

**DRAFT**  
(revised 5/26/04)

Workshop on False Killer Whale Populations and Fishery Interactions in the Central Pacific

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) will hold a workshop on the status of false killer whale populations in the central Pacific Ocean and on fishery interactions in the region. The workshop will also cover background information and procedures used to categorize the Hawaii longline fishery under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). The purpose of this workshop is to discuss meeting MMPA categorization requirements in a data poor situation, specifically concerning the population status of false killer whales (*Pseudorca crassidens*) within the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) around the Hawaiian Islands. Although this is a subject recently under litigation, this is a scientific workshop and not a part of that litigation.

The workshop will include information from selected experts and involve discussion of the scientific information available on marine mammal populations in the central Pacific, interactions with fishing vessels, and procedures by which the draft 2004 MMPA categorization was made, as well as suggestions for research and procedures for the future.

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Date: June 2-3, 2004

Venue: Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council  
1164 Bishop Street, #1400  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814  
808-522-8220

Video-conference and tele-conference links may be established to other sites.

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Although the workshop is open to the public, public comment is not part of the agenda. A formal public comment period is being conducted by NMFS under Federal register notice.

For further information, please contact:

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Preliminary agenda:

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

- 9:00am Introductions and charge – Sam Pooley, NOAA Fisheries Pacific Islands Region,  
Workshop Chairperson
- 9:30am False killer whale biology – Marlee Breese, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
- 10:15am Boat-based studies of Pseudorca in the main Hawaiian Islands – Robin Baird –  
Cascadia Research Collective
- 11:00am Marine mammal abundance estimates – Jay Barlow, Southwest Fisheries Science  
Center
- 12:00 pm Discussion
- 12:30pm Lunch
- 1:30pm Aerial surveys of the main Hawaiian Islands – Joe Mobley, University of Hawaii
- 2:45pm Hawaii longline fishery dynamics – Russell Ito, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science  
Center
- 3:15pm Interactions with the Hawaii longline fishery – Karin Forney, Southwest Fisheries  
Science Center
- 4:00pm Relationships between Marine Mammals and the Hawaii-based Longline Fishery  
– Don Kobayashi, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center
- 4:45pm Pacific Scientific Review Group procedures – Hannah Bernard, SRG
- 5:15pm Discussion
- 5:30pm Adjournment

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Thursday, June 3

8:30am MMPA categorization – Cathy Campbell, NMFS Southwest Region representing NOAA Fisheries Office of Protected Resources

10:00am Mitigation of toothed whale depredation on tuna longline catches in northern Australian waters – Geoff McPherson, Queensland Fisheries Service, on behalf of Australia's Fisheries Research and Development Corporation.

11:00am Other topics – Western Pacific Fishery Management Council -- tbn

12:00pm Lunch

1:30pm Discussion

4:00 pm Conclusion/Closing Comments – Sam Pooley

4:30 pm Meeting completed

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Meeting guidelines: The meeting will operate as a typical scientific workshop with specified presentations and wide-ranging discussions focusing on the scientific questions. Workshop members will not be expected to represent their organizations but seek to provide independent scientific advice based on the information available.

Observers are welcome to the extent that the conference room can accommodate them. They are welcome to participate in the discussion at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Background Documents – see attached for full list and citations

Cetacean Abundance in Hawaiian Waters During Summer/fall of 2002 (Barlow, 2003)

Estimates of Cetacean Mortality and Injury in the Hawaii-based Longline Fishery, 1994-2002 (Forney, 2003)

Proposed "List of Fisheries" (LOF) under MMPA section 118, Federal Register, 4/13/2004. (NMFS, 2004)

Stock Assessment Reports (SARs) by Species/Stock, 2002. (NMFS Office of Protected Species, 2002)

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Record: The meeting will be recorded by a court reporter and a draft record and transcript will be available within two-three weeks following the meeting. Panel members and participants will be invited to correct the record and transcript within two weeks following their release. The final record and transcript will be posted within 6 weeks following the meeting.

The workshop chairperson will also provide a summary of the meeting.

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Reports:

Angliss, Robyn P. and Douglas P. DeMaster, 1997.

Differentiating Serious and Non-Serious Injury of Marine Mammals taken Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations: Report of the Serious Injury Workshop April 1-2, 1997  
Silver Spring, MD

Barlow, Jay. 2003.

Cetacean Abundance in Hawaiian Waters During Summer/fall of 2002, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, NMFS.

Forney, Karin A., 2003.

Estimates of Cetacean Mortality and Injury in the Hawaii-based Longline Fishery, 1994-2002. Southwest Fisheries Science Center, NMFS.

NMFS, 2004.

Proposed "List of Fisheries" (LOF) under MMPA section 118, Federal Register, 4/13/2004.

NMFS Office of Protected Species

Draft 2003 Stock Assessment Reports

[http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/prot\\_res/PR2/Stock\\_Assessment\\_Program/sars\\_draft.html](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/prot_res/PR2/Stock_Assessment_Program/sars_draft.html)

Stock Assessment Reports (SARs) by Species/Stock, 2002.

[http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/prot\\_res/PR2/Stock\\_Assessment\\_Program/Cetaceans/...\\_False\\_Killer\\_Whale\\_\(Hawaii\)/PO02falsekillerwhale\\_hawaii.pdf](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/prot_res/PR2/Stock_Assessment_Program/Cetaceans/..._False_Killer_Whale_(Hawaii)/PO02falsekillerwhale_hawaii.pdf)

Walsh, William A. and Donald R. Kobayashi, 2004.

A Description of the Relationships between Marine Mammals and the Hawaii-based Longline Fishery from 1994 to 2003, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, NMFS.