

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

[RTID 0648–XF444]

Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to the Port of San Francisco Mission Bay Ferry Landing Project in San Francisco Bay, California

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of incidental harassment authorization.

SUMMARY: In accordance with regulations implementing the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) as amended, notification is hereby given that NMFS has issued an incidental harassment authorization (IHA) to the Port of San Francisco (PSF) to take marine mammals incidental to construction activities for the Mission Bay Ferry Landing (MBFL) Project in San Francisco Bay (SFB), California (CA).

DATES: This authorization is effective for 1 year from the date of notification by the IHA-holder, not to exceed 1 year from the date of issuance (May 14, 2026).

ADDRESSES: 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.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**MMPA Background and Determinations**

The MMPA prohibits the “take” of marine mammals, with certain exceptions. Among the exceptions is section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) which directs the Secretary of Commerce (as delegated to NMFS) to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking by harassment 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 the public has an opportunity to comment on the proposed IHA.

Specifically, NMFS will issue an IHA if it 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 [practicable] adverse impact” on the affected species or stocks and their habitat, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds, and areas of similar significance, and on the availability of such species or stocks for taking for certain subsistence uses (referred to here as “mitigation”). NMFS must also prescribe requirements pertaining to the monitoring and reporting of such takings. The definitions of key terms, such as “take,” “harassment,” and “negligible impact,” can be found in the MMPA and the NMFS’ implementing regulations (see 16 U.S.C. 1362; 50 CFR 216.103).

On April 3, 2026, a notice of NMFS’ proposal to issue an IHA to PSF for the taking of marine mammals incidental to construction of the MBFL Project within PSF’s Mission Bay/Central Waterfront area of San Francisco, CA, was published in the **Federal Register** (91 FR 16900). In that notice, NMFS indicated the estimated numbers, type, and methods of incidental take proposed for each species or stock, as well as the mitigation, monitoring, and reporting measures that would be required should the IHA be issued. The **Federal Register** notice also included analysis to support NMFS’ preliminary conclusions and determinations that the IHA, if issued, would satisfy the requirements of section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA for issuance of the IHA. The **Federal Register** notice included web links to a draft IHA for review, as well as other supporting documents.

No substantive or relevant comments were received during the public comment period. No new information that would change any of the preliminary analyses, conclusions, or determinations in the proposed IHA notice has become available since that notice was published, and therefore, the preliminary analyses, conclusions, and determinations included in the proposed IHA are considered final.

National Environmental Policy Act

To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA; 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and NOAA Administrative Order (NAO)

216–6A, NMFS must review our proposed action (*i.e.*, the issuance of an IHA) with respect to potential impacts on the human environment.

These actions are consistent with categories of activities identified in Categorical Exclusion B4 (IHAs with no anticipated serious injury or mortality) of the Companion Manual for NAO 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 has determined that the issuance of the IHA qualifies to be categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

Endangered Species Act

Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) requires that each Federal agency ensures 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.

No incidental take of ESA-listed species is authorized or expected to result from this activity. Therefore, NMFS has determined that formal consultation under section 7 of the ESA is not required for this action.

Authorization

Accordingly, consistent with the requirements of section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA, NMFS has issued an IHA to PSF for the taking of marine mammals incidental to construction activities supporting the MBFL Project in San Francisco, CA.

Dated: May 18, 2026.

Kimberly Damon-Randall,

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

[FR Doc. 2026–10106 Filed 5–19–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS®) Advisory Committee Public Meeting**

AGENCY: U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS®), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic

and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting; opportunity for public comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of a virtual meeting of the U.S. IOOS® Advisory Committee (Committee). The meeting is open to the public and an opportunity for oral and written comments will be provided.

DATES: The meeting will be held virtually on June 16, 2026 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) and June 17, 2026 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. EDT. Registration is required; please register online at <https://forms.gle/PsJiZmTZhAERVv9U7> or email laura.gewain@noaa.gov. Registration is required by 5 p.m. EDT on June 15, 2026.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held virtually. To register for the meeting and/or submit public comments, use this link <https://forms.gle/PsJiZmTZhAERVv9U7> or email laura.gewain@noaa.gov. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for instructions and other information about public participation and special accommodations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Krisa Arzayus, Designated Federal Official, U.S. IOOS Advisory Committee, U.S. IOOS Program, 240–533–9455, krisa.arzayus@noaa.gov or visit the Committee's website at <https://ioos.noaa.gov/community/u-s-ioos-advisory-committee/>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Committee was established by the NOAA Administrator as directed by section 12304(d) of the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act (the Act) as amended by Section 103 of the Coordinated Ocean Observations and Research Act of 2020 (COORA) (Pub. L. 116–271, Title I). 33 U.S.C. 3603(d). The Committee advises the NOAA Administrator and the Interagency Ocean Observation Committee (IOOC) on matters related to the responsibilities and authorities set forth in the Act and other appropriate matters as the Administrator, the Ocean Policy Committee described at 33 U.S.C. 3603(c)(1), and IOOC may refer to the Committee for review and advice. The charter and summaries of prior meetings can be found online at <https://ioos.noaa.gov/community/u-s-ioos-advisory-committee/>.

II. Matters To Be Considered

The meeting will focus on: (1) updates from NOAA and key NOAA partners,

and (2) finalizing recommendations from the current work plan. The latest version of the agenda will be posted at <https://ioos.noaa.gov/community/u-s-ioos-advisory-committee/>. The times and the agenda topics described here are subject to change.

III. Public Comment Instructions

The meeting will be open to public participation (check agenda on website to confirm time). The Committee expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously submitted verbal or written statements. In general, each individual or group making a verbal presentation will be limited to a total time of three (3) minutes. Written comments should be received by June 8, 2026 11:59 p.m. EDT, to provide sufficient time for Committee review. Written comments received after June 8, 2026 11:59 p.m. EDT, will be distributed to the Committee, but may not be reviewed prior to the meeting date. To submit written comments, please fill out the brief form at <https://forms.gle/PsJiZmTZhAERVv9U7> or email your comments and your organization/company affiliation to laura.gewain@noaa.gov. All comments received are a part of the public record. All personally identifiable information (name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the commenter will be publicly accessible. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The Federal agencies will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (*i.e.*, on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). Comments that are not responsive or contain profanity, vulgarity, threats, or other inappropriate language will not be considered. This NOAA public meeting will be recorded for use in preparation of minutes. If you have a public comment, you acknowledge that you will be recorded and are aware you can opt out of the meeting. Participation in the meeting constitutes consent to the recording.

IV. Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Krisa Arzayus, Designated Federal Official by phone (240–533–9455) or email (krisa.arzayus@noaa.gov) or to Laura Gewain (laura.gewain@noaa.gov) by June 9, 2026 11:59 p.m.

Authority: Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act, part of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111–11), and the Coordinated Ocean Observations and Research Act of 2020 (Pub. L. 116–271)

Krisa M. Arzayus,

Acting Director, U.S. IOOS Office, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2026–10062 Filed 5–19–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–NE–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XF667]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Prohibited Species Donation Program

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

ACTION: Notice; selection of an authorized distributor.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the renewal of two prohibited species donation (PSD) permits to SeaShare, a non-profit and tax-exempt organization, authorizing this organization to distribute Pacific salmon (salmon) and Pacific halibut (halibut) to hunger relief agencies, food bank networks, or food bank distributors under the PSD program. Salmon and halibut are caught incidentally during directed fishing in the exclusive economic zone off Alaska for groundfish with trawl gear. This action is necessary to comply with provisions of the PSD program.

DATES: May 20, 2026 through May 21, 2029.

ADDRESSES: Electronic copies of the PSD permits for salmon and halibut prepared for this action may be obtained from the NMFS Alaska Region website at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/alaska/commercial-fishing/permits-and-licenses-issued-alaska>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maggie Chan, 907–586–7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Fishing for groundfish by U.S. vessels in the exclusive economic zone of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area and Gulf of Alaska is managed by NMFS in accordance with the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area