

Public Scoping: Amendment 26 to the Coastal Migratory Pelagic FMP

The amendment addresses measures for king mackerel, including options to revise Annual Catch Limits and the stock boundary for king mackerel, allow the sale of king mackerel bycatch in the shark gillnet fishery, and establish a sub-quota specific to the new mixing zone.

Written comments may be directed to Bob Mahood, Executive Director, SAFMC (see **ADDRESSES**) or via email to: Mike.Collins@safmc.net. Note that email comments should specify the name of the amendment in the Subject Line of the email for which comments are being submitted. Public hearing comments for Snapper Grouper Amendment 35 will be accepted until 5 p.m. on February 4, 2015. Scoping comments for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Amendment 26 will be accepted until 5 p.m. on February 11, 2015. Copies of the public hearing and scoping documents are available from the Council's Web site at www.safmc.net.

Council staff will present an overview of the amendments and will be available for informal discussions and to answer questions. Members of the public will have an opportunity to go on record to record their comments on the public hearing and scoping topics for consideration by the Council. Local Council representatives will attend the meetings and listen to public comment.

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 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

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the council office (see **ADDRESSES**) 3 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: January 5, 2015.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2015-00102 Filed 1-8-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XZ51

Marine Mammals; File No. 15543

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application for permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Randall S. Wells, Ph.D. (Principal Investigator), Sarasota Dolphin Research Program, c/o Mote Marine Laboratory, 1600 Ken Thompson Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34236, has applied for an amendment to Scientific Research Permit No. 15543-03.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or email comments must be received on or before February 9, 2015.

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 home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 15543 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.Pr1Comments@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 Brendan Hurley, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment to Permit No. 15543-03 is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

Permit No. 15543, issued on May 26, 2011 (76 FR 32144), authorizes the permit holder to conduct photo-identification and behavioral studies, remote biopsy sampling, and temporary capture and release activities for health assessments of bottlenose dolphins. Research may occur in shallow, inshore and coastal waters of west Florida out to 50 miles offshore. The permit was modified with several minor amendments that further authorized the development of cell lines from blubber tissue (Permit No. 15543-01, issued September 21, 2011); the application of zinc oxide to mark animals to aid in their identification during post-tagging behavioral observations (Permit No. 15543-02, issued January 22, 2014); and the use of an unmanned aerial system (UAS) to aid in health assessment captures and field surveys (Permit No. 15543-03; issued May 1, 2014).

The applicant has requested to amend the permit by expanding the study area to include the bay, sound, estuary and associated coastal waters of Mobile Bay, Alabama, and Terrebonne Bay, Louisiana, and 160 annual takes in each location by remote biopsy sampling of bottlenose dolphins. Additionally, 160 annual biopsy takes will be added to the currently authorized allotment of Florida biopsy activities to include a focused study in Pensacola Bay, FL. These research activities aim to understand dolphin population dynamics, abundance, movement patterns, feeding ecology, and specific metrics of biological and physiological condition to understand acute and chronic effects of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Biopsy samples will be distributed to authorized recipients for processing.

The applicant has also requested to capture, satellite-tag, and release up to 25 Atlantic spotted dolphins (*Stenella frontalis*) for health assessments by hoop-netting bow-riding individuals during surveys on the West Florida Shelf. Up to 2 takes by unintentional mortality are requested annually. These activities will help to determine ranging patterns, dive behavior and habitat use of this understudied species. These same activities are already authorized for bottlenose dolphins under the current permit (No. 15543-03).

Finally, the applicant has requested a minor procedural modification to allow the administration of doubly-labeled water (deuterium oxide and oxygen-18) to bottlenose dolphins that are temporarily captured during health assessments. This procedure is part of a larger study to determine the metabolic rates of females with and without calves, and of 2-3 year old calves. The

doubly-labeled water will be administered via a stomach tube (procedural variants of this, lavage and gastric sampling, is already authorized under the current permit). Additional personnel with germane experience to this project are requested to be Co-investigators.

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 this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: December 24, 2014.

Julia Harrison,

*Chief, Permits and Conservation Division,
Office of Protected Resources, National
Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2015-00142 Filed 1-8-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP15-29-000]

Notice of Application: Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC

Take notice that on December 15, 2014, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco), PO Box 1396, Houston, Texas 77251, filed in Docket No. CP15-29-000 an application pursuant to section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act (NGA) for authorization to construct: (i) An approximately seven-mile, 36-inch diameter pipeline; (ii) a new 32,000 horsepower (HP) compressor station; (iii) an additional 32,000 HP at its Compressor Station 44; (iv) piping and valve modifications at three existing compressor stations to allow for bi-directional flow; (v) two meter stations; (vi) various piping, valve modifications, and pig launchers and receivers; and (vii) appurtenances (Gulf Trace Expansion Project). The proposed facilities are located in Cameron, Beauregard, Evangeline, and East Feliciana Parishes, Louisiana. Transco states that the Gulf Trace Expansion Project will provide 1,200,000 dekatherms per day of firm transportation service to Sabine Pass Liquefaction, LLC's (Sabine Pass) liquefied natural gas terminal for Sabine Pass's liquefaction trains 3 and 4. Transco estimates the cost of the Gulf

Trace Expansion Project to be approximately \$278 million, all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection. The filing is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's Web site Web at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or call toll-free, (886) 208-3676 or TYY, (202) 502-8659.

Any questions concerning these applications may be directed to Marg Camardello, Rates & Regulatory, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC, PO Box 1396, Houston, Texas 77251-1396, by telephone at (713) 215-3380.

Pursuant to section 157.9 of the Commission's rules, 18 CFR 157.9, within 90 days of this Notice, the Commission staff will either: complete its environmental assessment (EA) and place it into the Commission's public record (eLibrary) for this proceeding; or issue a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review. If a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review is issued, it will indicate, among other milestones, the anticipated date for the Commission staff's issuance of the EA for this proposal. The filing of the EA in the Commission's public record for this proceeding or the issuance of a Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review will serve to notify federal and state agencies of the timing for the completion of all necessary reviews, and the subsequent need to complete all federal authorizations within 90 days of the date of issuance of the Commission staff's EA.

There are two ways to become involved in the Commission's review of this project. First, any person wishing to obtain legal status by becoming a party to the proceedings for this project should, on or before the comment date stated below file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426, a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the NGA (18 CFR 157.10). A person obtaining party status will be placed on the service list maintained by the Secretary of the Commission and will receive copies of all documents filed by the applicant and by all other parties. A party must submit seven copies of filings made in the proceeding with the Commission and must mail a copy to the applicant and

to every other party. Only parties to the proceeding can ask for court review of Commission orders in the proceeding.

However, a person does not have to intervene in order to have comments considered. The second way to participate is by filing with the Secretary of the Commission, as soon as possible, an original and two copies of comments in support of or in opposition to this project. The Commission will consider these comments in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but the filing of a comment alone will not serve to make the filer a party to the proceeding. The Commission's rules require that persons filing comments in opposition to the project provide copies of their protests only to the party or parties directly involved in the protest.

Persons who wish to comment only on the environmental review of this project should submit an original and two copies of their comments to the Secretary of the Commission. Environmental commentors will be placed on the Commission's environmental mailing list, will receive copies of the environmental documents, and will be notified of meetings associated with the Commission's environmental review process. Environmental commentors will not be required to serve copies of filed documents on all other parties. However, the non-party commentors will not receive copies of all documents filed by other parties or issued by the Commission (except for the mailing of environmental documents issued by the Commission) and will not have the right to seek court review of the Commission's final order.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings of comments, protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 7 copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. Eastern Time on January 21, 2015.

Dated: December 31, 2014.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Notice of Application