

days prior to the meeting date (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: August 15, 2012.

**Lindsay Fullenkamp,**

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

[FR Doc. 2012-20408 Filed 8-20-12; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XC170**

#### New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice; public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council's (Council) VMS/ Enforcement Committee and Advisory Panel will meet to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday, September 6, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Radisson Hotel Plymouth Harbor, 180 Water Street, Plymouth, MA 02360; telephone: (508) 747-4900; fax: (508) 746-2609.

*Council address:* New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The VMS/ Enforcement Committee and Advisory Panel will meet to discuss and make recommendations for NOAA enforcement priorities for 2013. They will provide an open comment period/ webinar for the fishing industry, concerning Compliance and Effectiveness of Regulations for New England Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). Also on the agenda will be to make recommendations for changes to gear stowage rules across all New England FMPs, and contact the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council with these recommendations concerning their FMPs. The Committee and Advisory Panel will make recommendations on the Proposed Information Collection, Northeast

Region Logbook Family of Forms **Federal Register** (77 FR 153, 8/8/12). Other business may be discussed. The public is invited to participate in the meeting via webinar. For online access to the meeting, please reserve your webinar seat now at <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/824208695>.

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 those issues specifically identified 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 Council's 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 Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: August 16, 2012.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2012-20515 Filed 8-20-12; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XA288**

#### Marine Mammals; File No. 15748

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

**ACTION:** Notice; issuance of permit amendment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that a major amendment to Permit No. 15748 has been issued to Alaska SeaLife Center (ASLC), Seward, AK.

**ADDRESSES:** The permit amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

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; and

Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562) 980-4001; fax (562) 980-4018.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joselyd Garcia-Reyes or Tammy Adams, (301) 427-8401.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On May 7, 2012, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (77 FR 26747) that a request for an amendment Permit No. 15748 to conduct research on Weddell seals had been submitted by the above-named applicant. The requested permit amendment has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The amended permit authorizes takes of 35 weaned pups/juveniles over the life of the permit for the deployment of instrumentation; increases the number of annual takes per animal of weaned pups/juveniles and adult females from 2 to 3; adds nasal, oral, and rectal swab collection (one of each per animal) in weaned pups/juveniles and adult females; adds the use of spray lidocaine or similar agent; adds stable isotope analysis to compare stable isotope values of Weddell seals in the Ross Sea in the early 1900s to today; and adds an influenza A analysis using the requested swab collection to understand the exposure of pathogens to Antarctic marine mammals. The amended permit is valid through the expiration date of the original permit, August 30, 2015.

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

Dated: August 15, 2012.

**P. Michael Payne,**

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

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