

Summary of the Application

Applicant: Association for the Administration of Rice Quotas, Inc. (AARQ), c/o AARQ Chairman, Christian Bonnesen of ADM Rice, Inc., 660 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, New York 10591.

Contact: M. Jean Anderson, Esq., Counsel to Applicant, Telephone: (202) 682-7217.

Application No.: 97-10A03.

Date Deemed Submitted: December 11, 2009.

Proposed Amendment: AARQ seeks to amend its Certificate to reflect the following changes:

1. Add the following companies as new Members of the Certificate within the meaning of section 325.2(1) of the Regulations (15 C.F.R. 325.1): ADM Grain Company, Decatur, Illinois (a subsidiary of Archer Daniels Midland Company) and TRC Trading Corporation, Roseville, California (a subsidiary of The Rice Company).

2. Amend the listing of the following Members: "American Commodity Company, LLC Robbins, California" should be amended to read "American Commodity Company, LLC, Williams, California"; "American Rice, Inc., Houston, Texas (a subsidiary of SOS Cuetara USA, Inc.)" should be amended to read "American Rice, Inc., Houston, Texas (a subsidiary of SOS Corporation Alimentaria, SA)"; "Cargill Americas, Inc., and its subsidiary CAI Trading Company LLC, Coral Gables, Florida" should be amended to read "Cargill Americas, Inc. and its subsidiary CAI Trading, LLC, Coral Gables, Florida"; "JFC International Inc., San Francisco, California (a subsidiary of Kikkoman Corp.)" should be amended to read "JFC International Inc., Los Angeles, California (a subsidiary of Kikkoman Corp.)"; and "Nidera, Inc., Stamford, Connecticut (a subsidiary of Nidera Handelscompagnie BV (Netherlands))" should be amended to read "Nidera, Inc., Wilton, Connecticut (a subsidiary of Nidera Handelscompagnie BV (Netherlands))."

Dated: December 16, 2009.

Joseph E. Flynn,

Director, Office of Competition and Economic Analysis.

[FR Doc. E9-30346 Filed 12-21-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-P

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

RIN 0648-XQ91

Fisheries of the Pacific Region; Mid-Atlantic Region, Gulf of Mexico Region

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

ACTION: Notification of determination of overfishing and or an overfished condition.

SUMMARY: This action serves as a notice that NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), has determined that in the Pacific Region, the canary rockfish stock, as well as the Queets coho stock and the Western Straights of Juan de Fuca coho stocks, have been determined to be in an overfished condition. In addition, the Gulf of Mexico stock of gag grouper has been determined to be in an overfished condition. Finally, the Mid-Atlantic stock of black sea bass was found to be experiencing overfishing in 2007. However, since this determination, an updated assessment using 2008 data has been completed and NMFS has determined that overfishing is no longer occurring.

For any stocks which NMFS determines to be experiencing overfishing in 2009, the applicable fishery management council (Council) must amend the stock's Fishery Management Plan (FMP) to establish a mechanism for specifying Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) and Accountability Measures (AMs) and specify ACLs and AMs in 2010, if possible, but no later than 2011. For stocks which NMFS determines to be in or approaching an overfished condition and provides notice to the applicable Council(s) after July 12, 2009, the applicable Council(s) must, within two years of such notification, prepare and implement an FMP amendment or proposed regulations to rebuild such stocks.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Nelson, (301) 713-2341.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to sections 304(e)(2) and (e)(7) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), 16 U.S.C. 1854(e)(2) and (e)(7), and implementing regulations at 50 CFR 600.310(e)(2), NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary, notifies Councils whenever it determines; a stock or stock complex is approaching an overfished condition; a

stock or stock complex is overfished; or existing action taken to prevent previously identified overfishing or rebuilding a previously identified overfished stock or stock complex has not resulted in adequate progress. NMFS also notifies Councils when it determines a stock or stock complex is subject to overfishing.

For a fishery determined to be overfished or approaching an overfished condition, NMFS also requests that the appropriate Council, or the Secretary, for fisheries under section 302(a)(3) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, take action to end overfishing in the fishery and to implement conservation and management measures to rebuild affected stocks. Councils (or the Secretary) receiving notification after July 12, 2009, that a fishery is overfished must, within 2 years of notification, implement a rebuilding plan, through an FMP Amendment or proposed regulations, which ends overfishing immediately and provides for rebuilding the fishery in accordance with 16 U.S.C. 1854(e)(3)-(4) as implemented by 50 CFR 600.310(j)(2)(ii). Councils receiving a notice that a fishery is approaching an overfished condition must prepare and implement, within two years, an FMP amendment or proposed regulations to prevent overfishing from occurring. When developing rebuilding plans Councils (or the Secretary), in addition to rebuilding the fishery within the shortest time possible in accordance with 16 U.S.C. 1854(e)(4) and 50 C.F.R. 600.310(j)(2)(ii), must ensure that such actions address the requirements to amend the FMP for each affected stock or stock complex to establish a mechanism for specifying and actually specify Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) and Accountability Measures (AMs) to prevent overfishing in accordance with 16 U.S.C. 1853(a)(15) and 50 CFR 600.310(j)(2)(i).

On July 31, 2009, NMFS informed the Pacific Fisheries Management Council that both the Queets stock of coho salmon and the Western Straight of Juan de Fuca stocks of coho salmon failed to meet their escapement goals for the third consecutive year, which has triggered an overfished status determination.

In addition, on September 9, 2009, NMFS notified the Pacific Fisheries Management Council that the latest stock assessment for canary rockfish estimated the current biomass to be below the overfished threshold.

During the third quarter of 2009, the first stock assessment for the Gulf of Mexico stock of gag grouper was finalized. The assessment found that the

stock is in an overfished condition. The Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council was notified of the status determination on August 11, 2009.

On April 22, 2009, NMFS notified the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council that the Mid-Atlantic coast stock of black sea bass was experiencing overfishing. This determination was based on an assessment using data up to 2007. Since this determination the assessment has been updated using 2008 data. The updated assessment found that the fishing mortality in 2008 was below the overfishing threshold, and NMFS has determined that overfishing is no longer occurring.

As noted above, within 2 years of determination that a fishery is overfished, the respective Council (or the Secretary) must adopt and implement a rebuilding plan, through an FMP Amendment or proposed implementing regulations, which ends overfishing immediately and provides for rebuilding. In addition, for the fisheries experiencing overfishing, the responsible Councils (or the Secretary) must propose, and NMFS must adopt, effective ACLs and AMs by fishing year 2010, if possible, but no later than 2011 to end overfishing.

Dated: December 15, 2009.

Emily H. Menashes,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service
[FR Doc. E9-30387 Filed 12-21-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN: 0648-XT34

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council's (Council) Interspecies Committee will meet to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2010, at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, 31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA 02048; telephone: (508) 339-2200.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Topics to be discussed include the Committee's work plan, a buyback for the Northeast multispecies fishery, the status of monitoring programs in all fisheries, and NOAA's recent draft report on catch share policy;

2. Other items may also be discussed.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group 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

This meeting is 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 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: December 16, 2009.

William D. Chappell,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E9-30329 Filed 12-21-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Public Meeting and Public Comment

AGENCY: National Ocean Service, NOAA, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting, Notice of public comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of a public meeting of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force. The meeting will be held in Washington, DC. This meeting, the 23rd bi-annual meeting of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force, provides a forum for coordinated planning and action among Federal agencies, State and territorial governments, and nongovernmental partners. Please register in advance by

visiting the Web site listed below. This meeting has time allotted for public comment. All public comment must be submitted in written format. A written summary of the meeting will be posted on the Web site within two months of its occurrence.

DATES: The meeting will be held Tuesday, February 23 and Wednesday, February 24, 2010. Registration is requested for all events associated with the meetings. Advance public comments can be submitted to the e-mail, fax, or mailing address listed below from Friday, January 15—Friday, January 29.

Location: The meeting will be held at the Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 on February 23, 2010 and the Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240 on February 24, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Steven Thur, NOAA U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Steering Committee Point of Contact, Coral Reef Conservation Program, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910 (*Phone:* 301-713-3155 ext. 147, *Fax:* 301-713-4389, *e-mail:* Steven.Thur@noaa.gov, Sarah Bobbe, U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Department of the Interior liaison, 1849 C Street NW., Room 5013 Washington, DC 20240 (*Phone:* 202-208-1378, *e-mail:* Sarah.Bobbe@ios.doi.gov), or visit the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Web site at <http://www.coralreef.gov>.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Established by Presidential Executive Order 13089 in 1998, the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force mission is to lead, coordinate, and strengthen U.S. government actions to better preserve and protect coral reef ecosystems. Co-chaired by the Departments of Commerce and the Interior, Task Force members include leaders of 12 Federal agencies, seven U.S. States and territories, and three freely associated States. For more information about the meeting, registering, and submitting public comment go to <http://www.coralreef.gov>.

Dated: December 3, 2009.

Donna Wieting,

Director, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. E9-30259 Filed 12-21-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-08-M