

need also provide guideposts for selection of a preferred alternative.

The purpose of this action is to create a coordinated approach and to select a management strategy that best achieves a combination of the following: (1)

Restore and maintain long-term ecosystem health and ecological integrity. (2) Support economic and/or social needs of people, cultures, and communities, and provide sustainable and predictable levels of products and services from lands administered by the Forest Service or BLM, including fish, wildlife, and native plant communities.

(3) Update or amend current Forest Service and BLM management plans with long-term direction primarily at the regional and sub-regional levels. (4) Emphasize adaptive management over the long term. (5) Provide consistent direction at regional and sub-regional levels that will assist managers in making project decisions at a local level in the context of broader ecological considerations. (6) Help restore and maintain habitats and viability of plant and animal species, especially for threatened, endangered, and candidate species and of special interest to Tribes. This would be done primarily by moving toward desired ranges of landscape conditions on a sub-regional and regional basis. (7) Provide opportunities for cultural, recreational, and aesthetic experiences. (8) Replace interim direction (PACFISH, INFISH, and Eastside screens) primarily with ecosystem-based long-term, regional and subregional strategies, to provide a broader context for local direction. (9) Identify where current policy, regulation, or law may act as barriers to implementing the strategy or achieving desired conditions.

The need for this action is to restore and maintain long-term ecosystem health and ecological integrity; and to support the economic and/or social needs of people, cultures, and communities, and sustainable and predictable levels of goods and services from National Forest System and Bureau of Land Management lands. Using the issues identified through public scoping to establish the scope of the alternatives, the interdisciplinary team developed five action alternatives intended to respond to the statement of the purpose and need. Alternatives 1 and 2 are variations of "no action". Alternatives 3 through 7 are alternative ecosystem-based management strategies. The themes of the seven alternatives are as follows:

Alternative 1: Continues management specified under existing Forest Service or BLM land-use lands.

Alternative 2: Applies recent interim direction (PACFISH, INFISH, and Eastside Screens as the long-term strategy for lands administered by Forest Service or BLM. All other direction from existing plans would continue. Direction in Alternative 1 would apply to areas not covered by interim direction.

Alternative 3: Updates existing Forest Service or BLM plans in response to changing conditions. Minimizes changes to local plans, addressing only priority conditions that most hinder effectiveness or legal conditions. Provides a broader dimension and more integrated management regarding priority large-scale issues than Alternatives 1 or 2.

Alternative 4: Aggressively restores ecosystem health through active management using an integrated ecosystem management approach. Priority is placed on forest, rangeland, and watershed health. Actions are designed to produce economic benefits whenever practical. Alternative 4 is the agencies' preferred alternative.

Alternative 5: Emphasizes production of goods and services consistent with ecosystem management principles. Areas are targeted for specific uses based on biological capability and economic efficiency. Other uses may occur but conflicts would be resolved in favor of the priority use.

Alternative 6: Emphasizes an adaptive management approach to restore and maintain ecosystems while providing for social and economic needs. Takes a slower, more cautious approach than other alternatives and implies the use of experimental processes, local research, and extensive monitoring.

Alternative 7: Emphasizes reducing risks to ecological integrity and species viability by establishing a system of reserve lands administered by the Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management. Reserves are selected for representation of vegetation and rare animal species. Management activities are limited within reserves and are similar to Alternative 3 outside reserves.

Dated: June 6, 1997.
Nancy Graybeal,
Deputy Regional Forester.

Dated: June 6, 1997.
William L. Bradley,
Deputy State Director for Resource Planning, Use and Protection.

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BILLING CODE 4310-11-M, 4310-GG-M

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

Performance Review Board Appointments

AGENCY: American Battle Monuments Commission.

ACTION: Notice of performance review board appointments.

SUMMARY: This notice provides the names of individuals who have been appointed to serve as members of the American Battle Monuments Commission Performance Review Board. The publication of these appointments is required by Section 405(a) of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (Pub. L. 95-454, 5 U.S.C. 4314(c)(4)).

DATES: These appointments are effective as of 1 May 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Gloukhoff, Director of Personnel and Administration, American Battle Monuments Commission, Suite 5119, 20 Massachusetts Avenue, NW., Washington DC 20314, Telephone Number: (202) 761-1311.

American Battle Monuments Commission SES Performance Review Board—1997/1998

William E. Roper, Ph.D., P.E., Assistant Director, Research and Development (Civil Works), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

John P. D'Aniello, P.E., Deputy Director of Civil Works, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

William A. Brown, Sr., Chief Programs Management Division, Directorate of Military Programs, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Theodore Gloukhoff,

Director, Personnel and Administration.

[FR Doc. 97-15363 Filed 6-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6120-01-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Alabama Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Alabama Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 6:00 p.m. and adjourn at 8:00 p.m. on June 26, 1997, at the Paramount High School, County Road 17, Boligee, AL 35443. The purpose of the meeting is to hold a community forum on race relations in Boligee and Greene county.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Melvin L. Jenkins, Director of the Central Regional Office, 913-551-1400 (TDD 913-551-1414). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least five (5) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, June 5, 1997.

Carol-Lee Hurley,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 97-15364 Filed 6-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 052097A]

Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; Availability of a Limited Entry Permit

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

ACTION: Availability of a limited entry permit.

SUMMARY: The Acting Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, (Regional Administrator) has determined that one new permit, or possibly two permits, may be available for the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) bottomfish limited entry fishery (Ho'omalau Zone). Under the regulations implementing the Fishery Management Plan for Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region (FMP), new permits may be issued when the Regional Administrator has determined, in consultation with the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), that bottomfish stocks in the Ho'omalau Zone are able to support additional fishing effort. The purpose of this notification is to inform all potential applicants that applications are being accepted.

DATES: Applications must be filed no later than July 28, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Applications may be obtained from, and completed applications must be sent to, the Pacific Area Office, Southwest Region, NMFS,

2570 Dole Street, Room 106, Honolulu, HI 96822-2396.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alvin Katekaru, NMFS, (808) 973-2985, or Svein Fougner, NMFS, (562) 980-4034.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under regulations implementing Amendment 2 (53 FR 29907, August 9, 1988) to the FMP, which established the limited access program for the NWHI, the Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, in consultation with the Council, may allow new entry into the limited access area (Ho'omalau Zone) of the NWHI bottomfish fishery if the fishery can support additional effort (50 CFR 660.6(f)). At the 91st Council meeting on November 18-21, 1996, the Regional Administrator informed the Council of the potential for new entry into the Ho'omalau Zone during 1997, and requested guidance on issuing permits. The Council, concurring with its Scientific and Statistical Committee, recommended to allow no more than seven permits for the Ho'omalau Zone. This is consistent with the NMFS Honolulu Laboratory's economic analysis of the optimal number of NWHI bottomfish vessels. The Regional Administrator has determined that the fishery can support seven vessels at this time. When the number of permits falls below seven, the Regional Administrator may initiate procedures allowing for new entry up to the maximum number allowed in the fishery. On March 27, 1997, the Regional Administrator determined that there would be one permit, with the possibility of a second permit, available due to the non-renewal of a permit for 1997. The status on the renewal of a second permit is currently under review. Regulations governing the issuance of new Ho'omalau Zone permits require that all prospective applicants be informed by publication of this notification in the **Federal Register**, of the opportunity to file applications (50 CFR 660.61(f)). Forms will be provided by the Pacific Area Office, Southwest Region, NMFS (See **ADDRESSES**). A new permit will be awarded based on a point system as follows: (1) Two points shall be assigned for each year in which the applicant was an owner or captain of a vessel that made three or more qualifying landings of bottomfish from the NWHI. A qualifying landing is defined by regulations as a landing of bottomfish from the NWHI regardless of weight, if made on or before August 7, 1985; or a landing of at least 2,500 lb (1,134 kg) of bottomfish from the NWHI, or a landing of at least 2,500 lb (1,134 kg) of fish harvested from the NWHI, of

which at least 50 percent by weight was bottomfish, if made after August 7, 1985 (50 CFR 660.12). (2) One point shall be assigned for each year the applicant was an owner or captain of a vessel that landed at least 6,000 lb (2,722 kg) of bottomfish from the main Hawaiian Islands. In any single year, points can be assigned for bottomfish landed from either the NWHI or the main Hawaiian Islands but not for a combination of both areas. Points shall be assigned for every year for which the requisite landings can be documented. Applicants must maintain their own files of valid documentation verifying claims of accrued points. Copies of these documents must accompany all permit applications. A permit shall be awarded to a qualifying applicant in descending order, starting with the applicant with the largest number of points. If two or more persons have an equal number of points, and there are insufficient new permits for all such applicants, the new permit shall be awarded by the Regional Administrator through a lottery. An applicant must own at least a 25 percent share in the vessel that the permit would cover, and only one permit will be assigned to any vessel. No additional permits will be issued to any vessel owner who already has a Ho'omalau Zone bottomfish permit. At the 91st meeting, the Council also recommended, and the Regional Administrator agrees, that in considering applications for Ho'omalau Zone permits: (1) No State of Hawaii fish catch reports used to document eligibility points should be accepted that are more than one year old; (2) only State of Hawaii fish catch reports should be accepted by NMFS to validate accrued qualifying points demonstrating historical participation in the Hawaiian Islands bottomfish fishery; (3) the cut-off date for applications should be 45 days after publication of the notice of availability of a permit in the **Federal Register**; (4) relief captains and vessel owners must provide vessel insurance records or legal certificates of documentation demonstrating the minimum 25 percent ownership in the vessel; and (5) only records of bottomfish management unit species should be used for assigning qualifying points. The Council has requested that the Regional Administrator act expeditiously once a determination has been made on the availability of a permit so that the new permit holder will be allowed as much time as possible to make at least three bottomfish landings from the Ho'omalau Zone before December 31, 1997. A minimum of three qualifying bottomfish