

measures will effect the least practicable impact on marine mammal species or stocks and their habitat; (2) the authorized takes will have a negligible 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) COSW'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

This action is consistent with categories of activities identified in Categorical Exclusion B4 (incidental take authorizations with no anticipated serious injury or mortality) of the Companion Manual for NOAA Administrative Order 216-6A, which do not individually or cumulatively have the potential for significant impacts on the quality of the human environment and for which we have not identified any extraordinary circumstances that would preclude this categorical exclusion. Accordingly, NMFS determined that the issuance of the initial IHA qualified to be categorically excluded from further NEPA review. NMFS has preliminarily determined that the application of this categorical exclusion remains appropriate for this renewal IHA.

Endangered Species Act

Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (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.

NMFS' Office of Protected Resources is proposing to authorize take of four species of marine mammals that are listed under the ESA (*i.e.*, NARW, fin whale, sei whale, and sperm whale) and has determined these activities fall within the scope of activities analyzed in the NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office programmatic consultation regarding geophysical surveys along the U.S. Atlantic coast in the three Atlantic renewable energy regions (completed June 29, 2021; revised September 2021).

Renewal

NMFS has issued a renewal IHA to COSW for the take of marine mammals incidental to conducting marine site characterization with HRG surveys off the coast of New Jersey and New York in the New York Bight from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

Dated: October 10, 2024.

Kimberly Damon-Randall,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XE376]

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of hybrid meeting open to the public offering both in-person and virtual options for participation.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a four-day meeting to consider actions affecting the Gulf of Mexico fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The meeting will convene Monday, November 4 through Thursday, November 7, 2024. Daily schedule will be 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m., EST.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront Hotel, located at 333-1st Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701. If you prefer to “listen in”, you may access the log-in information by visiting our website at <https://www.gulfcouncil.org>.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 4107 W Spruce Street, Suite 200, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Carrie Simmons, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Monday, November 4, 2024; 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m., EST

The meeting will begin in Full Council with review and adoption of Proposed Council Committee Assignments for November 2024 through August 2025 and Current Council Committee Assignments.

Committee Sessions will follow beginning with the Habitat Protection & Restoration Committee's review of the Final Essential Fish Habitat Contract Report. The Law Enforcement Committee will convene to receive a report from the October 2024 Law Enforcement Technical Committee meeting.

Sustainable Fisheries Committee will gather to discuss Research and Monitoring Priorities for 2025–2028 including Scientific and Statistical Committees (SSC) Recommendations, review and discuss SSC Recommendations for the following items: Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR) Process Changes and Assessment Approaches; Consideration of Carryover and Phase-in for Gulf Stocks in Proposed Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) Control Rule Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) Simulations; and receive a presentation for Consideration of *Wahoo* for Federal Management.

Following lunch, the *Shrimp* Committee will review Draft *Shrimp* Framework Action: Modification of the Vessel Position Data Collection Program for the Gulf of Mexico *Shrimp* Fishery and presentation.

The *Reef Fish* Committee will review the *Reef Fish* and Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program Landings, and State Program Landings for Red Snapper.

Tuesday, November 5, 2024; 8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m., EST

The Council will receive a Litigation update. Following, the *Reef Fish* Committee will reconvene to review and discuss Draft Options: *Reef Fish* Amendment 58B: Modifications to *Deep-water Grouper* Management Measures, Presentation: Modifications to *Lane Snapper* Minimum Size and Recreational Bag Limits and Draft Options: *Reef Fish* Amendment 58A: Modifications to *Shallow-water Grouper* Management Measures and receive a presentation for *Reef Fish* Amendment 60: Individual Fishing Quota Distributional Issues.

The Committee will also review draft options for Federal For-hire Fishing Season for *Red Snapper*, receive the SSC Summary Report for SEDAR 88 Stock Assessment for Gulf *Red Grouper*, Recreational *Red Snapper* Texas Calibration Simulation and Southeastern U.S. *Black Grouper* Management Strategy. The Committee will discuss updated NMFS Bottom Longline Index for Gulf *Red Snapper* and Request for an update on the *Greater Amberjack* Count.

Wednesday, November 6, 2024; 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m., EST

The Data Collection Committee will receive a presentation on *Highly Migratory Species* Proposed rule, discuss For-hire Data Collection Amendment, review Southeast Region Headboat Survey Report, and receive updates on Marine Resources Information Program (MRIP) Transition and Pilot Project.

The Council will reconvene at approximately 11 a.m., EST with a Call to Order, Announcements and Introductions, Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Minutes.

The Council will present the 2023 Law Enforcement Team of the Year Award and receive presentation updates for the National Seafood Strategy, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Wind Energy Development in Gulf of Mexico and Exempted Fishing Permit from Texas SeaGrant. Following lunch, the Council will hold public testimony beginning at 1:45 p.m. to 5 p.m., EST for comments for open testimony on other fishery issues or concerns. Public comment may begin earlier than 1:45 p.m. EST but will not conclude before that time. Persons wishing to give public testimony in-person must register at the registration kiosk in the meeting room. Persons wishing to give public testimony virtually must sign up on the Council website during the Council meeting. Registration for virtual testimony closes one hour (12:45 p.m. EST) before public testimony begins.

Thursday, November 7, 2024; 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m., EST

The Council will receive Committee reports from Habitat Protection & Restoration, Law Enforcement, Sustainable Fisheries, *Shrimp*, Data Collection, and *Reef Fish* Committees and discuss Council recommendation on Exempted Fishing Permit. The Council will receive updates from the following supporting agencies: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Liaison; Florida Law Enforcement Efforts, NOAA Office of Law Enforcement (OLE); Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission; U.S. Coast Guard; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and Department of State.

Lastly, the Council will hold a discussion on Council Planning and Primary Activities, and any Other Business items.

Meeting Adjourns

The meeting will be a hybrid meeting; both in-person and virtual participation available. You may register for the

webinar to listen-in only by visiting <https://www.gulfcouncil.org> and click on the Council meeting on the calendar.

The timing and order in which agenda items are addressed may change as required to effectively address the issue, and the latest version along with other meeting materials will be posted on the website as they become available.

Although other non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under Section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided that the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid or accommodations should be directed to Kathy Pereira, (813) 348–1630, at least 15 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: October 11, 2024.

Alyssa Weigers,

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

[FR Doc. 2024–23935 Filed 10–16–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648–XE381]

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC; Council) will hold a meeting via webinar of its Snapper Grouper Private Angler Advisory Panel (AP) to discuss permitting and education alternatives for the private recreational component of the snapper grouper fishery.

DATES: The AP meeting will be held Monday, November 4, 2024 from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via webinar. Webinar registration is required. Details are included in **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer, SAFMC; phone: (843) 302–8440 or toll free: (866) SAFMC–10; fax: (843) 769–4520; email: kim.iverson@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Meeting information, including the webinar registration link, online public comment form, agenda, and briefing book materials will be posted on the Council's website at: <https://safmc.net/advisory-panel-meetings/>. Comments become part of the Administrative Record of the meeting and will automatically be posted to the website and available for Council consideration.

At this meeting, the AP will review guidance from the June 2024 Council meeting and further address a series of permit and education topics posed by the Council.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice 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 Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) 5 days prior to the meeting.

Note: The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: October 11, 2024.

Alyssa Weigers,

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

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