input to stock assessments. Vessel operations would be under the supervision and control of NEFSC scientific personnel.

The stratified random sampling will occur at depths of 60–100 fathoms and 101–200 fathoms outside of all multispecies closed areas (Closed Area II and Nantucket Lightship Closed Area). Participating commercial *Illex* Squid vessels will employ standardized, scientific towing and sampling protocols. Towing will occur at 100 pre-determined stations at one half hour intervals and a tow speed of 3.5 knots. The codend mesh size of the liners will measure 1 inch (25.4 mm) diamond throughout the codend circumference for a total length of 30 feet.

The target species is *Illex* Squid, however some bycatch may be encountered. Any and all species landed for commercial purposes will be done so in accordance with the respective fishery requirements and landing restrictions. *Illex* length, weight and age data will be recorded along with other physical parameters (bottom temperature, depth, vessel speed and location data). Total catch weight information will be recorded for all other species retained. The survey will commence on or about May 20, 2000, and will continue through May 31, 2000. Timing is critical to survey success, which intends to capture the spring migration of *Illex* onto the continental shelf.

EFPs would be issued to two participating Federally permitted *Illex* Squid vessels to exempt them from the gear restrictions of the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid and Butterfish Fishery Management Plan.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Joanna Davis at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: April 20, 2000.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 00–10303 Filed 4–24–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041900A]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Groundfish Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel will hold a work session which is open to the public.

DATES: The STAR Panel for bank rockfish and darkblotched rockfish will meet beginning at 1:00 p.m., May 15, 2000 and continue through May 19 until business is completed. Except for Monday, May 15, 2000, the STAR Panel will meet each day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The STAR Panel for bank rockfish and darkblotched rockfish will be held in The Marilyn Potts Guin Library, Hatfield Marine Science Center, Oregon State University, 2030 Marine Science Drive, Newport, OR 97365.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan Waldeck, Fishery Management Analyst; telephone: (503) 326–6352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meeting is to review draft stock assessment documents for bank rockfish and darkblotched rockfish and any other pertinent information, work with stock assessment teams to make necessary revisions, and produce STAR Panel reports for use by the Council family and other interested persons.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the STAR Panel agenda may come before the panel for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal panel action during this meeting. Panel action 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 Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the panel's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. John Rhoton at (503) 326–6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: April 19, 2000.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 00–10301 Filed 4–24–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041700A]

Marine Mammals; Photography Permit (File No. 980–1570)

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

ACTION: Receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Mr. Clive Lonsdale, Lonsdale Films, 113 Fakenham Road, Great Ryburg, Norfolk NR21 7AQ, United Kingdom, has applied in due form for a permit to take orcas (*Orcinus orca*) and gray whales (*Eschrichtius robustus*) for purposes of commercial photography.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before May 25, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713–2289); and

Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, 709 W 9th Street, Federal Building, Room 461, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802 (907–586–7235).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of § 104(c)(6) 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). Section 104(c)(6) provides for photography for educational or commercial purposes involving non-endangered and non-threatened marine mammals in the wild. NMFS is currently working on proposed regulations to implement this provision. However, in the meantime, NMFS has received and is processing this request as a ''pilot'' application for Level B Harassment of non-listed and non-

depleted marine mammals for photographic purposes.

The applicant seeks authorization to inadvertently harass up to 10 orcas (*Orcinus orca*) and 2 gray whales (*Eschrichtius robustus*) during the course of filming activities in the Alaskan waters of the Bering Strait over a one year period.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301) 713–0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or by other electronic media.

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: April 18, 2000.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 00–10302 Filed 4–24–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041100A]

Marine Mammals; File No. 978–1567

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

ACTION: Receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Paul E. Nachtigall, Ph.D., Director, Marine Mammal Research Program, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, University of Hawaii, P.O. Box 1106, Kailua, Hawaii 96734, has applied in due form for a permit to take two species of cetaceans for purposes of scientific research.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before May 25, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713–2289);

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802–4213 (562/980–4027); and

Protected Species Program Manager, Pacific Islands Area Office, NMFS, NOAA, 1601 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 1110, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814–4700 (808/973–2935).

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301) 713–0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or by other electronic media.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeannie Drevenak, 301/713–2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The applicant is requesting authorization to conduct scientific research (i.e., investigation of basic hearing processes, low frequency hearing capabilities, and echolocation systems) on two species of captive odontocete cetaceans: four (4) Atlantic bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) and one (1) false killer whale (*Pseudorca crassidens*). Experimental trials will be conducted to: (1) obtain hearing thresholds and to measure the effects of sound on the hearing of the animals; and (2) obtain information on the dolphins' echolocation systems. The research will be conducted over a five-year period.

Custody of the subject animals would be transferred from the U.S. Navy (SPAWARSYSCEN San Diego) to the University of Hawaii's Marine Mammal Research Program at The Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology. Since the animals are currently housed at the University of Hawaii, the animals' physical location will not change.

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: April 18, 2000.

Ann D. Terbush,

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

[FR Doc. 00–10304 Filed 4–24–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–F

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Friday, May 5, 2000.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., NW., Washington, DC, 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance Matters.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Jean A. Webb, 202–418–5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 00–10346 Filed 4–21–00; 11:32 am]

BILLING CODE 6351–01–M

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 11:00 a.m., Friday, May 12, 2000.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., NW, Washington, DC, 9th Floor Conference Room.

STATUS: Closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Surveillance matters.