

(j) *Other restrictions.*

(2) A person who possesses raptors before the enactment of these regulations, in excess of the number allowed under their permit, shall be allowed to retain the extra raptors. All such birds shall be identified with markers supplied by the Service and no replacement can occur, nor may any additional raptor be obtained, until the number in possession is at least one less than the total number authorized by the class of permit held by the permittee.

* * * * *

(k) *States meeting Federal falconry standards.* In accordance with this section, the Director has determined that the following States meet or exceed the minimum Federal standards for regulating the taking, possession, and transportation of raptors for the purpose of falconry as set forth herein.

*Alabama
 *Alaska
 *Arizona
 *Arkansas
 *California
 *Colorado
 *Florida
 *Georgia
 *Idaho
 *Illinois
 *Indiana
 *Iowa
 *Kansas
 *Kentucky
 *Louisiana
 *Maine
 *Maryland
 *Massachusetts
 *Michigan
 *Minnesota
 *Mississippi
 *Missouri
 *Montana
 *Nebraska
 *Nevada
 *New Hampshire
 *New Jersey
 *North Dakota
 *New York
 *New Mexico
 *North Carolina
 *Ohio
 *Oklahoma
 *Oregon
 *Pennsylvania

*Rhode Island
 *South Carolina
 *South Dakota
 *Tennessee
 *Texas
 *Utah
 *Vermont
 *Virginia
 *Washington
 *West Virginia
 *Wisconsin
 *Wyoming

Note: States which are participants in a joint Federal/State permit system are designated by an asterisk.

Dated: August 7, 1998.

Stephen C. Saunders,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[I.D. 081098B]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a 1-day meeting to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone.

DATES: The meeting will be held August 27, 1998 at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, One Newbury Street (Route 1 North), Peabody, MA 01960; telephone (978) 535-4600. Requests for special accommodations should be addressed to the New England Fishery Management Council, 5 Broadway, Saugus, MA 01906-1036; telephone (781) 231-0422.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New

England Fishery Management Council, (781) 231-0422.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council will discuss, and may recommend, emergency measures to protect the Gulf of Maine cod stock and will also develop guidance and set priorities for the Council's Multispecies Monitoring Committee (MSMC). The MSMC evaluates the effectiveness of the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and recommends management options for Gulf of Maine cod and other species as part of an annual review and plan adjustment process.

The Council will continue work on any outstanding issues related to finalizing Amendment 9 to the FMP, including square and diamond mesh configuration rules for the Stellwagen Bank and Jeffreys Ledge Regulated Mesh Areas. Further regulation of recreational catches during times of serious commercial restrictions or in closed areas, modification of or additional closed areas, or a "bycatch-only" designation for Gulf of Maine cod may also be discussed if time allows.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before the Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: August 12, 1998.

Gary C. Matlock,

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

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