

noon to 1:30 p.m. The Surfclam & Ocean Quahog Committee will meet from 1:30–2:30 p.m. The Habitat Committee will meet from 2:30–4:30 p.m. The Executive Committee will meet from 4:30–6:30 p.m. On Wednesday, October 29, 1997, the Large Pelagics Committee will meet from 8:00–10:00 a.m. There will be a meeting on bluefish from 10:00 a.m. until noon which will consist of individuals involved in the development of Amendment 1 to the Bluefish Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The full Council will meet from 1:00–4:00 p.m. The Council will go into closed executive session from 4:00–5:00 p.m. to discuss employment and related matters. At 7:00 p.m., there will be a Dogfish FMP Scoping Meeting. On Thursday, October 30, 1997, the full Council will meet from 8:00 a.m. until approximately noon.

The purpose of these meetings is to discuss the formation of a newsletter, scup discards in the Loligo fishery and possible solutions, review and possible adoption of Amendment 10 to the Surfclam & Ocean Quahog FMP (Maine ocean quahog fishery), essential fish habitat, tuna allocations, and other fishery management matters.

The above agenda items may not be taken in the order in which they appear and are subject to change as necessary; other items may be added. This meeting may also be closed at any time to discuss employment or other internal administrative matters.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda 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 Joanna Davis at the Council (see ADDRESSES) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: October 8, 1997.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 97–27262 Filed 10–9–97; 4:24 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 100897C]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.
ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

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

DATES: The Council and its advisory entities will meet during the week of November 3–7, 1997. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for meeting dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Airport Sheraton Hotel, 8235 NE Airport Way, Portland, OR 97220; telephone: (503) 281–2500.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lawrence D. Six, Executive Director, Pacific Fishery Management Council; telephone: (503) 326–6352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council meeting will begin on Tuesday, November 4, at 8 a.m. with an open session. It will reconvene on Wednesday and Thursday at 8 a.m. in open session, and will reconvene on Friday at 8:30 a.m. in open session. On Friday, November 7, the Council will meet in closed session (closed to public) from 8 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. to discuss litigation and personnel matters. The Council will meet as late as necessary each day to complete its scheduled business.

Council Agenda Items

- A. Call to Order
 - 1. Opening Remarks, Introductions, Roll Call
 - 2. Approve Agenda
 - 3. Approve Minutes of September 1997 Meeting
- B. Groundfish Management
 - 1. Status of Federal Regulations
 - 2. Report on Voluntary Observer Program
 - 3. Final Harvest Levels and Other Specifications for 1998
 - 4. Fixed Gear Sablefish Management for 1998 (Limited Entry and Open Access)
 - 5. Initial Review of Draft Plan Amendments

6. Status of Fisheries in 1997 and Inseason Adjustments

7. Management Measures for 1998

8. Capacity Reduction Program

9. Review of Stock Assessment Process

10. Exempted Fishing Permits for Whiting, Enhanced Data Collection Project, and New Research

11. Groundfish Management Team, Staff, and NMFS Work Load

C. Salmon Management

1. Sequence of Events and Status of Fisheries in 1997

2. Plan Amendment to Revise Oregon Coastal Natural (OCN) Coho Management Goals

3. Initial Review of 1999 Plan Amendments

4. Consideration of Revisions to Methodologies

5. Consideration of Revisions to California Recreational Gear Restrictions

6. Consideration of Revisions to Allocation of Snake River Fall Chinook Impacts

7. Oral Updates on Activities to Restore Natural Stocks

D. Habitat Issues - Report of the Habitat Steering Group

E. Pacific Halibut Management

1. Summary of 1997 Fisheries

2. Revisions to the Catch Sharing Plan and Recreational Fishery Regulations for 1998

F. Coastal Pelagic Species Management

1. Initial Review of Plan Amendments Including Limited Access Options and Control Date

G. Highly Migratory Species Management Issues - Report of the Policy Committee

H. Administrative and Other Matters

1. Report of the Budget Committee

2. Status of Legislation

3. Appointments to Advisory Entities

4. March 1998 Agenda

Schedule of Advisory Group/Committee Meetings

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) convenes on Sunday, November 2, 1997, at 3 p.m. and continues meeting as necessary November 3–7 to address groundfish issues on the Council agenda. The GMT will meet jointly with the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel as necessary during the week.

The Buyback Committee meets Monday, November 3, 1997, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. to develop a proposal for a groundfish vessel capacity reduction program.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) meets Monday, November 3, 1997, at 8 a.m. and reconvenes at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, November 4, 1997, to address scientific issues on the Council agenda.

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) begins meeting at 10 a.m. on Monday, November 3, 1997, and continues meeting as necessary through Thursday, November 6, 1997, to address groundfish issues on the Council agenda. The GAP will meet jointly with the GMT as necessary during the week.

The Habitat Steering Group meets at 10 a.m. on Monday, November 3, 1997, to address issues and actions affecting habitat of fish species managed by the Council.

The Salmon Advisory Subpanel (SAS) meets at 10 a.m. on Monday, November 3, 1997, and reconvenes at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, November 4, 1997, to consider salmon issues on the Council agenda.

The Salmon Technical Team (STT) meets at 11 a.m. on Monday, November 3, 1997, to address salmon issues on the Council agenda. The STT will meet jointly with the SAS as necessary.

The SSC, GMT, and GAP meet jointly at 7 p.m. on Monday, November 3, 1997, to critique the new groundfish stock assessment process implemented in 1997.

The Enforcement Consultants meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4, 1997, to address enforcement issues relating to Council agenda items.

The Highly Migratory Species Policy Committee will meet on Wednesday, November 5, 1997, as soon as the Council adjourns for the day, to discuss the role of the Pacific Council in data collection and management of Pacific highly migratory species, the need for an industry advisory group and to recommend a delegate to represent the Council at international meetings.

The Budget Committee meets on Thursday, November 6, 1997, as soon as the Council adjourns for the day, to review the 1997 financial report, develop a budget request for 1998, and consider meeting schedule and sites for future Council meetings.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda 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 Mr. Eric W. Greene at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: October 8, 1997.

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. 100397B]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of applications for modifications to incidental take permits 901 and 902.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife at Olympia, WA (WDFW) has applied in due form for modifications to permits that would provide authorization for incidental takes of an endangered anadromous fish species.

DATES: Written comments or requests for a public hearing on either of these applications must be received on or before November 14, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The applications and related documents are available for review in the following offices, by appointment:

Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401); and

Protected Resources Division, F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-4169 (503-230-5400).

Written comments or requests for a public hearing should be submitted to the Chief, Protected Resources Division in Portland, OR.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: WDFW requests modifications to permits under the authority of section 10 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) and the NMFS regulations governing ESA-listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-227).

Permits 901 and 902 authorize WDFW incidental takes of endangered Snake River sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*); threatened, naturally-produced and artificially-propagated, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*); and threatened Snake River fall chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*)

associated with numerous non-listed fish hatchery complexes and educational projects throughout the state of WA. These artificial propagation projects may result in incidental takes of ESA-listed species from ecological and/or genetic interactions and from hatchery operations. Impacts on ESA-listed juvenile fish may include competition for food and habitat, disease transmission, predation by non-listed hatchery fish, and an increased vulnerability to predation by other predators. Non-listed, hatchery-produced fish may also impact the ESA-listed species through interbreeding, which could result in a loss of genetic variability in the ESA-listed fish populations.

The modifications of permits 901 and 902 are required to authorize the incidental takes of endangered upper Columbia River steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and threatened Snake River steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) associated with: 1) the operation of non-listed fish hatchery facilities and educational programs in the Columbia River Basin, 2) the on-station releases or transfers of non-listed fish produced from those facilities, and 3) the operation of tributary smolt traps in the Columbia River Basin for non-listed fish hatchery program research and evaluation purposes. WDFW has submitted revised conservation plans in the permit modification applications that specify steps proposed to be taken to monitor, minimize, and mitigate impacts to ESA-listed fish. In the permit modification applications, WDFW included descriptions of incidental takes of lower Columbia River steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) in anticipation of a possible listing determination of this Evolutionarily Significant Unit by NMFS in 1998. The modifications to permits 901 and 902 are requested to be valid for the duration of the permits. Permits 901 and 902 both expire on December 31, 1998.

Those individuals requesting a hearing (see **ADDRESSES**) should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on either of these applications would be appropriate. The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in these application summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.