

Rolland A. Schmitt, Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Affairs, NOAA, Department of Commerce, Herbert C. Hoover Building, Room 5809, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20230. A copy should also be sent to Patrick E. Moran, International Fisheries Division, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, Room 13114, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick E. Moran, 301-713-2276.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 971b of the ATCA (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*) requires that an advisory committee be established that shall be composed of (1) not less than five nor more than 20 individuals appointed by the U.S. Commissioners to ICCAT who shall select such individuals from the various groups concerned with the fisheries covered by the ICCAT Convention; and (2) the chairs (or their designees) of the New England, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf Fishery Management Councils. Each member of the Advisory Committee appointed under item (1) shall serve for a term of 2 years and shall be eligible for reappointment. Members of the Advisory Committee may attend all public meetings of the ICCAT Commission, Council, or any Panel and any other meetings to which they are invited by the ICCAT Commission, Council, or any Panel. The Advisory Committee shall be invited to attend all nonexecutive meetings of the U.S. Commissioners to ICCAT and, at such meetings, shall be given the opportunity to examine and to be heard on all proposed programs of investigation, reports, recommendations, and regulations of the ICCAT Commission. Members of the Advisory Committee shall receive no compensation for their services as such members. The Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of State may pay the necessary travel expenses of members of the Advisory Committee.

There are currently 20 appointed Advisory Committee members. The terms of these members expire on December 31, 2000. New appointments will be made as soon as possible, but will not take effect until January 1, 2001.

Section 971b-1 of the ATCA specifies that the U.S. Commissioners may establish species working groups for the purpose of providing advice and recommendations to the U.S. Commissioners and the Advisory Committee on matters relating to the conservation and management of any highly migratory species covered by the ICCAT Convention. Any species

working group shall consist of no more than seven members of the Advisory Committee and no more than four scientific or technical personnel, as considered necessary by the Commissioners. Currently, there are four species working groups advising the Committee and the U.S. Commissioners. Specifically, there is a Bluefin Tuna Working Group, a Swordfish Working Group, a Billfish Working Group, and a BAYS (Bigeye, Albacore, Yellowfin, and Skipjack) Tunas Working Group. Technical Advisors to species working groups serve at the pleasure of the U.S. Commissioners; therefore, the Commissioners can choose to alter appointments at any time.

Nominations to the Advisory Committee or to a species working group should include a letter of interest and a resume or curriculum vitae. Letters of recommendation are useful but not required. Self-nominations are acceptable. When making a nomination, please clearly specify which appointment (Advisory Committee member or technical advisor to a species working group) is being sought. Requesting consideration for placement on both the Advisory Committee and a species working group is acceptable. Those interested in a species working group technical advisor appointment should indicate which of the four working groups is preferred. Placement on the requested species working group, however, is not guaranteed.

Dated: July 13, 2000.

Bruce Morehead,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071300B]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling public meetings of its Scallop Committee and Scallop Advisory Panel in August and September, 2000 to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the

exclusive economic zone.

Recommendations from these groups will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: The meetings will be held between Friday, August 4, 2000 and Tuesday, September 19, 2000. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held in Mansfield, MA and Warwick, RI. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific locations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Dates and Agendas

Friday, August 4, 2000, at 10:00 a.m.
—Scallop Committee Meeting

Location: Holiday Inn, 31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA 02048; telephone: (508) 339-2200.

The Scallop Committee will evaluate technical advice from the Scallop Plan Development Team (PDT) on areas to close during the 2000 fishing year to conserve small scallops. If the committee recommends action, the management measures could take effect in late 2000.

The Scallop Committee also will continue development of management alternatives for Amendment 10 to the Scallop Fishery Management Plan (FMP). Issues to be discussed include, but are not limited to measures that would close areas with concentrations of small scallops through a notice action, mechanisms to fund monitoring and research activities in support of scallop area management, and other issues related to an industry proposal presented by the Fishermen's Survival Fund. The committee will re-consider adding additional area management alternatives to Amendment 10.

Monday, September 18, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. and Tuesday, September 19, 2000 at 8:30 a.m.—Joint Scallop Committee and Scallop Advisory Panel Meeting.

Location: Radisson Hotel, 2081 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886; telephone: (401) 739-3000.

The Scallop PDT will present the 2000 Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) Report and recommend management adjustments for the 2001 fishing year to meet the FMP objectives. The advisors and oversight committee will evaluate these recommendations in preparation for a Council discussion on Framework Adjustment 14 at the September 26-28, 2000 Council meeting.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens 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 Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: July 14, 2000.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071400A]

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 working meeting which is open to the public.

DATES: The GMT working meeting will be begin Monday, August 14, 2000 at 1 p.m. and may go into the evening until business for the day is completed. The meeting will reconvene from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, August 15 through Friday, August 18.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Pacific Fishery Management Council office, Conference Room, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR; telephone: 503-326-6352.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 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 primary purpose of the GMT meeting is to review groundfish stock assessment information and prepare recommendations regarding harvest levels and management for 2001. Members of the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee's Groundfish Subcommittee and the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel will meet jointly with the GMT to discuss the results of recent stock assessments and 2001 harvest levels. The GMT will also prepare reports, recommendations, and analyses in support of various Council decisions through the remainder of the year. The GMT will discuss, receive reports, and/or prepare reports on the following topics during this working session: (1) Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel reports; (2) rebuilding plans for canary rockfish, cowcod, lingcod, and Pacific ocean perch, including allocation and bycatch reduction; (3) preliminary acceptable biological catch and optimum yield recommendations for 2001, including management issues; (4) preliminary economic/social analysis of proposed harvest levels and management; (5) Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) document preparation; (6) recreational data issues; (7) inseason management; (8) groundfish strategic plan; and (9) permit stacking proposal and analysis.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed 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 Ms. Carolyn Porter at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: July 14, 2000.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D.071200D]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of applications to modify permits (984)(1058) and issued modifications to existing permits (994)(1134)(1194).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of scientific research and/or enhancement:

NMFS has received a request to modify permit (984) from Dr. Steve Ross, of the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve, and from the Idaho Fishery Resource Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Ahsahka, ID (FWS) (1058); NMFS has issued modifications to a scientific research permit to the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission at Portland, OR (CRITFC)(1134), a scientific research permit to the Idaho Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at Moscow, ID (ICFWRU)(994) and a scientific research permit to the Fish Ecology Division, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service at Seattle, WA (NWFSC)(1194).

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on any of the new applications or modification requests must be received at the appropriate address or fax number no later than 5:00 pm eastern standard time on August 18, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on any of the new applications or modification requests should be sent to the appropriate office as indicated below. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the application or modification request. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the internet. The applications and related documents are available for review in the indicated office, by appointment:

For permits 994, 1058, 1134, 1194: Protected Resources Division, F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-2737 (ph: 503-230-5400, fax: 503-230-5435).

For permit 984: Office of Protected Resources, Endangered Species Division, F/PR3, 1315 East-West