

SAB website: <https://sab.noaa.gov/current-meetings/>.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XF762]

Fisheries of the South Atlantic; South Atlantic Fishery Management Council—Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Meeting of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Citizen Science Operations Advisory Panel via webinar.

SUMMARY: The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of its Citizen Science Operations Advisory Panel (AP) via webinar on June 4, 2026.

DATES: The Citizen Science Operations AP meeting will be held via webinar on Thursday, June 4, 2026, from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Meeting address: The meeting will be held via webinar and is open to the public. Webinar registration information and additional meeting details are available from the Council's website at: <https://safmc.net/events/june-2026-citizen-science-operations-ap-meeting/>. There will be an opportunity for public comment at the beginning of the meeting. Council address: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N Charleston, SC 29405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julia Byrd, Citizen Science Program Manager, SAFMC; phone 843/302-8439 or toll free 866/SAFMC-10; FAX 843/769-4520; email: julia.byrd@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Citizen Science Operations AP serves as advisors to the Council's Citizen Science Program. AP members include representatives from the Council's Citizen Science Advisory Panel Pool, NOAA Fisheries' Southeast Regional Office, NOAA Fisheries' Southeast Fisheries Science Center, and the Council's Science and Statistical

Committee. Their responsibilities include developing programmatic recommendations, reviewing policies, providing program direction/multi-partner support, identifying citizen science research needs, and providing general advice. Agenda items for this meeting include: a Citizen Science Program and Project update; discussion on tracking and sharing the Citizen Science Program Indicators; discussion on Citizen Science Program growth; and Operations AP membership reappointments and applications; and other business.

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: May 5, 2026.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2026-09051 Filed 5-6-26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XE974]

Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to S50S/LNG and S499 Bulkheads Replacement Project at Naval Station Newport, Rhode Island

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

ACTION: Notice; proposed incidental harassment authorizations; request for comments on proposed authorizations and possible renewals.

SUMMARY: NMFS has received a request from the United States Navy (Navy) for authorization to take marine mammals incidental to construction activities associated with the S50S/LNG and S499 Bulkheads Replacement Project at Naval Station (NAVSTA) Newport, Rhode Island (RI). Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposal to issue two consecutive 1-year incidental harassment authorizations (IHAs) to incidentally take marine mammals during the specified activities. NMFS is also requesting comments on

possible one-time, 1-year renewals for each IHA that could be issued under certain circumstances and if all requirements are met, as described in the Request for Public Comments section at the end of this notice. NMFS will consider public comments prior to making any final decision on the issuance of the requested MMPA authorizations.

DATES: Comments and information must be received no later than June 8, 2026.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to the Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS and should be submitted via email to ITP.esch@noaa.gov. 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-construction-activities>.

In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed below.

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/permit/incidental-take-authorizations-under-marine-mammal-protection-act> 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.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The MMPA prohibits the "take" of marine mammals, with certain exceptions. Section 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) directs 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