

Affected Public: Individuals (billfish anglers).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 750.

Estimated Time Per Response: 5 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 62.5.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: 0 (no capital expenditures are required).

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 18, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98-4591 Filed 2-23-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 020998C]

Federal Investment Task Force; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of Public Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA) requires the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) to establish a task force to study the role of the Federal Government in subsidizing fleet capacity and influencing capital investment in fisheries. The Federal Investment Task Force will hold its second meeting on March 5-7, 1998, in Tampa, FL.

DATES: The meeting of the task force will be held March 5-7, 1998 See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center, 5303 W. Kennedy Boulevard, Tampa, Florida 33609; telephone (813) 289-1950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Beal, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, (202) 289-6400; fax:(202) 289-6051; email: rbeal@asmfc.org; or Matteo Milazzo, (301) 713-2276

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Dates

March 5, 1998, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Task Force will hear a presentation and have a discussion on the influence of U.S. Fishery policy on capacity and capitalization of fishing fleets. The Task Force will also review the Federal programs that were discussed at the previous meeting.

March 5, 1998, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Task Force will hear public input regarding the Federal Investment Study. The public is encouraged to comment on the general scope and concept of the study, as well as the effect of Federal programs on the capacity and capitalization of fishing fleets.

March 6, 1998, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Task Force will have an open discussion on the effects of various Federal programs on capacity and capitalization of fishing fleets. The Task Force will also discuss the follow-up work that was to be completed following the first meeting.

March 7, 1998, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Task Force will hear a presentation and have a discussion on the influence of Federal tax policy on capacity and capitalization of fishing fleets. The Task Force will also discuss the influence of other Federal agencies and policies on fishing capacity and fleet capitalization.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Bob Beal at (202) 289-6400 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: February 18, 1998.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 98-4535 Filed 2-18-98; 4:46 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 120996A]

Magnuson Act Provisions; Essential Fish Habitat; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Alaska Region of the NMFS will hold an essential fish habitat (EFH) core team meeting to discuss the following items: strategic investment framework, FY 98 spending plan, habitat criteria paper and habitat areas of particular concern, EFH habitat assessment reports, GIS maps for survey and observer data, EFH technical team recommendations, EFH research needs, EFH proposed conservation and enhancement measures, fishing and non-fishing threats, prey species, public comments on EFH habitat assessments. There will also be an evening meeting/workshop to allow for more public involvement and public comment.

DATES: The Alaska Region core EFH team will meet Monday, March 2 through March 5 or 6, 1998, in Juneau, Alaska. The public is invited to participate from 11 a.m., Monday, March 2 through noon on Wednesday, March 4, 1998. From Wednesday afternoon through Friday the core team meeting will be limited to National Marine Fisheries Service employees only. There will be an evening public workshop on Tuesday, March 3, 1998, from 7 to 9 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The EFH core team will meet in Juneau, Alaska, at the Federal Building, 709 West 9th, room 445. The evening workshop will be March 3, 1998, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Centennial Hall Convention Center, Egan Room, 101 Egan Drive in Juneau, Alaska.

Questions should be addressed to Protected Resources Management Division, ATTN: Cindy Hartmann, 709 W. 9th, Suite 461, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; telephone: (907) 586-7585.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cindy Hartmann, NMFS, (907) 586-7585, e-mail:

Cindy.Hartmann@noaa.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The NMFS Alaska Region core EFH team was formally established in April 1997 to implement the EFH provisions