

Pinniped-Fishery Interaction Task Force to reconvene Tuesday, May 31, 2016

NOAA Fisheries announced that it is reconvening the Pinniped-Fishery Interaction Task Force (Task Force) to provide NOAA Fisheries with a recommendation to either approve or deny the states of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington's, January 27, 2016, application requesting a 5-year extension of the States' 2012 Letter of Authorization.

The meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 31, 2016.

The meeting, in the form of a conference call and web conference, will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time. NOAA Fisheries will post the agenda with call-in number and web access information at

www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/protected_species/marine_mammals/task_force.html

Members of the public may call to listen to the meeting. A specific time slot will be provided on the agenda for the public to provide comments or information for the Task Force to consider.

On January 27, 2016, NOAA Fisheries received and accepted a joint application from the states of Idaho, Oregon and Washington, which are seeking an extension to the 2012 Letter of Authorization under Section 120 of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Such an authorization, if approved by NOAA Fisheries, would allow the states to lethally remove individually identifiable California sea lions that are having a significant negative impact on ESA-listed salmon and steelhead in the vicinity of Bonneville Dam.

For more information on the States' Marine Mammal Protection Act Section 120 Program, please go to:

www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/protected_species/marine_mammals/authorized_states.html



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