

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene public meetings of its Florida/Alabama, Mississippi/Louisiana, and Texas Habitat Protection Advisory Panels (AP).

DATES: A meeting of the Florida/Alabama Habitat Protection AP will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 1998. A meeting of the Mississippi/Louisiana Habitat Protection AP will be held on Monday, June 22, 1998. A meeting of the Texas Habitat Protection AP will be held on Tuesday, June 30, 1998. The meetings in Florida and Texas will begin 10:00 a.m. and conclude by 5:00 p.m.; the meeting in Louisiana will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude by 4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting of the Florida/Alabama Habitat Protection AP will meet at the Ramada Airport Inn & Conference Center, 5303 West Kennedy Boulevard, Tampa, FL; telephone: 813-289-1950. The Mississippi/Louisiana Habitat Protection AP will meet at the New Orleans Airport Radisson, 2150 Veterans Boulevard, Kenner, LA; telephone: 504-467-3111. The Texas Habitat Protection AP will meet at the Hobby Airport Hilton, 8181 Airport Boulevard, Houston, TX; telephone: 713-645-3000.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Leard, Senior Fishery Biologist; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The APs will be convened to review the draft generic amendment on essential fish habitat (EFH). The draft document is mandated by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson Act) and addresses EFH in all seven of the Council's Fishery Management Plans (FMP). Following is a summary of the amendment:

1. Essential fish habitat (EFH) is identified and described based on areas where various life stages of 21 selected managed species and the coral complex commonly occur. The selected species are shrimp (brown shrimp, *Penaeus aztecus*; white shrimp, *Penaeus setiferus*; pink shrimp, *Penaeus duorarum*); red drum, *Sciaenops ocellatus*; reef fish (red grouper, *Epinephelus morio*; gag grouper, *Mycteroperca microlepis*; scamp grouper, *Mycteroperca phenax*; red snapper, *Lutjanus campechanus*; gray snapper, *Lutjanus griseus*; yellowtail snapper, *Ocyurus chrysurus*; lane snapper, *Lutjanus synagris*; greater amberjack, *Seriola dumerili*; lesser

amberjack, *Seriola fasciata*; tilefish, *Lopholatilus chamaeleonticeps*; and gray triggerfish, *Balistes capricus*), coastal migratory pelagic species (king mackerel, *Scomberomorus cavalla*; Spanish mackerel, *Scomberomorus maculatus*; cobia, *Rachycentron canadum*; and dolphin, *Coryphaena hippurus*), stone crab, *Menippe mercenaria*; spiny lobster, *Panulirus argus*; and the coral complex;

2. The selected species represent about a third of the species under management by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. Collectively, these species commonly occur throughout all of the marine and estuarine waters of the Gulf of Mexico. EFH for the remaining managed species will be addressed in future FMP amendments, as appropriate;

3. EFH is defined as everywhere that the above managed species commonly occur. Because these species collectively occur in all estuarine and marine habitats of the Gulf of Mexico, EFH is separated into estuarine and marine components. For the *estuarine* component, EFH includes all estuarine waters and substrates (mud, sand, shell, rock and associated biological communities), including the sub-tidal vegetation (seagrasses and algae) and adjacent inter-tidal vegetation (marshes and mangroves). In *marine* waters of the Gulf of Mexico, EFH includes virtually all marine waters and substrates (mud, sand, shell, rock and associated biological communities) from the shoreline to the seaward limit of the EEZ;

4. Threats to EFH from fishing and nonfishing activities are identified;

5. Options to conserve and enhance EFH are provided and research needs are identified;

6. No management measures and, therefore, no regulations are proposed at this time. Fishing-related management measures to minimize any identified impacts are deferred to future amendments when the Council has the information necessary to decide if the measures are practicable.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before the Panels for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Panel action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed in this notice.

A copy of the agenda can be obtained by contacting the Gulf Council (see **ADDRESSES**).

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) by June 10, 1998.

Dated: June 1, 1998.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 98-15028 Filed 6-4-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 052798B]

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 and its advisory entities will hold public meetings.

DATES: The Council, and its advisory entities will meet during June 22-26, 1998. The Council meeting will begin on Tuesday, June 23, at 8 a.m. with a closed session to discuss litigation and personnel matters. The open session begins at 8:30 a.m. The Council will reconvene Wednesday through Friday at 8 a.m. in open session. The Council will meet as late as necessary each day to complete its scheduled business.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, Seattle Airport, 18740 Pacific Highway South, Seattle, WA 98188; telephone: (206) 246-8600.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lawrence D. Six, Executive Director; telephone: (503) 326-6352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following items are on the Council agenda, but not necessarily in this order:

- A. Call to Order
1. Opening Remarks, Introductions, Roll Call.
2. Remarks of Rear Admiral J. David Spade, USCG.
3. Approve Agenda.
4. Approve November 1997, March 1998, and April 1998.

Meeting Minutes

- B. Habitat Issues - Report of the Habitat Steering Group
- C. Salmon Management
 1. Sequence of Events and Status of Fisheries.
 2. Risk Analysis for Oregon Coastal Coho Plan Amendment.
 3. Draft Plan Amendments and Preliminary Draft.

Environmental Impact Statement

- 4. Comprehensive Review of Hooking Mortality and Encounter Rates.
 - D. Dungeness Crab Management - Review Status of Legislation and Determine Need for Council Plan
 - E. Coastal Pelagic Species Management
 1. Anchovy Biomass Estimate and Quotas for 1998 - 1999 Season.
 2. Draft Plan Amendments.
 - F. Groundfish Management
 1. Status of Federal Regulations and Other Activities.
 2. Report of Congressional Hearing.
 3. Proposal to Allow Landing of Fish in Excess of Cumulative Limits.
 4. Status of Fisheries and Inseason Adjustments.
 5. Preliminary Results of Oregon Enhanced Data Collection Project.
 6. Draft Plan Amendments.
 7. Lingcod and Rockfish Allocation.
 8. Stock Assessment Priorities for 1999.
 9. Exempted Fishing Permits for Depth-Specific Sampling and "Fish for Research" in 1998.
 10. Capacity Reduction Program.
 - G. Administrative and Other Matters
 1. Report of the Budget Committee.
 2. Status of Legislation.
 3. Report on the National Ocean Conference.
 4. Appointments to Advisory Groups.
 5. Research and Data Needs and Economic Data Plan.
 6. Approve September 1998 Agenda.

Advisory Meetings

The Habitat Steering Group meets at 10 a.m. on Monday, June 22, to address issues and actions affecting habitat of fish species managed by the Council.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee will convene on Monday, June 22, at 8 a.m. and on Tuesday, June 23, at 8 a.m. to address scientific issues on the Council agenda.

The Groundfish Management Team will convene on Monday,

June 22, at 8 a.m. to address groundfish management items on the Council agenda.

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel will convene on Monday, June 22, at 3 p.m. and on Tuesday, June 23, at 8 a.m.,

and will continue to meet throughout the week as necessary to address groundfish management items on the Council agenda.

The Enforcement Consultants meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23, to address enforcement issues relating to Council agenda items.

The Budget Committee meets on Monday, June 22, at 1 p.m., to review the status of the 1998 Council budget and develop a 1999 budget.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before these groups for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. 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. John S. Rhoton at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: June 1, 1998.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

[Docket No. 980422102-8102-01]

RIN 0660-AA13

Elements of Effective Self Regulation for the Protection of Privacy and Questions Related to Online Privacy

AGENCY: National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice and request for public comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, along with the Office of Management and Budget has been asked to report to the President on industry efforts to establish self-regulatory regimes to ensure privacy online and to develop technological solutions to protect privacy. The President also directed the Commerce Department and the Office of Management and Budget to ensure that means are developed to protect children's privacy online. The Department of Commerce requests comments on various aspects of Internet Privacy including the effectiveness of

self regulation for privacy. Specifically, the Department of Commerce seeks comment on the staff discussion paper "Elements of Effective Self Regulation for Protection of Privacy." It also asks for responses to specific questions concerning online privacy protection. In addition, the Department seeks input on the specific instances in which government action may be necessary to protect privacy on the Internet.

DATES: Comments must be received by July 6, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Mail written comments to Jane Coffin, Office of International Affairs, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Room 4898, 14th St. and Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC. 20230, or email comments to privacy@ntia.doc.gov. Messages to that address will receive a reply in acknowledgment. Comments submitted in electronic form should be in ASCII, WordPerfect (please specify version), or Microsoft Word (please specify version) format. Comments will be posted on the NTIA website at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov>. Detailed information about electronic filing is available on the NTIA website, <http://www.ntia.doc.gov>. Paper submissions should include three paper copies and a version on diskette in a format specified above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jane Coffin, NTIA, (202) 482-1890.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

The rapid growth in the use of the Internet, for both personal and commercial purposes, has led to increased public concern about personal privacy. The promise of information technologies—their ability to facilitate the collection, re-use and instantaneous transmission of information—can, if not managed carefully, diminish personal privacy. A Framework for Global Electronic Commerce, issued by the Administration on July 1, 1997, recognizes that it is essential to assure personal privacy in the networked environment if people are to feel comfortable doing business online.

There are a number of statutory or regulatory regimes that continue to apply in an online environment (e.g., the Fair Credit Reporting Act). For Internet industries and commercial activities not covered by statute or regulation, however, the Administration has called on the private sector to develop self-regulatory mechanisms to protect privacy online. The President directed the Department of Commerce and the Office of Management and