

scoping webinar for Gulf of Mexico scamp grouper.

**SUMMARY:** The SEDAR 680A assessment of Gulf of Mexico scamp grouper will consist of a series of assessment webinars. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**DATES:** The SEDAR 680A scoping webinar for the Life History Topical Working Group will be held February 24, 2022, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Eastern. The established times may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the assessment process. Such adjustments may result in the meeting being extended from or completed prior to the time established by this notice.

**ADDRESSES:**

*Meeting address:* The meeting will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact Julie A. Neer at SEDAR (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation providing webinar access information. Please request webinar invitations at least 24 hours in advance of each webinar.

*SEDAR address:* 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julie A. Neer, SEDAR Coordinator; (843) 571-4366; email: [Julie.neer@safmc.net](mailto:Julie.neer@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions have implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR is a multi-step process including: (1) Data Workshop; (2) Assessment Process utilizing webinars; and (3) Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a data report that compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The product of the Assessment Process is a stock assessment report that describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The assessment is independently peer reviewed at the Review Workshop. The product of the Review Workshop is a Summary documenting panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data.

Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office, HMS Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and NGO's; International experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

The items of discussion in the data scoping webinar is as follows:

Participants will discuss what life history data may be available for use in the Operational Assessment of Gulf of Mexico scamp grouper.

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 intent to take final action to address the emergency.

**Special Accommodations**

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 business days prior to each webinar.

*Note:* The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: January 31, 2022.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648-XB771]

**Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting**

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

**ACTION:** Notice; public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Tilefish Advisory Panel will hold a public webinar meeting. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for agenda details.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 24, 2022, from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held via webinar. Connection information will be posted to the calendar prior to the meeting at [www.mafmc.org](http://www.mafmc.org).

*Council address:* Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674-2331; [www.mafmc.org](http://www.mafmc.org).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, telephone: (302) 526-5255.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of this meeting is for the Advisory Panel to develop a fishery performance report (FPR) for both golden and blueline tilefish. The intent of the FPR is to facilitate a venue for structured input from the Advisory Panel for the tilefish specifications processes. The FPR will be used by the MAFMC's Scientific and Statistical Committee and the Tilefish Monitoring Committee when reviewing golden tilefish specifications and setting blueline tilefish specifications.

**Special Accommodations**

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid should be directed to Shelley Spedden, (302) 526-5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: January 31, 2022.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648-XB759]

**Endangered and Threatened Species; Initiation of a 5-Year Review for North Atlantic Right Whale**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of initiation of 5-year review; request for information.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS announces its intent to conduct a 5-year review of the North Atlantic right whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*). NMFS is required by the Endangered Species Act to conduct 5-year reviews to ensure that listing classifications of species are accurate. The 5-year review must be based on the best scientific and commercial data available at the time of the review. We request submission of any such information on the North Atlantic right whale, particularly information on its status, threats, and recovery, that has become available since its last 5-year review in 2017.

**DATES:** To allow us adequate time to conduct this review, we must receive your information no later than May 4, 2022. However, we will continue to accept new information about any listed species at any time.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your information, identified by docket number NOAA-NMFS-2022-0004, by the following method:

- *Federal e-Rulemaking Portal:* Go to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). In the Search box, enter the above docket number for this notice. Then, click on the Search icon. On the resulting web page, click the "Comment Now!" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

*Instructions:* NMFS may not consider comments if they are sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the comment period ends. All comments received are a part of the public record and NMFS will post the comments for public viewing on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender is publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Diane Borggaard, Greater Atlantic Region Right Whale Recovery Coordinator, 978-282-8453, [diane.borggaard@noaa.gov](mailto:diane.borggaard@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 4(c)(2)(A) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires that we conduct a review of listed species at least once every 5 years. The regulations in 50 CFR 424.21 require that we publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing species

currently under active review. On the basis of such reviews, under section 4(c)(2)(B) we determine whether a listed species should be delisted, or reclassified from endangered to threatened or from threatened to endangered (16 U.S.C. 1533(c)(2)(B)). As described by the regulations in 50 CFR 424.11(e), the Secretary shall delist a species if the Secretary finds that, after conducting a status review based on the best scientific and commercial data available: (1) The species is extinct; (2) the species does not meet the definition of an endangered species or a threatened species; or (3) the listed entity does not meet the statutory definition of a species. Any change in Federal classification would require a separate rulemaking process.

The North Atlantic right whale has been listed as endangered under the ESA since it was enacted in 1973 (35 FR 18319, December 2, 1970; 73 FR 12024, March 6, 2008). The last North Atlantic right whale 5-year review is available on the NMFS website at: [fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/5-year-review-north-atlantic-right-whale-eubalaena-glacialis](http://fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/5-year-review-north-atlantic-right-whale-eubalaena-glacialis). Additional background information on the North Atlantic right whale is also available on the website at: [fisheries.noaa.gov/species/north-atlantic-right-whale](http://fisheries.noaa.gov/species/north-atlantic-right-whale).

#### **Determining if a Species Is Threatened or Endangered**

Section 4(a)(1) of the ESA requires that we determine whether a species is endangered or threatened based on one or more of the five following factors: (1) The present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range; (2) overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes; (3) disease or predation; (4) the inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or (5) other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence. Section 4(b) also requires that our determination be made on the basis of the best scientific and commercial data available after conducting a review of the status of the species and after taking into account those efforts, if any, being made by any State or foreign nation to protect such species.

#### **Public Solicitation of New Relevant Information**

To ensure that the 5-year review is complete and based on the best scientific and commercial data available, we are soliciting new information from the public, governmental agencies, Tribes, the scientific community, industry, environmental entities, and any other

interested parties concerning the status of the listed North Atlantic right whale. Categories of requested information include: (1) Species biology including, but not limited to, population trends, distribution, abundance, demographics, and genetics; (2) habitat conditions including, but not limited to, amount, distribution, and important features for conservation; (3) status and trends of threats to the species and its habitats; (4) conservation measures that have been implemented that benefit the species, including monitoring data demonstrating effectiveness of such measures; (5) need for additional conservation measures; and (6) other new information, data, or corrections including, but not limited to, taxonomic or nomenclatural changes and improved analytical methods for evaluating extinction risk.

If you wish to provide information for this review, you may submit your information and materials electronically (see **ADDRESSES** section). We request that all information be accompanied by supporting documentation such as maps, bibliographic references, or reprints of pertinent publications. We also would appreciate the submitter's name, address, and any association, institution, or business that the person represents; however, anonymous submissions will also be accepted.

(Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*)

Dated: January 28, 2022.

**Angela Somma,**

Chief, Endangered Species Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648-XB766]

#### **Caribbean Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Caribbean Fishery Management Council's (Council) Outreach and Education Advisory Panel (OEAP) will hold a public virtual meeting to discuss the items contained in the agenda in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.