

Committee (Committee) in Washington, DC.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 5, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Wednesday, April 6, 2016, from 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. These times and the agenda topics described below are subject to change. Refer to the Web page listed below for the most up-to-date meeting agenda.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Consortium for Ocean Leadership, 1201 New York Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20005.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Jessica Snowden, Designated Federal Official, U.S. IOOS Advisory Committee, U.S. IOOS Program, 1315 East-West Highway, Second Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910; Phone 240–533–9466; Fax 301–713–3281; Email [jessica.snowden@noaa.gov](mailto:jessica.snowden@noaa.gov) or visit the U.S. IOOS Advisory Committee Web site at <http://www.ioos.noaa.gov/advisorycommittee>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Committee was established by the NOAA Administrator as directed by Section 12304 of the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act, part of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111–11). The Committee advises the NOAA Administrator and the Interagency Ocean Observation Committee (IOOC) on matters related to the responsibilities and authorities set forth in section 12302 of the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009 and other appropriate matters as the Under Secretary refers to the Committee for review and advice. The Committee will provide advice on:

(a) Administration, operation, management, and maintenance of the System;

(b) expansion and periodic modernization and upgrade of technology components of the System;

(c) identification of end-user communities, their needs for information provided by the System, and the System's effectiveness in dissemination information to end-user communities and to the general public; and

(d) any other purpose identified by the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere or the Interagency Ocean Observation Committee.

The meeting will be open to public participation with a 30-minute public

comment period on April 5, 2016, from 4:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. and on April 6, 2016, from 2:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. (check agenda on Web site to confirm time.) The Committee expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously submitted verbal or written statements. In general, each individual or group making a verbal presentation will be limited to a total time of three (3) minutes. Written comments should be received by the Designated Federal Official by March 22, 2016 to provide sufficient time for Committee review. Written comments received after March 22, 2016, will be distributed to the Committee, but may not be reviewed prior to the meeting date. Seats will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

*Matters To Be Considered:* The meeting will focus on ongoing committee priorities, including messaging IOOS to a new administration, incorporating more biological data variables, and increasing engagement with industry. This meeting will also focus specifically on how the U.S. IOOS federal agencies may better leverage their existing assets. The agenda is subject to change. The latest version will be posted at <http://www.ioos.noaa.gov/advisorycommittee>.

*Special Accommodations:* These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Jessica Snowden, Designated Federal Official at 240–533–9466 by March 22, 2016.

Dated: March 1, 2016.

**Zdenka Willis,**

Director, U.S. IOOS Program, National Ocean Service.

[FR Doc. 2016–05782 Filed 3–14–16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648–XE477**

#### SAW–SARC 62 Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS and the Northeast Regional Stock Assessment Workshop (SAW) will convene the 62nd SAW Stock Assessment Review Committee for the purpose of reviewing the stock assessments of Black Sea Bass and Witch Flounder. The Northeast Regional SAW is a formal scientific peer-review process for evaluating and presenting stock assessment results to managers for fish stocks in the offshore U.S. waters of the northwest Atlantic. Assessments are prepared by SAW working groups and reviewed by an independent panel of stock assessment experts called the Stock Assessment Review Committee, or SARC. The public is invited to attend the presentations and discussions between the review panel and the scientists who have participated in the stock assessment process.

**DATES:** The public portion of the Stock Assessment Review Committee Meeting will be held from November 29, 2016–December 2, 2016. The meeting will commence on November 29, 2016 at 10 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. Please see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for the daily meeting agenda.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the S.H. Clark Conference Room in the Aquarium Building of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sheena Steiner, 508–495–2177; email: [sheena.steiner@noaa.gov](mailto:sheena.steiner@noaa.gov); or, James Weinberg, 508–495–2352; email: [james.weinberg@noaa.gov](mailto:james.weinberg@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** For further information, please visit the NEFSC Web site at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov>. For additional information about the SARC meeting and the stock assessment review of Black Sea Bass and Witch Flounder, please visit the NMFS/NEFSC SAW Web page at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/saw/>.

**DAILY MEETING AGENDA—SAW/ SARC 62 Benchmark Stock Assessment for Black Sea Bass and Witch Flounder (Subject to Change. All Times Are Approximate, and May Be Changed at the Discretion of the SARC Chair).**

*Tuesday, November 29, 2016*

|                            |  |                            |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 10 a.m.–10:30 a.m. ....    | Welcome Introductions .....                  | James Weinberg, SAW Chair. |
| 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. .... | Black Sea Bass Assessment Presentation ..... | Gary Shepherd.             |
| 12:30 p.m.–1:30 p.m. ....  | Lunch.                                       |                            |
| 1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m. ....   | BSB Presentation (cont.) .....               | Gary Shepherd.             |

|                          |                           |             |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 3:30 p.m.–3:45 p.m. .... | Break.                    |             |
| 3:45 p.m.–5:45 p.m. .... | BSB SARC Discussion ..... | SARC Chair. |
| 5:45 p.m.–6 p.m. ....    | Public Comment Period.    |             |

*Wednesday, November 30, 2016*

|                            |   |               |
|----------------------------|---|---------------|
| 8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m. ....  | Witch Flounder (WF) Assessment Presentation ..... | Susan Wigley. |
| 10:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m. .... | Break.  |               |
| 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m. .... | WF Presentation (cont.) .....                     | Susan Wigley. |
| 12:30 p.m.–1:30 p.m. ....  | Lunch.  |               |
| 1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m. ....   | WF SARC Discussion .....                          | SARC Chair.   |
| 3:30 p.m.–3:45 p.m. ....   | Public Comment Period.                            |               |
| 3:45 p.m.–4 p.m. ....      | Break.  |               |
| 4 p.m.–6 p.m. ....         | BSB SARC Discussion .....                         | SARC Chair.   |

*Thursday, December 1, 2016*

|                            |   |             |
|----------------------------|---|-------------|
| 8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m. ....  | Revisit WF with Presenters .....                | SARC Chair. |
| 10:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m. .... | Break.  |             |
| 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m. .... | Review/Edit BSB Assessment Summary Report ..... | SARC Chair. |
| 12:15 p.m.–1:15 p.m. ....  | Lunch.  |             |
| 1:15 p.m.–2:45 p.m. ....   | BSB Assessment Summary (cont.) .....            | SARC Chair. |
| 2:45 p.m.–3 p.m. ....      | Break.  |             |
| 3 p.m.–6 p.m. ....         | Review/Edit WF Assessment Summary Report .....  | SARC Chair. |

*Friday, December 2, 2016*

|                    |                           |             |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 9 a.m.–5 p.m. .... | SARC Report Writing ..... | SARC Chair. |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------|

The meeting is open to the public; however, during the 'SARC Report Writing' sessions on December 1 and 2, the public should not engage in discussion with the SARC.

**Special Accommodations**

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Special requests should be directed to Sheena Steiner at the NEFSC, 508–495–2177, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 10, 2016.

**Emily H. Menashes,**

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

[FR Doc. 2016–05800 Filed 3–14–16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

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

**RIN 0648–XE205**

**Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act Provisions; American Eel Fishery**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of withdrawal of federal moratorium.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS announces the withdrawal of the Federal moratorium on fishing for American eel in the State waters of Delaware. NMFS withdraws the moratorium, as required by the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act (Atlantic Coastal Act), based on the determination that Delaware is now in compliance with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (Commission) Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American Eel.

**DATES:** Effective March 15, 2016

**ADDRESSES:** Alan Risenhoover, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13362, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Derek Orner, Fishery Management Specialist, NMFS Office of Sustainable Fisheries, (301) 427–8567; [derek.ornier@noaa.gov](mailto:derek.ornier@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

On August 6, 2015, the Commission found that the State of Delaware was out of compliance with the Commission's American Eel Plan. Specifically, the Commission found that Delaware had not implemented regulations that are necessary to rebuild the depleted

American eel stock, and to ensure sustainable commercial and recreational harvest while preventing over-harvest of any eel life stage. The Commission forwarded its findings of their August 6th vote in a formal non-compliance referral letter that was received by NMFS on August 19, 2015. On September 18, 2015, NMFS notified the State of Delaware and the Commission of its determination that Delaware failed to carry out its responsibilities under the Commission's American Eel Plan and that the measures Delaware had failed to implement and enforce are necessary for the conservation of the eel resource. In this determination and notification, NMFS detailed the actions necessary to avoid the implementation of a Federal moratorium for eel in Delaware waters. Details of this determination were provided in a **Federal Register** notice published on September 23, 2015 (80 FR 57343), and are not repeated here.

**Activities Pursuant to the Atlantic Coastal Act**

The Atlantic Coastal Act specifies that, if, after a moratorium is declared with respect to a State, the Secretary is notified by the Commission that it is withdrawing the determination of noncompliance, the Secretary shall immediately determine whether the State is in compliance with the