

to essential fish habitat, bycatch, overfishing, and other provisions required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The Groundfish Management Team will also discuss stock assessment and fishery evaluation preparation plans and assignments.

Special Accommodations

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

Dated: May 21, 1997.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 97-13957 Filed 5-28-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 052097B]

Pacific Offshore Cetacean Take Reduction Plan; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces its intent to reconvene the Pacific Offshore Cetacean Take Reduction Team to review and evaluate the efficacy of two marine mammal bycatch reduction strategies implemented voluntarily by the fishery during the 1996/1997 fishing season and to evaluate the need for effort reduction and potential implementation mechanisms.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 29, 1997, from 10 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., and May 30, 1997, from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90802. Requests for additional information should be sent to Irma Lagomarsino, NMFS, Southwest Regional Office, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Irma Lagomarsino, (310) 980-4016, fax (310) 980-4027, or Victoria Cornish, (301) 713-2322, fax (301) 713-0376.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 118(f) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) requires NMFS to develop

and implement a take reduction plan designed to assist in the recovery or prevent the depletion of each strategic marine mammal stock(s) which interacts with certain fisheries. The immediate goal of a take reduction plan is to reduce, within 6 months of its implementation, the incidental mortality or serious injury of strategic marine mammal stocks incidentally taken in the course of commercial fishing to levels less than the Potential Biological Removal level, or PBR, established for that stock. The long term goal of the plan shall be to reduce, within 5 years of its implementation, the incidental mortality or serious injury of marine mammals incidentally taken in the course of commercial fishing to insignificant levels approaching a zero mortality and serious injury rate, taking into account the economics of the fishery, the availability of existing technology, and existing state or regional fishery management plans.

In accordance with section 118(f)(6)(A), NMFS established the Pacific Offshore Cetacean Take Reduction Team for the California/Oregon thresher shark and swordfish drift gillnet fishery on February 12, 1996 (61 FR 5385). This fishery interacts with several strategic marine mammal stocks including: *Mesoplodont sp.* beaked whales, Baird's beaked whale, Cuvier's beaked whale, the sperm whale, the humpback whale, the pygmy sperm whale, and the short-finned pilot whale. These stocks are considered strategic under the MMPA, because they are either listed as an endangered or threatened species under the Endangered Species Act or because the levels of human-caused mortality are greater than their PBR levels.

The team submitted a draft take reduction plan to NMFS on August 12, 1996. NMFS subsequently published a proposed rule implementing the team's draft plan on February 14, 1997 (62 FR 6931). NMFS intends to reconvene the team in accordance with section 118(f)(7)(E) and the recommendation of the team in their draft plan to review and evaluate the efficacy of two marine mammal bycatch reduction strategies implemented voluntarily by the fishery during the 1996/1997 fishing season. These include an acoustic deterrent device (pinger) experiment and setting nets at a minimum of 6 fathoms below the surface of the water. At the meeting, the team will also evaluate the need for effort reduction and potential implementation mechanisms.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Background materials may be requested from the NMFS office

indicated in the ADDRESSES section. The meeting is open to the public and is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Irma Lagomarsino at (310) 980-4016 by May 27, 1997.

Dated: May 22, 1997.

Patricia Montanio,

Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 97-13954 Filed 5-28-97; 8:45 am]

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Chicago Board of Trade Futures Contracts in Corn and Soybeans; Notice That Delivery Point Specifications Must Be Amended

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

TIME AND DATE: 2:00-5:00 p.m., Thursday, June 12, 1997.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C. Lobby Level Hearing Room located at Room 1000.

STATUS: Open.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission") will convene a public meeting at which the Chicago Board of Trade ("CBT") and interested members of the public may appear before it to give oral and written statements relating to the Commission's consideration of amendments proposed by the CBT to the delivery specifications of the CBT corn and soybean futures contracts.

ADDRESSES: Requests to appear and statements of interest should be mailed to the Commodity Futures Trading Commissions, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21 Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20581, attention Office of the Secretariat; transmitted by facsimile at (202) 418-5521; or transmitted electronically to [secretary@cftc.gov]. Reference should be made to "Delivery Specifications Meeting."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul M. Architzel, Chief Counsel, Division of Economic Analysis, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20581, (202) 418-5260, or electronically, [PArchitzel@cftc.gov].

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: By letter dated May 8, 1997, the CBT requested an opportunity to appear before the