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Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; 300 S. New Street, Room 2115, Dover, DE 19904.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; 300 S. New Street, Room 2115, Dover, DE 19904; telephone: (302) 674-2331, ext. 19.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this meeting is to review the results of the March Northeast Fisheries Science Center's experimental trawl survey cruise and continue to develop and evaluate survey protocols for the new survey.

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 Jan Saunders at the Mid-Atlantic Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: April 3, 2006.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E6-4981 Filed 4-5-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 033106E]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene a meeting of the Legislative Committee (Committee), which is open

to the public. The primary purpose of the meeting is to review proposed federal legislation regarding the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). The Committee may also review Federal and state legislative matters relative to the Capital Construction Fund, aquaculture, the American Fisheries Act, and other Council interests.

DATES: The Committee will meet on Friday, April 28 2006, from 8:30 a.m. until business for the day is completed.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the West Conference Room at the Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200, Portland, OR 97220-1384; telephone: (503) 820-2280.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Mike Burner, Pacific Fishery Management Council Staff Officer; telephone: (503) 820-2280.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Legislative Committee often meets concurrently with the Council but will next meet away from a Council meeting to allow additional time to deliberate several significant federal legislative matters. Although not limited to the following topics, the Committee will focus on recently introduced legislation pertaining to the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Additionally, the Committee may discuss Senate Bill 1195, the National Offshore Aquaculture Act of 2005; legislation regarding the Capital Construction Fund, and solicited Council input on potential amendment of the American Fisheries Act. Committee recommendations will be provided in a report to the Council which may form the basis for Council input on these important legislative matters.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the meeting agenda may be discussed, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this document and any issues arising after publication of this document that require emergency action under Section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the 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 Ms. Carolyn Porter at (503) 820-2280 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: April 3, 2006.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E6-4995 Filed 4-5-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 033106C]

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 May 2-4, 2006, 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 on May 2-4, 2006, at the Council Conference Room to discuss the following agenda items:

Tuesday May 2, 2006, 8:30 a.m.

1. Introduction
2. Annual Report review
 - a. Review 2005 Annual Report modules and recommendations
 - b. 2005 Annual Report region-wide recommendations

Wednesday & Thursday, May 4-5, 2005, 8:30 a.m.

3. Modifications to the pelagic annual report
4. Recreational fisheries
5. International fisheries issues
 - a. Report on the second meeting of the Western & central Pacific Fishery Commission

b. Report on the International Scientific Committee for tuna and tuna like species in the North Pacific, including stock assessments for North Pacific albacore tuna, northern bluefin tuna and striped marlin
6. Management options for bigeye tuna catches by the Hawaii tuna longline fishery

7. Management options for the Hawaii swordfish longline fishery
8. Fishing effort increase in the Hawaii longline fishery
9. Hawaii offshore mixed line fisheries for tunas
10. South Pacific albacore fisheries
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: April 3, 2006.

Tracey L. Thompson,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E6-4982 Filed 4-5-06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 033106D]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and public hearing.

SUMMARY: The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold its 132nd meeting to consider and take final action on recommendations to limit fishing in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI). The Council will also hold a public hearing during this 132nd Council meeting.

DATES: The 132nd Council meeting and public hearing will be held on Thursday, April 20, 2006. For specific dates, times and locations of the public hearing, and the agenda for the 132nd Council meeting, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: The 132nd Council meeting and public hearing will be held at the Council's office, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813. The 132nd Council meeting telephone conference call-in-number is: (866) 867-8289, passcode 1683776. For Guam and International Participants, the call-in-number is: (813) 276-1442, passcode 1683776.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: (808) 522-8220; fax: (808) 522-8226.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background Information

On January 18, 2006, the Council was informed by the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, that NOAA is developing alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed NWHI National Marine Sanctuary that would enable the Council to continue to recommend management measures to limit bottomfish and pelagic fisheries through regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), consistent with the goals and objectives of the proposed sanctuary. While the preferred alternative has not been selected, the range of alternatives under consideration includes a regulatory regime allowing commercial bottomfishing and non-longline pelagic fishing to continue either: (1) indefinitely, (2) until 2025, or (3) for 5 years with a ban on fishing thereafter.

The Council was also informed that if, by May 1, 2006, it transmits for Secretarial review, an amendment to the Bottomfish and Pelagics Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) and corresponding proposed regulations implementing limits to bottomfish and pelagic fishing, NOAA may review those Magnuson-Stevens Act regulations

as potential mechanisms to implement NOAA's preferred alternative for the proposed sanctuary, rather than implementing the alternative via the National Marine Sanctuaries Act.

At its 131st Council meeting held March 13-16, 2006, the Council took initial action and recommended that limited fishing be allowed in federal waters of the proposed NWHI National Marine Sanctuary and managed under the Magnuson-Stevens Act (except for recreational fishing at Midway Atoll), consistent with all codified federal regulations and subject to the following restrictions:

a. A closure be established indefinitely for all harvests of crustacean, precious coral and coral reef ecosystem species;

b. All commercial and recreational fishing be subject to Magnuson-Stevens Act permit and logbook reporting requirements

c. Recreational fishing permits be issued on a case-by case basis, and that the Council will evaluate the need for further management;

d. Limited-entry NWHI bottomfish permits be capped at 14, with 7 permits for the Ho'omalulu Zone and 7 permits for the Mau Zone (the two Community Development Program permits for indigenous use to be included in the latter and issued as previously recommended by the Council);

e. The annual bottomfish catch be limited to 381,500 lbs (85% of Maximum Sustainable Yield);

f. Non-longline commercial pelagic fishing permits be capped at three (3);

g. The annual commercial pelagic catch by the non-longline pelagic fishery and the limited-entry bottomfish fishery be limited to 180,000 lbs.;

h. No-take Marine Protected Areas be established around French Frigate Shoals and West of 174 W longitude;

i. The use-or-lose requirements for renewal of commercial bottomfish permits be removed;

j. Relinquished or revoked commercial bottomfish permits be reissued by NMFS in accordance with the existing procedures for Ho'omalulu Zone permits and as described in the Council's previous recommendation for Mau Zone permits; and

k. Federally permitted research regarding fishery and ecosystem conservation and management would be allowed in Federal waters.

The Council will consider final action on these proposed limits to fishing in the NWHI at this 132nd meeting.