

and to enhance the abundance and diversity of reef resources; (3) protection of critical spawning stock and fishing size-class recruits from overfishing, thus helping to ensure the continued abundance of fishery resources; and (4) improvement of opportunities for research on and monitoring of a coral reef ecosystem reference site. Disadvantages include displacement of fishing effort to other areas with associated crowding and possible short-term loss of revenues for commercial fishermen. The Generic Amendment would amend, as necessary, the Council's FMPs for stone crab, shrimp, corals, spiny lobster, coastal migratory pelagics, reef fish, and red drum.

The Council intends to prepare a DSEIS covering the expected environmental impacts of the Generic Amendment. The DSEIS would supplement the environmental reviews conducted previously by the Council and NMFS for each of the Council's FMPs. It is noted that the Council intends to assess, within its DSEIS, the expected environmental impacts of a management alternative prohibiting all fishing, including fishing for HMS.

#### Scoping Process

The FKNMS established a working group (Tortugas 2000) in 1998 consisting of representatives of various user groups that may be impacted by the establishment of a marine reserve in the Tortugas region. This working group conducted several public meetings in 1998 and 1999. Furthermore, the FKNMS held public hearings on the proposed marine reserve in 1998 and 1999 throughout Florida and in Washington, DC. Because of these previous opportunities for public input, the Council has scheduled no scoping meetings for the DSEIS for the Generic Amendment. However, the Council is requesting written comments on the scope of the issues to be addressed in the DSEIS.

#### Timetable for DSEIS Preparation and Decisionmaking Schedule

The Council intends to accept public comments on the completed DSEIS, prepare a final supplemental environmental impact statement (FSEIS), and submit the FSEIS to NMFS when it submits the final Generic Amendment for agency review, approval, and implementation, as provided by procedures of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. The Council intends to hold public hearings on the Draft Generic Amendment/DSEIS in June 2000; the specific times and locations for these hearings will be

announced through publication of a separate **Federal Register** notice.

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

Dated: March 23, 2000.

**Bruce C. Morehead,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 032200C]

#### Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) to hold a work session that is open to the public.

**DATES:** The work session will be held on Thursday, April 20, 2000 and Friday, April 21, 2000, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

**ADDRESSES:** The work session will be held at NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center, 8604 La Jolla Shores Drive, Room D-203, La Jolla, CA.

*Council address:* Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dan Waldeck, Pacific Fishery Management Council, (503) 326-6352; or Dr. Doyle Hanan, California Department of Fish and Game, (619) 546-7170.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The primary purpose of this work session is to initiate several analyses requested by the Council. These include: (1) establish a capacity goal for the coastal pelagic species (CPS) finfish fishery and analyze transferability of CPS limited entry permits; (2) address disapproved portions of the CPS fishery management plan—develop alternatives for specifying maximum sustainable yield (MSY) and acceptable biological catch (ABC) for market squid, and management alternatives for assessing bycatch in CPS fisheries; (3) initiate the 2000 stock assessment and fishery evaluation (SAFE) process for the CPS fishery, including preparation of the CPS SAFE

document and consideration of developing a process to review Pacific sardine and Pacific mackerel stock assessments.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the CPSMT meeting agenda may come before the CPSMT for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal CPSMT action during this meetings. CPSMT action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the CPSMT's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. John Rhoton at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 22, 2000.

**Bruce C. Morehead,**

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

[FR Doc. 00-7706 Filed 3-28-00; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. 000317075-0075-01]

RIN 0651-XX22

#### Public Advisory Committees

**AGENCY:** Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for nominations.

**SUMMARY:** On November 29, 1999, the President signed into law the Patent and Trademark Office Efficiency Act, Public Law 106-113, Title VI, Subtitle G, which, among other things, established Public Advisory Committees to review the policies, goals, performance, budget and user fees of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with respect to patents, in the case of the Patent Public Advisory Committee; and with respect to trademarks in the case of the Trademark Public Advisory Committee. To implement these statutory changes, the USPTO is requesting nominations for members to these Committees.

**DATES:** Nominations must be submitted on or before April 28, 2000.