

Thursday, April 19, 2007

8 a.m. until 10 a.m. - The Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Committee will meet with its Advisors.

10 a.m. - The Council will convene to receive an update regarding the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) integration.

10:30 a.m. until adjournment - The Council will receive committee reports and address any continuing or new business.

Agenda items for the Council's committees and the Council itself are: The Research Set Aside (RSA) Committee will meet privately with NMFS officials to review 2008 RSA project proposals. The Ecosystems Committee will review responses to the March 9 solicitation letter to member states regarding artificial reefs, and develop a Committee position on the need to create (or not) special management zones (SMZs) for artificial reefs. The Ecosystems Committee will also receive the NMFS' Northeast Fisheries Science Center presentation on the current status of its ecosystem efforts. The Protected Resources Committee will meet with its Advisors to review and discuss the NMFS' Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) on sea turtle conservation, and to also review and discuss impacts of the Atlantic Trawl Gear Take Reduction Team's (ATGTRT) efforts to reduce the incidental take of pilot whales and dolphins. The Squid, Mackerel, and Butterfish Committee will review and update outcomes from its March 21 Committee meeting on Amendment 11. NMFS' will hold a scoping session regarding annual catch limits and accountability measures associated with National Standard 1 Guidelines. The Executive Committee will review outcomes of the meeting of NMFS' Northeast Region (NER) officials regarding impacts of the MSA Reauthorization Act of 2006, review status of the Council's fiscal year 2007 budget, and review the status of the Council's Advisory Panel surveys and related actions. The National Fisheries Institute's Scientific Monitoring Committee will provide a presentation on the results of its Supplemental Finfish Survey and Loligo Net-Testing Study. A Public Hearing will be held regarding Phase 1 of the New England Council's Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Omnibus Amendment. The Council will conduct its regular business session, and review, select, and approve options/alternatives included in Framework 7 to its Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass FMP regarding mechanisms to

change biological reference points during the specification setting process following peer reviewed stock assessments. A staff-led discussion will then be held on Limited Access Programs. The Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Committee and its Advisors will review cost recovery options for surfclam and ocean quahog fisheries and solicit input from Advisors regarding 2008, 2009, and 2010 quota specifications. The Council will receive a presentation from its Executive Directors on Section 107 of the MSA Reauthorization Act of 2006. This will be followed by committee reports and any continuing or new business.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before the Council for discussion, these issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final actions to address such emergencies.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to M. Jan Bryan (302) 674-2331 ext. 18 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 26, 2007.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E7-5824 Filed 3-29-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 032607D]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public committee meetings.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council's (Council) Multispecies (Groundfish) Advisory Panel and Committee will hold meetings to consider actions affecting

New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The meetings will be held April 19-20, 2007. For specific dates and times, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Holiday Inn, One Newbury Street, Peabody, MA 01960; telephone: (978) 535-4600.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 12, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978)465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The advisory panel and committee's schedule and agenda for the following two meetings are as follows:

1. Thursday, April 19, 2007, beginning at 9 a.m. - Groundfish Advisory Panel Meeting

The Groundfish Advisory Panel (Panel) will meet to review scoping comments received for Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP). This amendment will adopt measures as necessary to continue the rebuilding of several stocks of groundfish, as well as make other changes to the FMP that may be required. The Panel will spend most of its time reviewing two alternative management proposals received during scoping. One proposal, called area management, suggests managing in discrete, finite areas with specific measures tailored to those areas. A second proposal suggests allocating points to commercial fishing vessels that will be deducted based on catch. If time permits, the Panel will also review other comments received during scoping, including suggestions for changes to the days-at-sea (DAS) program and other management measures. The Panel may also consider other business. Panel recommendations will be forwarded to the Multispecies Committee at a meeting on April 20, 2007.

2. Friday, April 20, 2007, beginning at 9 a.m.- Multispecies (Groundfish) Committee Meeting

The Multispecies Committee will meet to develop Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP. This amendment will adopt measures as necessary to continue the rebuilding of several stocks of groundfish, as well as make other changes to the FMP that may be required. The Committee will spend most of its time reviewing two alternative management proposals received during scoping. One proposal,

called area management, suggests managing in discrete, finite areas with specific measures tailored to those areas. A second proposal suggests allocating points to commercial fishing vessels that will be deducted based on catch. The committee will also discuss a proposal for a limited entry program for party/charter vessels fishing in the Gulf of Maine. Other business may also be discussed. Committee recommendations will be forwarded to the Council for action at a future date.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before these groups 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 Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard (see ADDRESSES) at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: March 26, 2007.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E7-5823 Filed 3-29-07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 031607B]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold meetings of its Pelagics Plan Team (PPT), in Honolulu, HI, to discuss fishery issues and develop recommendations for future management.

DATES: The meeting of the PPT will be held on April 17–19, 2007, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., each day.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Council Office Conference Room, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI, 96813; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The PPT will meet discuss the following agenda items:

Tuesday April 17, 2007, 8.30 a.m.

1. Introduction
2. Annual Report review
Review of 2006 Annual Report modules and recommendations
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
3. Teleconference link with Pacific Council

A. Status of longline fisheries and their management

- a. West Coast + potential for expansion and results from current exploratory permit in EEZ
- b. Hawaii and American Samoa fisheries and new fisheries in Micronesia

B. Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission bigeye tuna (BET) catch limits

- a. Current monitoring of BET allocation by NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center (PIFSC)
- b. Timely division of Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) BET quota in event of West Coast longline fishery expansion

C. Protected species management

- a. Hawaii and Western Pacific Region (WPR) longline fisheries
 - b. West Coast longline and drift gillnet fisheries
 4. Continuation of review 2006 Annual Report modules and recommendations
 - ii. American Samoa
 - iii. Guam
 - iv. Hawaii
 - v. International
 - vi. Recreational
- 2006 Annual Report region wide recommendations

Wednesday & Thursday, April 18–19, 2007, 8.30 a.m.

5. Hana community Fish Aggregating Device
6. Guam Fishermen's Cooperative longline project
7. Status of American Samoa longline fishery

8. Pelagics Fishery Management Plan (PFMP) and amendments

- i. Transition from PFMP to Pelagics Fishery Ecosystem Plan
 - ii. Status of Amendment 14 (bigeye/yellowfin overfishing)
 - iii. Guam longline exclusion modification
 - iv. Framework change to incorporate quotas for tunas
9. Status of interactions between protected species and WPR longline fisheries
- i. Hawaii longline fishery
 - ii. American Samoa longline fishery
10. Evaluation of swordfish longline fishery management
11. Other business

The order in which the agenda items are addressed may change. The PPT will meet as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before the PPT for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Plan Team action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this document and any issue arising after publication of this document that requires emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, (808) 522-8220 (voice) or (808) 522-8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: March 27, 2007.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E7-5916 Filed 3-29-07; 8:45 am]

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Agricultural Advisory Committee; Twelfth Renewal

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission has determined to renew again for a period of two years its advisory committee designated as the "Agricultural Advisory Committee."