

Contracting Party. Prior notification to the NAFO Executive Secretary is necessary in either case. Expressions of interest intending to make use of another NAFO Contracting Party vessel under chartering arrangements should provide the following information: The name and registration number of the intended vessel; a copy of the charter agreement; a detailed fishing plan; a written letter of consent from the applicable NAFO Contracting Party; the date from which the vessel is authorized to commence fishing; and the duration of the charter (not to exceed six months). Note that expressions of interest using another NAFO Contracting Party vessel under charter should be accompanied by a detailed description of anticipated benefits to the United States, as described above.

Any vessel wishing to enter into a chartering arrangement with the United States must be in full current compliance with the requirements outlined in the NAFO Convention and Conservation and Enforcement Measures. These requirements include, but are not limited to, submission of the following reports to the NAFO Executive Secretary: Notification that the vessel is authorized by its flag state to fish within the NAFO Regulatory Area during 2015; provisional monthly catch reports for all vessels of that NAFO Contracting Party operating in the NAFO Regulatory Area; daily catch reports for each day fished by the subject vessel within the Regulatory Area; observer reports within 30 days following the completion of a fishing trip; and an annual statement of actions taken by its flag state to comply with the NAFO Convention. The United States may also consider the vessel's previous compliance with NAFO bycatch, reporting and other provisions, as outlined in the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures, before entering into a chartering arrangement. More details on NAFO requirements for chartering operations are available from Patrick E. Moran (see **ADDRESSES**).

What if I want to arrange for a transfer of U.S. quota allocations to another NAFO party?

Under NAFO rules in effect for 2015, the United States may transfer fishing opportunities with the consent of the receiving NAFO Contracting Party and with prior notification to the NAFO Executive Secretary. An applicant may request to arrange for any of the above U.S. opportunities to be transferred to another NAFO party, although such applications will likely be given lesser priority than those that involve more direct harvesting or processing by

U.S. entities. Applications to arrange for a transfer of U.S. fishing opportunities should contain a letter of consent from the receiving NAFO Contracting Party, and should also be accompanied by a detailed description of anticipated benefits to the United States. As in the case of chartering operations, the United States may also consider a NAFO Contracting Party's previous compliance with NAFO bycatch, reporting and other provisions, as outlined in the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures, before entering agreeing to a transfer. More details on NAFO requirements for transferring NAFO allocations are available from Patrick E. Moran (see **ADDRESSES**).

What if I want to arrange to receive a transfer of NAFO quota allocations from another NAFO party?

Under NAFO rules in effect for 2015, the United States may receive transfers of additional fishing opportunities from other NAFO Contracting Parties. The United States is required to provide a letter of consent to this transfer and prior notification to the NAFO Executive Secretary. In the event that an applicant is able to arrange for the transfer of additional fishing opportunities from another NAFO Contracting Party, the United States may agree to facilitate such a transfer insofar as fulfilling the NAFO requirements for such transfers after soliciting additional public input on such transfers as appropriate. As in the case of chartering operations, the United States may also consider a NAFO Contracting Party's previous compliance with NAFO bycatch, reporting and other provisions, as outlined in the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures, before agreeing to accept a transfer. Any fishing quota or other harvesting opportunities received via this type of transfer are subject to all U.S. and NAFO rules as detailed below. For more details on NAFO requirements for transferring NAFO allocations, contact Patrick E. Moran (see **ADDRESSES**).

What rules must I follow while fishing?

U.S. applicant vessels must be in possession of, or obtain, a valid HSFCA permit, which is available from the NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office. Note that vessels issued valid HSFCA permits under 50 CFR part 300 are exempt from the Northeast multispecies and monkfish permit, mesh size, effort-control, and possession limit restrictions, specified in §§ 648.4, 648.80, 648.82, 648.86, 648.87, 648.91, 648.92, and 648.94, respectively, while transiting the U.S. exclusive economic zone (EEZ) with

multispecies and/or monkfish on board the vessel, or landing multispecies and/or monkfish in U.S. ports that were caught while fishing in the NAFO Regulatory Area, provided:

1. The vessel operator has a letter of authorization issued by the Regional Administrator on board the vessel;

2. For the duration of the trip, the vessel fishes, except for transiting purposes, exclusively in the NAFO Regulatory Area and does not harvest fish in, or possess fish harvested in, or from, the U.S. EEZ;

3. When transiting the U.S. EEZ, all gear is properly stowed and not available for immediate use as defined under § 648.2; and

4. The vessel operator complies with the provisions, conditions, and restrictions specified on the HSFCA permit and all NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures while fishing in the NAFO Regulatory Area.

Relevant NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures include, but are not limited to, maintenance of a fishing logbook with NAFO-designated entries; adherence to NAFO hail system requirements; presence of an on-board observer; deployment of a functioning, autonomous vessel monitoring system authorized by issuance of the HSFCA permit; and adherence to all relevant minimum size, gear, bycatch, and other requirements. Further details regarding U.S. and NAFO requirements are available from the NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, and can also be found in the 2015 NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures on the Internet (see **ADDRESSES**).

Dated: January 28, 2015.

Paul Doremus,

Acting Director, Office of International Affairs and Seafood Inspection, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2015-01967 Filed 1-30-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of the Shrimp Permit Moratorium Working Group.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 18, 2015, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council office, 2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Morgan Kilgour, Fishery Biologist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348-1630; fax: (813) 348-1711; email: morgan.kilgour@gulfcouncil.org

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The items of discussion on the agenda are as follows:

Shrimp Permit Moratorium Working Group Agenda, Wednesday, February 18, 2015, 9 a.m. Until 5 p.m.

- (1) Introduction—Shrimp 17 Scoping Document
- (2) Council Charge—To have staff convene a meeting of a Shrimp Working Group as recommended by the SSC
- (3) Overview of Shrimp Amendment 13
- (4) Biological yield—MSY workshop summary/ABC control rule
- (5) CPUE
 - a. SEAMAP
 - b. Fishery Dependent
- (6) Permit activity status
 - a. Transfers
 - b. Terminations
 - c. Landings per permit
- (7) Economic yield
- (8) Community make-up of the shrimp fishery
- (9) Ecosystem considerations
 - a. Bycatch—review of BiOp
 - b. Habitat
 - c. Ecosystem Working Group recommendations
- (10) Other Business—Adjourn—

For meeting materials see folder “Shrimp Permit Moratorium Working Group Feb 2015 ” on Gulf Council file server. To access the file server, the URL is <https://public.gulfcouncil.org:5001/webman/index.cgi>, or go to the Council’s Web site and click on the FTP link in the lower left of the Council Web site (<http://www.gulfcouncil.org>). The username and password are both “gulfguest”. The Agenda is subject to change.

The meeting will be webcast over the internet. A link to the webcast will be available on the Council’s Web site, <http://www.gulfcouncil.org>.

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

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kathy Pereira at the Council Office (see **ADDRESSES**), at least 5 working days prior to the meeting.

Note: The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: January 28, 2015.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of the Shrimp Advisory Panel.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 19, 2015, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council office, 2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Morgan Kilgour, Fishery Biologist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348-1630; fax: (813) 348-1711; email: morgan.kilgour@gulfcouncil.org

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The items of discussion on the agenda are as follows:

Shrimp Advisory Panel Agenda, Thursday, February 19, 2015, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

- (1) Adoption of agenda
- (2) Approval of minutes from March 5, 2014 meeting
- (3) Plan of work
- (4) Biological review of the Texas closure
 - a. Shrimp AP recommendations
- (5) Status update on *Shrimp* Amendment 16 “Adjustments to the Annual Catch Limit and Accountability Measure for Royal Red Shrimp”
- (6) Gulf of Mexico Penaeid *Shrimp* Stock Synthesis MSY Estimates
 - a. Summary of Shrimp MSY workshop recommendations
 - b. Shrimp AP recommendations
- (7) Status update on *Shrimp* Amendment 15 “Status Determination Criteria for Penaeid Shrimp and Adjustments to the Shrimp Framework Procedure”
 - a. Shrimp AP recommendations
- (8) Review of the *Shrimp* Permit Moratorium Scoping Document (Shrimp Amendment 17)
 - a. Timeline
 - b. Summary of the Shrimp Permit Moratorium Working Group meeting on Feb. 18, 2015
 - c. Shrimp AP recommendations
- (9) Other Business
 - a. Request for identifying appropriate people to attend the next Coral SSC/AP meeting

—Adjourn—

For meeting materials see folder “Shrimp Advisory Panel Feb 2015” on the Gulf Council file server. To access the file server, the URL is <https://public.gulfcouncil.org:5001/webman/index.cgi>, or go to the Council’s Web site and click on the FTP link in the lower left of the Council Web site (<http://www.gulfcouncil.org>). The username and password are both “gulfguest”. The Agenda is subject to change.

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