

public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a proposal to obtain Office of Management and Budget (OMB) clearance for this information collection. OMB clearance is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 19, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Nina Petrovich, SC Sea Grant Coastal Program Coordinator, NOAA Coastal Services Center, 2234 South Hobson Avenue, Charleston SC 29405. Phone (843) 740-1203, Email: npetrovich@csc.noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Coastal Change Analysis Program (C-CAP) of the Coastal Services Center (CSC), National Ocean Service, has been using remote-sensing technology to quantify habitat change in coastal areas of the United States. C-CAP offers a wide variety of coastal resource managers the ability to monitor habitat loss due to natural events, such as hurricanes, or human-induced events such as residential development and pollution. Since the completion of its first product in 1992, C-CAP has distributed numerous digital products to Federal, state, and local programs, as well as to academia and private industry.

CSC proposes to survey groups that have already obtained C-CAP data and products in order to assess the overall usefulness of this information. The objectives of the survey are to: receive feedback from C-CAP data users on the relevance and impact of these products; determine if the products meet user accuracy needs; and gather information on how the products may be improved in the future. Results will be used to evaluate the effectiveness and the most useful format for the products and services, and to set priorities for future programming.

II. Method of Collection

The survey will be mailed to clients with an option to respond electronically or by mail.

III. Data

OMB Number: None.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: State, local, or tribal government; Not-for-profit institutions; business or other for-profit.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 200.

Estimated Time Per Response: 20 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 67.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0 (no capital expenditures required).

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 15, 1998.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 98-33697 Filed 12-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121598B]

Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene a public meeting of the Special Shark Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC).

DATES: The meeting of the Special Shark SSC will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 1999 and conclude by 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Tampa Airport Hilton Hotel, 2225 Lois Avenue, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone: 813-877-6688.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Atran, Population Dynamics Statistician, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Special Shark SSC will convene to conduct a scientific review of the shark portions of a Draft Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Atlantic Tunas, Swordfish, and Sharks which was recently published by the Highly Migratory Species Management Division of NMFS, and for which public comment is being accepted by NMFS through January 25, 1999.

The Special Shark SSC, consisting of biologists who are knowledgeable about the shark resources, will review the shark portions of the draft FMP, comment on its scientific adequacy, and may make recommendations on proposed management measures. Based on the Special Shark SSC's comments, the Council may decide to comment on the proposed measures to the NMFS Highly Migratory Species Management Division.

Copies of the Special Shark SSC meeting agenda can be obtained by calling the Council office at 813-228-2815. Please note that the Council does not have copies of the draft FMP available for distribution. Copies of the draft FMP can be obtained from NMFS Highly Migratory Species Management Division, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. This is also the appropriate address for individuals who wish to comment to NMFS on provisions of the draft FMP.

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

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other

auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see ADDRESSES) by December 29, 1998.

Dated: December 16, 1998.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 98-33725 Filed 12-18-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121598G]

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

DATES: The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 7, 1999 and conclude by 3:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Doubletree Hotel - New Orleans, 300 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA; telephone: 504-581-1300.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Richard Leard, Senior Fishery Biologist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Shrimp AP will convene to review scientific information on the effects of the cooperative shrimp seasonal closure with the state of Texas. The Shrimp AP will also receive a presentation regarding the status of the shrimp stocks in the Gulf of Mexico and an overfishing report. A representative of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) will provide a perspective of the TPWD with regard to the cooperative seasonal closure. The AP may develop recommendations to the Council regarding the extent of Federal waters off Texas that will be closed in 1999 concurrently with the closure of Texas waters. Finally, the Shrimp AP will review a draft of an Options Paper for Amendment 10 to the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan (FMP). Among other alternatives, this options paper contains

provisions for permitting, mandatory reporting, and vessel monitoring.

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

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see ADDRESSES) by December 31, 1998.

Dated: December 16, 1998.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 98-33731 Filed 12-18-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121598F]

Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene public meetings of the Ad Hoc Sustainable Fisheries Amendment Act (SFA) Advisory Panel (AP) and the Standing Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC).

DATES: The meeting of the SFA AP will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 1999 and conclude by 4:00 p.m. The meeting of the Standing SSC will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 6, 1999 and conclude by 4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Doubletree Hotel - New Orleans, 300 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA; telephone 504-581-1300.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne Swingle, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The AP, consisting of recreational and commercial fishery representatives, and SSC will review the Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA) Amendment.

In 1996, Congress passed the SFA. The SFA implemented new requirements for marine fisheries managed by the Gulf Council and other Regional Councils. The Council has responded to this by developing the SFA Amendment which includes alternative management measures for reporting of bycatch by Gulf fishermen, for minimizing bycatch or bycatch mortality, for specifying higher standards for overfishing criteria that will restore fishery stocks to maximum sustainable yield (MSY), for rebuilding periods for overfished stocks (e.g., red snapper, king mackerel, and red drum) and a section identifying communities economically dependent on fishing.

Under the section on reporting of bycatch, five alternatives related to submission of data by fishermen and vessel observers are considered. The Council proposes that NMFS have authority to collect bycatch information by the most appropriate methods, but to use mandatory observers only when the Council agrees.

Under the section on measures to minimize bycatch or bycatch mortality, the Council proposes that stone crab traps used in Federal waters be constructed according to Florida law.

Under the section on overfishing criteria and rebuilding period for stocks, the Council has proposed that MSY, optimum yield (OY), and the overfishing thresholds be set at higher standards as follows: at 26 percent spawning potential ratio (SPR) for red snapper (with OY set at 36 percent SPR); at 30 percent SPR for red drum, all the coastal migratory species (including the mackerels) and for all reef fish species except red snapper, gag, Nassau grouper, and jewfish; at 50 percent SPR for Nassau grouper and jewfish; the Council has not selected a proposal for gag.

The rebuilding periods proposed for overfished stocks are as follows: red snapper by year 2033; king mackerel by 2009; no rebuilding periods are proposed for red drum, Nassau grouper, or jewfish because there was insufficient information to compute the periods.

Similarly, the amendment does not contain proposed overfished thresholds for any of the finfish stocks because there was insufficient information to compute these parameters in terms of biomass (weight). Alternatives for overfished thresholds in terms of SPR are included.