposed changes to analytical methods used in salmon management that were identified at the September 2023 Council meeting. If time allows additional topics may be discussed, including but not limited to future Pacific Council agenda items and salmon-related topics of interest to the STT and SSC-SC. The STT and SSC-SC will report on the outcomes of the meeting to the Pacific Council at their November Council meeting.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the meeting agenda may be discussed, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this document and any issues arising after publication of this document that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt (kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov; (503) 820-2412) at least 10 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: September 19, 2023.

Key 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

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Pacific Coast Groundfish; Salmon Bycatch Minimization Information Collection

AGENCY: National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.