

Fordham, Bob Hueter and John Wingard.

The following HMS AP members' terms expire April 6, 2000: Recreational representatives - Jim Donofrio, Ellen Peel and Bob Zales; Commercial representatives - Nelson Beideman, Russell Hudson, Robert Fitzpatrick, Gail Johnson and Bob Spaeth; academic/environmental representatives - Carl Safina and David Wilmot; and ICCAT representative - John Graves.

All Billfish AP members' terms expired June 1, 1999. NMFS is soliciting nominations for replacing the entire membership of the Billfish AP.

The purpose of the APs is to assist NMFS in the development of FMPs, FMP amendments, and regulatory amendments under the FMP framework provisions for Atlantic billfish and Atlantic tunas, swordfish and sharks. The APs assist NMFS in meeting the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act throughout the FMP development process.

Procedures and Guidelines

Procedures for Selecting Advisory Panel Members

Individuals with definable interests in the recreational and commercial fishing and related industries, environmental community, academia, governmental and quasi-governmental entities will be considered as members of the AP. Selection of AP members will not be limited to those nominated.

Nominations may include current members of the billfish or HMS APs.

Nominations are invited from all individuals and constituent groups. The nomination should include:

1. Indication of whether the nomination is for the billfish AP, HMS AP, or both APs;
2. The name of the applicant or nominee and a description of his or her interest in or connection with billfish (for billfish AP) or with one species in particular from among billfish, sharks, swordfish, and tunas (for HMS AP);
3. A statement of background and/or qualifications; and
4. A written commitment that the applicant or nominee shall actively participate in good faith in the tasks of the AP.

Participants

Nominations will be accepted to allow representation from recreational and commercial fishing interests, the conservation community, and the scientific community. NMFS does not believe that each potentially affected organization or individual must necessarily have its own representative, but each interest must be adequately represented. The intent is to have a

group that, as a whole, reflects an appropriate balance and mix of interests, given the responsibilities of the AP. Criteria for membership include one or more of the following:

1. Experience in the recreational fishing industry involved in catching swordfish, tunas, or sharks;
2. Experience in the commercial fishing industry for HMS;
3. Experience in connected industries (marinas, bait and tackle shops);
4. Experience in the scientific community working with HMS; and
5. Former or current representative of a private, regional, state, national, or international organization representing marine fisheries interests dealing with HMS.

NMFS will provide the necessary administrative support, including technical assistance, for the AP. However, NMFS will be unable to compensate participants with monetary support for their labor, as no funds were appropriated to support this activity in fiscal year 1999. Funding for travel costs of AP members is not always available; therefore, AP members may be expected to pay for travel costs related to the AP.

Tentative Schedule

Meetings of the AP will be held twice yearly or more frequently as necessary; the APs will meet jointly every year, in January or in February to review the Annual SAFE Report and to consider future management actions. Upcoming activities include consideration of regulatory amendments under the framework provisions, particularly measures to address bycatch.

Dated: August 10, 1999.

Gary C. Matlock,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 052599B]

ICCAT Advisory Committee; Public Meetings; correction

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting; Correction

SUMMARY: In a previous **Federal Register** notice, incorrect dates were given for the fall meeting of the Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section to the

International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). This document provides corrected dates for the meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Kerstetter at 301-713-2337 or Kimberly Blankenbaker at 301-713-2276.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Correction

In the June 7, 1999, issue of the **Federal Register**, on page 30321, in the second column, the first sentence of the seventh paragraph under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**, the dates should be corrected to read "October 24-26, 1999."

Dated: August 10, 1999.

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. 081099C]

North 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 North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) has scheduled meetings during the month of September 1999.

DATES: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times of meetings.

ADDRESSES: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for locations of the meetings.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. The Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee will meet by teleconference on Wednesday September 1, 1999 to review the revised analysis of a proposed split of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Pacific cod fixed gear quota between longline and pot gears, and to further discuss

establishing minimum stock size thresholds for groundfish. Public listening sites have been established as follows:

Seattle, WA: Room 2079, Bldg. 4, at the Alaska Fisheries Science Center, 7600 Sand Point Way NE.,

Juneau, AK: NMFS Main Conference Room, #445C, 4th Floor Federal Building, 709 W. 9th Street

Kodiak, AK: Fishermen's Hall, 503 Marine Way

Anchorage, AK: NPFMC Offices, 605 W. 4th Avenue, 3rd Floor

2. A meeting of the Council/Alaska Board of Fisheries Joint Committee will meet September 15–16, 1999, at the Hilton Hotel, 500 W. 3rd Avenue, Anchorage, AK. The agenda will include:

(a) Alternatives for resolving the fair-start issue.

(b) Review the Joint Protocol.

(c) Examination of the range of cross jurisdictional issues of mutual interest.

3. The Council's Ecosystem Committee will meet September 20, 1999, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Building 4, room 2079. The agenda includes discussion of following topics:

(a) Analysis of Habitat Areas of Particular Concern

(b) Evaluation of current management with National Research Council Recommendations for Sustainable Fisheries

(c) The Ecosystem-based Fisheries Report

(d) The 1999 Ecosystem Chapter for the Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation documents.

4. The Council's Crab Fishery Management Plan Team will meet September 27–28, 1999, at the Hilton Hotel, 500 W. 3rd Avenue, Anchorage, AK. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. on September 27th.

Agenda subjects will include:

(a) Review Tanner Crab Rebuilding Plan, survey information, and guideline harvest levels.

(b) Prepare and review the annual Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report.

(c) Review Category 2 and 3 proposals and any amendment proposals received.

(d) Review and discuss management of the Aleutian Islands red king crab fishery.

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 these meetings. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified 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 Helen Allen, 907–271–2809, at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 11, 1999.

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

[Docket No. 990730207–9207–01; I.D. 072899B]

RIN 0648–ZA68

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council

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

ACTION: Notice; request for restoration ideas for New Bedford Harbor.

SUMMARY: On behalf of the New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council (Council), NMFS, serving as the Administrative Trustee, announces this request for ideas for projects that will restore natural resources that were injured by the release of hazardous substances, including polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), in the New Bedford Harbor environment. The Council will evaluate ideas in three major areas: the restoration criteria established by the Council as described in section V.A.2 of this document, the legal requirements for eligibility, and the technical feasibility. The Council will also seek public comment on the ideas received. After receiving public comments, technical, public and other recommendations will be provided to the Council for its consideration in deciding which ideas, if any, be adapted into measures to be implemented.

DATES: The Council will accept project ideas through September 7, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The Council will accept project ideas at the following location: New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council, c/o National Marine Fisheries Service, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930, Attn: Jack Terrill, or New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council, 37 N. Second Street, New Bedford, MA 02740. Comments on the collection-of-information-requirement under the Paperwork Reduction Act can be

submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) at: Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, OMB, Washington, DC 20503, Attention: NOAA Desk Officer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jack Terrill, Coordinator, 978–281–9136, or Jack.Terrill@NOAA.GOV.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

New Bedford Harbor is located in Southeastern Massachusetts at the mouth of the Acushnet River on Buzzards Bay. The communities of Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, and New Bedford are adjacent to the harbor. The harbor and river are contaminated with high levels of hazardous materials, including PCBs, and as a consequence are on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Superfund National Priorities List. This site is also listed by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection as a priority Tier 1 disposal site. The contamination resulted both directly from discharges into the Acushnet River estuary and Buzzards Bay and indirectly via the municipal wastewater treatment system into the same bodies of water.

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or "Superfund," 42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*) provides a mechanism for addressing the Nation's hazardous waste sites, allowing states and the Federal Government to sue polluters for the clean-up and restoration of designated sites. CERCLA provides for the designation of "natural resource trustees:" Federal, state, or tribal authorities who represent the public interest in natural resources. Natural resource trustees may seek monetary damages (i.e., compensation) from polluters for injury, destruction, or loss of natural resources resulting from releases of specified hazardous substances. These damages, which are distinct from clean-up costs, must be used by the trustees to "restore, replace, or acquire the equivalent of" (CERCLA) the natural resources that have been injured, after the trustees have approved a restoration plan.

The parties responsible for the New Bedford Harbor discharges were electronics manufacturers who were major users of PCBs from the time their operations commenced in the late 1940s until 1977, when EPA banned the use and manufacture of PCBs. PCBs are human carcinogens that can be introduced to humans through eating contaminated fish and shellfish. PCBs also have adverse effects on such