

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 091200E]

Mid-Atlantic 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 Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the New England Fishery Management Council's Joint Dogfish Committee will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 4, 2000, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: This meeting will be held at the Sheraton Society Hill, One Dock Street, Philadelphia, PA; telephone: 215-238-6000.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Room 2115, 300 S. New Street, Dover, DE 19904. New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, The Tannery - Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: 302-674-2331, ext. 19, or Paul Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: 978-465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this meeting is to review the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's spiny dogfish management update, review updated status of stock information, review issues/management measures to be considered for Amendment 1 (alternative stock rebuilding strategies and schedules, quota management measures, measures to reduce discards, limited access, measures to address fishery management plan deficiencies with respect to spawning stock biomass target, essential fish habitat and gear impacts), and discuss 2001-02 management measures.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified 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 Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Joanna Davis at the Mid-Atlantic Council Office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: September 13, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 00-23924 Filed 9-15-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 091200C]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Scallop Oversight Committee in October, 2000. Recommendations from the committee will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: The meeting will held on Wednesday, October 4, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, 225 McClellan Highway, Boston, MA 02128; telephone: (617) 569-5250.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Scallop Committee will further define and specify management alternatives for Final Framework Adjustment 14 to the Scallop Fishery Management Plan. The framework adjustment will change the management specifications for the 2000 fishing year (at the September 27th Council meeting, the Council will identify the initial framework management alternatives). After analysis by the Plan Development Team, a final alternative will be approved by the full Council at it's November 14-16, 2000

meeting. Other, long-range management issues, including research priorities for 2001, may also be discussed.

Framework Adjustment 14 is an annual adjustment to the management measures and regulations that will govern the Atlantic sea scallop fishery between March 1, 2001 and February 28, 2002. The adjustment will focus on changing the annual days-at-sea allocation for full-time, part-time, and occasional limited access scallop vessels, management options for fishing in the Hudson Canyon and VA/NC Areas, new closures to protect small scallops, and prohibiting the possession of shell stock inshore of the days-at-sea monitoring line. Other management adjustments may arise during the initial framework meeting and will be discussed at this meeting.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified 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 Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is 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.

Dated: September 12, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 00-23922 Filed 9-15-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 091200B]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Meetings of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and its advisory committees.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees will hold public meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held on Monday, October 2, 2000, through Monday, October 9, 2000. See

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: All meetings will be held at the Centennial Building, 330 Harbor Drive, Sitka, AK, unless otherwise noticed at the Centennial Building and on the Council's website: www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Council staff, telephone: 907-271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council's Advisory Panel will begin at 8 a.m., Monday, October 2, and continue through Thursday, October 5. The Scientific Committee will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, October 2, and continue through Wednesday, October 4. The Council will begin their plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, October 4, continuing through Monday, October 9. All meetings are open to the public except Executive Sessions which may be held during the week to discuss litigation and/or personnel matters.

Council: The agenda for the Council's plenary session will include the following issues. The Council may take appropriate action on any of the issues identified.

1. Reports:
 - (a) Executive Director's Report.
 - (b) State Fisheries Report by Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game.
 - (c) NMFS Management Report.
 - (d) Enforcement and Surveillance reports by NMFS and the Coast Guard.

2. Pacific cod/Steller sea lion interactions: Review and take final action on amendment package.

3. American Fisheries Act:
 - (a) Update on the Environmental Impact Statement and rulemaking.
 - (b) Final action on groundfish processing sideboards and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BSAI) pollock processing excessive share caps.
 - (c) Report from industry on Pacific cod sideboard issues.

4. Halibut subsistence regulations: final action on alternatives.

5. Halibut Charter Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program:

- (a) Preliminary review of draft analysis and progress report.
- (b) Discussion of Gulf of Alaska Coastal Community Coalitions proposals with regard to halibut IFQs for communities.

6. Community Development Quota (CDQ) Program:

(a) Initial review of an amendment package to conform State of Alaska and Federal regulations.

(b) Review State of Alaska recommendations for CDQ allocations for 2001.

7. Groundfish Management:

(a) Recommend interim and preliminary harvest specifications for 2001 BSAI and Gulf of Alaska (GOA) groundfish fisheries.

(b) Initial review of an amendment to allocate BSAI Pacific cod among pot gear sectors.

(c) Progress report on rationalization of the GOA groundfish fisheries.

8. Crab Management:

(a) Review of Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation reports for BSAI king and Tanner crab.

(b) Progress report on crab co-op development and buyback program.

9. Staff Tasking: Review progress on current staff tasking and provide direction to staff.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified 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 Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Advisory Meetings

Advisory Panel: The agenda for the Advisory Panel will mirror that of the Council listed above, with the exception of the reports under Item 1.

Scientific and Statistical Committee: The Scientific and Statistical Committee will address the following items on the Council agenda:

1. Steller sea lion/Pacific cod interactions.
2. Halibut Charter IFQ Program.
3. CDQ Program
4. All issues under Groundfish Management.
5. All issues under Crab Management.

Other Committee/Workgroup & Industry Meetings

During the meeting week, the following groups will hold meetings to discuss various agenda issues of interest:

- Crab Cooperative Industry Meeting:* Thursday, September 7, 2000, 6:30 p.m.
Council/Alaska Board of Fisheries Joint Committee: Thursday, September

7, 2000, at 1 p.m. (Agenda will be posted on Council website: www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc)

Other committees and workgroups may hold impromptu meetings throughout the meeting week. Such meetings will be announced during regularly-scheduled meetings of the Council, Advisory Panel, and SSC, and will be posted at the hotel.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Helen Allen at 907-271-2809 at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: September 13, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 00-23921 Filed 9-15-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 081700E]

Marine Mammals; File No. 914-1470-01

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the University of Southern Mississippi, Department of Biological Sciences, USM Box 5018, Hattiesburg, MS 39401 (Principal Investigator: Dr. Bobby L. Middlebrooks), has been issued an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 914-1470 to import elephant seal samples from Argentina.

ADDRESSES: The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813/570-5312).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ruth Johnson or Simona Roberts, 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 11, 2000, notice was published in the