DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
RIN 0648–XG522
Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting
AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.
ACTION: Notice of public meeting (webinar).
SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council’s (Pacific Council) Ad Hoc Climate Scenarios Investigation Committee (CSI) will hold a webinar, which is open to the public.
DATES: The webinar meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 23, 2018, from 3 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.
ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via webinar. A public listening station is available at the Pacific Council office (address below). To attend the webinar (1) join the meeting by visiting this link http://www.gotomeeting.com/online/webinar/join-webinar, (2) enter the Webinar ID: 723–578–011, and (3) enter your name and email address (required). After logging in to the webinar, please (1) dial this TOLL number 1–562–247–8422, (2) enter the attendee phone audio access code 152–720–055, and (3) then enter your audio phone pin (shown after joining the webinar). Note: We have disabled Mic/Speakers as an option and require all participants to use a telephone or cell phone to participate. Technical Information and system requirements: PC-based attendees are required to use Windows® 7, Vista, or XP; Mac®-based attendees are required to use Mac OS® X 10.5 or newer; Mobile attendees are required to use iPhone®, iPad®, Android™ phone or Android tablet (See the https://www.gotomeeting.com/webinar/ipad-iphone-android-webinar-apps). You may send an email to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt at Kris.Kleinschmidt@noaa.gov or contact him at (503) 820–2280, extension 411 for technical assistance.
Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Kit Dahl, Pacific Council; telephone: (503) 820–2422.
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Pacific Council formed the CSI in September 2018 to guide the development of future climate scenarios that will be developed under the Fishery Ecosystem Plan Climate and Communities Initiative. The CSI will report to the Pacific Council at its November 1–8, 2018 meeting on its work (see Agenda Item F.6.a, Supplemental Tri-State Report, September 2018). The purpose of this webinar is to present a draft report of their findings, explain the CSI’s proposed activities, and gain feedback from the Pacific Council’s Ad Hoc Ecosystem Workgroup, other Pacific Council committees, and the public.
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
This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt, (503) 820–2411, at least 10 business days prior to the meeting date.
Dated: September 27, 2018.
Tracey L. Thompson,
Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 2018–21399 Filed 10–1–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
RIN 0648–XG360
Marine Mammals; File No. 20648
AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.
ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.
SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Heidi Pearson, Ph.D., University of Alaska—Southeast, 11120 Glacier Hwy., AND1, Juneau, AK 99801, has applied in due form for a permit to conduct scientific research on marine mammals in southern Alaskan waters.
DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before November 1, 2018.
ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review by selecting “Records Open for Public Comment” from the “Features” box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species (APPS) home page, https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov, and then selecting File No. 20648 from the list of available applications.
These documents are also available upon written request or by appointment in the 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.
Written comments on this application should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, at the address listed above. Comments may also be submitted by facsimile to (301) 713–0376, or by email to NMFS.PriComments@noaa.gov. Please include the File No. in the subject line of the email comment.
Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request to the Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, at the address listed above. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Courtney Smith or Carrie Hubard, (301) 427–8401.


The applicant requests a five-year permit to conduct research that would assess the behavior, ecology, and movement patterns of cetaceans in the Gulf of Alaska with a focus on Southeast Alaska, particularly waters around Juneau. Fin (Balaenoptera physalus), humpback (Megaptera novaeangliae); range-wide including those from the endangered Mexico Distinct Population Segment), gray (Eschrichtius robustus), killer (Orcinus Orca); minke (Balaenoptera acutorostrata), and sperm (Physeter macrocephalus) whales, Dall’s (Hocoenoides dalli) and harbor porpoises (Phocoena phocoena), and Pacific white-sided dolphins (Lagenorhyncus obliquidens) will be taken during vessel and unmanned aerial surveys. Researchers will use the following methods on all or some of the above listed species: Observation, photographic identification, photogrammetry, passive acoustic recording, tagging (suction-cup), remote biopsy and other biological sampling (breath/exhaled air, fecal, swabbed and sloughed skin). Humpback and killer whales may be remote biopsy sampled. Acoustic disturbance from sonar for prey mapping may also occur. Steller sea lions (Eumetopias jubatus; Eastern and Western Distinct Population Segments) and harbor seals may be incidentally harassed during research activities.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the Federal Register, NMFS is forwarding copies of the application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: September 26, 2018.

Julia Marie Harrison, Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Request for Nominations for the Interest Rate Benchmark Reform Subcommittee Under the Market Risk Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC or Commission) is requesting nominations for membership on the Interest Rate Benchmark Reform Subcommittee (Subcommittee) under the Market Risk Advisory Committee (MRAC). The MRAC is a discretionary advisory committee established by the Commission in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

DATES: The deadline for the submission of nominations is October 16, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Nominations should be emailed to MRAC_Submissions@cftc.gov or sent by hand delivery or courier to Alicia L. Lewis, MRAC Designated Federal Officer and Special Counsel to Commissioner Rostin Behnam, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581. Please use the title “MRAC Interest Rate Benchmark Reform Subcommittee” for any nominations you submit.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alicia L. Lewis, MRAC Designated Federal Officer and Special Counsel to Commissioner Rostin Behnam at (202) 418–5862 or email: alewis@cftc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Subcommittee was established to provide reports and recommendations to the MRAC regarding ongoing efforts to transition U.S. dollar derivatives and related contracts to a risk-free reference rate—the Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR)—and the impact of this transition on the derivatives markets. Topics and issues this Subcommittee may consider include, but are not limited to, the following:

• The treatment, under Title VII of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, of existing derivatives contracts that are amended to include new fallback provisions or otherwise reference alternative risk-free rate benchmarks (“RFRs”) such as SOFR and new derivatives contracts that reference RFRs; and
• Impact on liquidity in derivatives and related markets during the transition.

The Subcommittee will report directly to the MRAC and will not provide reports and/or recommendations directly to the Commission. The Subcommittee has no authority to make decisions on behalf of the MRAC, and no determination of fact or policy will be made by the Subcommittee on behalf of the Commission.

Subcommittee members will generally serve as representatives and provide advice reflecting the views of organizations and entities that constitute the structure of the derivatives and financial markets. The Subcommittee may also include regular government employees when doing so furthers its purpose. It is anticipated that the Subcommittee will hold at least three meetings per year. Subcommittee members serve at the pleasure of the Commission. In addition, Subcommittee members do not receive compensation or honoraria for their services, and they are not reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses.

The Subcommittee will include as members individuals who are members of the MRAC and other individuals. For these other individuals who are not serving on the MRAC currently, the Commission seeks nominations of individuals from a wide range of perspectives, including from industry, academia, the government, and public interest. To advise the MRAC effectively, Subcommittee members must have a high-level of expertise and experience with interest rate benchmarks; efforts to transition to an RFR; assessing the impact of such efforts on the derivatives and related markets; and the Commodity Exchange Act and Commission regulations thereunder.

To the extent practicable, the Commission will strive to select members reflecting wide ethnic, racial, gender, and age representation.

The Commission invites the submission of nominations for Subcommittee membership. Each nomination submission should include the proposed member’s name, title, organization affiliation and address, email address and telephone number, as well as information that supports the individual’s qualifications to serve on the Subcommittee. The submission should also include the person’s name, email address and telephone number of the person nominating the proposed.