

Notices

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Tuesday, January 27, 1998

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Intergovernmental Advisory Committee Subcommittee Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Intergovernmental Advisory Committee will meet on February 5, 1998, at the Double Tree Hotel, Columbia River, Portland, Oregon. The purpose of the meeting is to continue discussions on the implementation of the Northwest Forest Plan. The meeting will begin at 9:15 a.m. and continue until 3:00 p.m. Agenda items to be discussed include, but are not limited to: review ongoing and potential activities for the coming year, and progress reports on the scoping phase of the review of Northwest Forest Plan and the strategic research plan. The IAC meeting will be open to the public and is fully accessible for people with disabilities. Interpreters are available upon request in advance. Written comments may be submitted for the record at the meeting. Time will also be scheduled for oral public comments. Interested person are encouraged to attend.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions regarding this meeting may be directed to Don Knowles, Executive Director, Regional Ecosystem Office, 333 SW 1st Avenue, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208 (Phone: 503-808-2180).

Dated: January 21, 1998.

Donald R. Knowles,

Designated Federal Official.

[FR Doc. 98-1880 Filed 1-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Evaluation of Coastal Zone Management Program and National Estuarine Research Reserves

AGENCY: Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), DOC.

ACTION: Notice of intent to evaluate.

SUMMARY: The NOAA Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) announces its intent to evaluate the performance of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, and New York's Coastal Zone Management Programs and the Jobos Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Puerto Rico.

These evaluations will be conducted pursuant to sections 312 and 315 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA), as amended. The CZMA requires a continuing review of the performance of states with respect to coastal program or estuarine research reserve program implementation. Evaluation of Coastal Zone Management and Estuarine Research Reserve Programs require findings concerning the extent to which a state has met the national objectives, adhered to its coastal program document or final management plan approved by the Secretary of Commerce, and adhered to the terms of financial assistance awards funded under the CZMA. The evaluations will include a site visit, consideration of public comments, and consultations with interested Federal, State, and local agencies and members of the public. Public meetings are held as part of the site visits.

Notice is hereby given of the dates of the site visits for the listed evaluations, and the dates, local times, and locations of public meetings during the site visits.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands Coastal Zone Management Program site visit will be from February 18-27, 1998. One public meeting will be held during the week. This meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m., on Wednesday, February 25, 1998, at the Public Library Conference Room, Saipan.

The Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Program site visit will be from February 23-27, 1998. One public meeting will be held during the week.

This meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., on Monday, February 23, 1998, at the Department of Environmental Resources Auditorium, Tropical Medicine Building, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The Jobos Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Puerto Rico site visit will be from March 23-27, 1998. One public meeting will be held during the week. This meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., on Wednesday, March 25, 1998, at the Reserve's Visitor's Center, Road 705, Kilometer 2.3, Main Street, Aguirre, Puerto Rico.

The Virgin Islands Coastal Zone Management Program site visit will be from March 30-April 3, 1998. One public meeting will be held during the week. This meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., on Monday, March 30, 1998, at the Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Lower Level Conference Room, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

The New York Coastal Zone Management Program site visit will be from March 30-April 3, 1998. A public meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 31, 1998, from 7-9 p.m. at the Tonawanda City Hall in the City Council Chambers, 200 Niagara Street, Tonawanda, NY.

The States will issue notice of the public meeting(s) in a local newspaper(s) at least 45 days prior to the public meeting(s), and will issue other timely notices as appropriate.

Copies of the State's most recent performance reports, as well as OCRM's notifications and supplemental request letters to the States, are available upon request from OCRM. Written comments from interested parties regarding these Programs are encouraged and will be accepted until 15 days after the public meeting. Please direct written comments to Vickie A. Allin, Chief, Policy Coordination Division (PCD), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS/NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. When the evaluation is completed, OCRM will place a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing the availability of the Final Evaluation Findings.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Vickie A. Allin, Chief, Policy Coordination Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS/NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, (301) 713-3090, ext. 126.

Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog
11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program
Administration.

Dated: January 21, 1998.

Nancy Foster,

*Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services
and Coastal Zone.*

[FR Doc. 98-1937 Filed 1-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 012198A]

Notice of Public Hearings on Individual Fishing Quotas

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS will hold three public meetings on Individual Fishing Quotas (IFQs) in compliance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996. The meetings will be held in the Caribbean, South Atlantic and Western Pacific Council regions. These meetings supplement those held by the National Research Council (NRC) in the other five Council regions. Hearings have been scheduled for the Caribbean and South Atlantic Council regions; the schedule for the Western Pacific Council region will be announced at a later date.

DATES: The public hearing on IFQs for the Caribbean Council region will be on February 12, 1998, beginning at 1 p.m.; for the South Atlantic Council region, the hearing will be held on March 3, 1998, beginning at 7 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Public hearings on IFQs for the Caribbean and South Atlantic Council regions will be held at the following locations, respectively: the Marriott's Frenchman's Reef Beach Resort, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, telephone: 809-776-8500; Jekyll Island Club, 371 Riverview Drive, Jekyll Island, Georgia, telephone: 912-635-2600.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amy Gautam, NMFS, Office of Science and Technology; telephone: (301)713-2328.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Participants will be given five minutes each to provide a statement regarding any aspect of IFQ implementation identified in the study requirements of

the Magnuson-Stevens Act. All input will be provided to the NRC for use in preparation of its study of a national policy with respect to IFQs. The date and location of the public hearing in the Western Pacific Council region will be announced.

Dated: January 22, 1998.

William W. Fox, Jr.

*Director, Office of Science and Technology,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 98-1933 Filed 1-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 011698B]

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's (Council) Groundfish Management Team (GMT) will hold a meeting which is open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will begin on Monday, February 9, 1998, at 1 p.m. and will continue through 4 p.m. Thursday, February 12, 1998. The Tuesday and Wednesday sessions will begin at 8 a.m. and may go into the evening until business for the day is completed. An opportunity for public comment will be provided at 4 p.m. each day of the meeting and 3 p.m. on Thursday.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the conference room at the Council office, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jim Glock, Groundfish Fishery Management Coordinator; telephone: (503) 326-6352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meeting is to develop a work plan for 1998 and to prepare technical advice and reports to support Council decisions throughout the year. Specific issues the GMT will address include: (1) discuss proposed revisions to the stock assessment process and appoint representatives to track the various assessments; (2) prepare a work plan for 1998 GMT activities; (3) prepare and review sections of the draft groundfish fishery management plan amendment; (4) review methodology for developing inseason catch projections; (5) prepare recommendations related to

groundfish research and data needs; (6) evaluate data and analysis requirements related to lingcod and rockfish allocation and management, and begin preparation of the analysis; (7) discuss issues related to a groundfish vessel/permit buy-back program; (8) evaluate Pacific grenadier and rockfish landings trends; and (9) prepare a groundfish economic data plan. The GMT plans to address topics in the order listed but will consider developing daily schedules as the meeting progresses. Due to the large number of agenda items, the GMT economic subgroup may meet separately and concurrently on Wednesday; it is not practical to establish daily agendas or schedules in advance of the meeting.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before the GMT for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues will not be the subject of formal GMT action during this meeting. GMT action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Eric Greene at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: January 20, 1998.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 98-1831 Filed 1-26-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 011698A]

Marine Mammals; Scientific Research Permit (PHF# 881-1443)

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

ACTION: Receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Alaska SeaLife Center, P.O. Box 1239, Seward, AK 99664, has applied in due form for a permit to take Steller sea lions (*Eumetopias jubatus*) and harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*) for purposes of scientific research.