

required documentary evidence directly to the Assistant Administrator.

As a part of the annual review process set forth in 50 CFR 216.24(f), the Assistant Administrator considered documentary evidence submitted by the Government of Mexico or obtained from the IATTC and the Department of State and determined that Mexico has met the MMPA's requirements to receive an affirmative finding.

After consultation with the Department of State, NMFS renewed the Government of Mexico's affirmative finding allowing the continued importation into the United States of yellowfin tuna and products derived from yellowfin tuna harvested in the ETP by Mexican-flag purse seine vessels or purse seine vessels operating under Mexican jurisdiction.

The Government of Mexico must submit a new application in early 2005 for an affirmative finding to be effective for the period April 1, 2005, through March 31, 2006, and the subsequent 4 years.

Dated: July 30, 2004.

John Oliver,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operation, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 080304A]

Draft NOAA Shrimp Issues and Options Paper Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) is hosting public meetings to present the results of an analysis of different options and alternatives that may help resolve current financial and market industry challenges. The analysis was developed at the request of the shrimp industry and other interested parties. The options will be presented in their entirety and the results from those that could be analyzed will be presented. Public comment on the analysis will be taken at the meetings. See **DATES** and **ADDRESSES** for specific dates, times and locations of the meetings.

DATES: The meetings held on Monday August 23-24, are scheduled to start at

11:30 a.m. on the 23rd and end at noon on the 24th. The meeting held on August 25th is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. and end at 10 p.m. The meeting held on August 27th is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. The meeting held on August 28th is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. Another meeting will be scheduled for September in New Orleans, LA.

ADDRESSES: The meetings August 23-24 will be held at the Holiday Inn Houston Intercontinental Airport, 15222 John F. Kennedy Blvd. Houston, TX 77032; 281-449-2311; the meeting August 25th will be held at the Sheraton Suites Tampa Airport, 4400 West Cypress Street, Tampa, FL; 813-873-8675; the meeting August 27th will be held at the Embassy Suites Airport-Convention Center, 5055 International Boulevard, North Charleston, SC 29418; 843-747-1882; the meeting August 28th will be held at the New Bern Sheraton, 100 Middle Street, New Bern, NC 28560; 252-638-3585.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Gordon J. Helm, Deputy Director, Office of Constituent Services. Telephone (301) 713-2379.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The primary goal of the meeting is to present the analysis and collect public input on the DRAFT shrimp industry issues and options included in the paper. Copies of the DRAFT paper will be available at the meetings and will also be available online beginning 11 a.m. EST August 23, 2004, at: www.nmfs.noaa.gov/mediacenter. Those interested in obtaining a copy after the meetings may contact Dr. John Ward, Economist. Telephone (301) 713-2379.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Dr. John Ward at (301) 713-2379 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 3, 2004.

Gordon J. Helm,

Deputy Director, Office of Constituent Services, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 072904C]

Marine Mammals; File No. 1054-1731

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the University of Florida, Aquatic Animal Program, College of Veterinary Medicine, 2015 SW 16th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32610 (Dr. Ruth Frances-Floyd, Principal Investigator), has been issued a permit to import and export marine mammal specimens for purposes of scientific research.

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

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)713-0376; and Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432; phone (727)570-5301; fax (727)570-5320.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Amy Sloan or Jennifer Skidmore, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 30, 2004, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 25374) that a request for a scientific research permit to import and export marine mammal species under NMFS jurisdiction had been submitted by the above-named organization. The requested permit has been issued 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), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

The Holder is authorized to receive, import, and export marine mammal specimens for research on diseases in marine mammals. Infectious disease investigations include viral pathogens such as West Nile virus, St. Louis Encephalitis virus, herpes virus, and pox viruses. Other projects include