

Policy Act of 1969, in connection with regulations adopted pursuant to section 4(a) of the Act. We published a notice outlining our reasons for this determination in the **Federal Register** on October 25, 1983 (48 FR 49244).

References Cited

A complete list of all references cited herein is available upon request from our Northeast Regional Office (see **ADDRESSES** section).

Author

The primary author of this notice is Diane Lynch, Endangered Species Biologist (See **ADDRESSES** section), and Doug Weihrauch, staff scientist for the Appalachian Mountain Club Research Department, provided assistance with the summary of the biological record for this species.

Lists of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 17

Endangered and threatened species, Exports, Imports, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Transportation.

Proposed Regulation Promulgation

For the reasons set out in the preamble, we propose to amend part 17, subpart B of chapter I, title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, as set forth below:

PART 17—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for part 17 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1361–1407; 16 U.S.C. 1531–1544; 16 U.S.C. 4201–4245; Pub. L. 99–625, 100 Stat. 3500; unless otherwise noted.

§ 17.12 [Amended]

2. Section 17.12(h) is amended by removing the entry for “*Potentilla robbinsiana*, Robbins’ cinquefoil” under “FLOWERING PLANTS,” from the List of Endangered and Threatened Plants.

§ 17.96 [Amended]

Section 17.96(a) is amended by removing the critical habitat entry for “*Potentilla robbinsiana*, (Robbin’s cinquefoil)” which is under Family Rosaceae.

Dated: May 12, 2001.

Marshall Jones, Jr.,

Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 622

[I.D. 052201E]

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of scoping meetings; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene scoping meetings to obtain public comments on essential fish habitat (EFH) issues to be discussed in and potentially added to a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Council’s Generic Essential Fish Habitat Amendment to the Fishery Management Plans of the Gulf of Mexico (EFH Generic Amendment).

DATES: The scoping meetings will be held in June. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times of the scoping meetings.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the scope of issues that should be addressed in and potentially added to the SEIS should be sent to and copies of the EFH Generic Amendment are available from the Council. The Council’s address is: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, The Commons at Rivergate, 3018 U.S. Highway 301, North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619–7015; telephone (813) 228–2815; fax (813) 225–7015. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates, locations, and times of the scoping meetings.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The scoping meetings will be convened to obtain public comments on the range of issues to be discussed in the SEIS for the EFH Generic Amendment. The Council is especially interested in public views on what alternatives should be considered for the designation of EFH, the identification of Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC), and the recommendation of management measures to minimize the adverse impacts of fishing activities and gear on identified EFH and HAPC areas.

The Council prepared the EFH Generic Amendment in response to

provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). The EFH Generic Amendment identifies and describes EFH for the species managed under the Council’s fishery management plans; it also discusses threats to EFH from both fishing and non-fishing activities, discusses EFH conservation and enhancement opportunities, and identifies HAPCs. NMFS partially approved the EFH Generic Amendment in 1999 after conducting Secretarial review under Magnuson-Stevens Act procedures. NMFS and the Council previously published a notice in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 15405; March 19, 2001) announcing their intent to prepare a SEIS for the EFH Generic Amendment that will supersede the environmental assessment originally prepared in support of this amendment.

Meeting Dates, Locations, and Times

The scoping meetings will be held at the following dates, locations, and times:

1. Thursday, June 14, 2001, 3 p.m.–5 p.m., Omni Bayfront Hotel, 900 North Shoreline Boulevard, Corpus Christi, TX 78401; telephone (361) 887–1600
2. Friday, June 15, 2001, 1 p.m.–3 p.m., Courtyard by Marriott, 9190 Gulf Freeway, Houston, TX 77017; telephone (713) 910–1700
3. Monday, June 18, 2001, 2 p.m.–4 p.m., New Orleans Airport Hilton, 901 Airline Drive, Kenner, LA 70062; telephone (504) 469–5000
4. Tuesday, June 19, 2001, 3 p.m.–5 p.m., Imperial Palace Hotel, 850 Bayview, Biloxi, MS 39530; telephone (228) 436–3000
5. Thursday, June 21, 2001, 3 p.m.–5 p.m., National Marine Fisheries Service, 3500 Delwood Beach Road, Panama City, FL 32408; telephone (850) 234–6541
6. Monday, June 25, 2001, 3 p.m.–5 p.m., Holiday Inn Beachside, 3841 North Roosevelt Boulevard, Key West, FL 33040; telephone (305) 294–2571
7. Thursday, June 28, 2001, 3 p.m.–5 p.m., Tampa Airport Hilton, 2225 Lois Avenue, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone (813) 877–6688

Special Accommodations

These meetings are 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 June 8, 2001.

Dated: June 4, 2001.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 01-14521 Filed 6-7-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 660

[I.D. 052201D]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings/public hearings.

SUMMARY: The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Advisory Panels will meet on June 15 and 16, 2001; the Standing Committees will meet on June 18, 2001; and the Council will hold its 110th meeting June 18 through June 21, 2001, in Honolulu, HI.

At the full Council meeting, a public hearing will be held prior to the Council taking final action on its Coral Reef Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (CREFMP/DEIS).

The Council will also be holding a public hearing to accept comments on a proposed action that would implement the prohibitions specified in the Shark Finning Prohibition Act, that was signed by the President in December 2000.

DATES: The meetings and the hearings will be held during June 2001. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates, and times for the meetings and the hearings.

ADDRESSES: The meetings and the hearings will be held at the Ala Moana Hotel, 410 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, HI 96813; telephone: 808-955-4811.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Dates and Locations

Advisory Panels

The Commercial, Recreational, Subsistence/Indigenous, and Ecosystem and Habitat sub-panels will meet jointly on Friday, June 15, 2001, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sub-panels will meet individually on Saturday, June 16, 2001,

but will reconvene jointly before the end of the day to finalize recommendations. In addition, the Panels will hear reports from plan teams, the scientific and statistical committee, and other ad hoc groups. Public comment periods will be provided throughout the meetings. The order in which agenda items are addressed may change. The Advisory Panels will meet as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

The agenda for the Advisory Panel meetings will include the items listed below:

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Overview of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), Council program, and decision-making process, and other applicable laws
3. Role of advisors
4. Report on island area Advisory Group meetings
5. Fisheries data collection and monitoring programs, including the Western Pacific Fisheries Information Network (WesPacFIN) and the Marine Recreational Fishery Survey
6. Research priorities and needs
7. Coral reef management
8. Protected species issues, including turtles, seabirds and marine mammals
9. Enforcement and safety issues
10. American Samoa longline fishery issues
11. Indigenous initiatives, including the Community Development Program, Community Demonstration Projects, cultural take of green sea turtles, and the native Observer program
12. Education and outreach efforts
13. Presentation on fish aggregation devices
14. Sub-panel break-out sessions to discuss issues and develop recommendations
15. Joint panel session to review and finalize recommendations to the Council

Public Hearings

A public hearing will be held at 6 p.m. on June 20, 2001, on upcoming actions with respect to shark finning.

A public hearing will be held at 9:30 a.m. on June 21, 2001, on the CREFMP/DEIS.

Committee Meetings

The following Standing Committees of the Council will meet on June 18, 2001. Enforcement/Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.; Fishery Rights of Indigenous People from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.; International Fisheries/Pelagics from 10 a.m. to 12 noon; Precious Corals from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.; Crustaceans from 1:30 p.m. to 3

p.m.; Bottomfish from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Ecosystem and Habitat from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Executive/Budget and Program from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

In addition, the Council will hear recommendations from its advisory panels, plan teams, scientific and statistical committee, and other ad hoc groups. Public comment periods will be provided throughout the agenda. The order in which agenda items are addressed may change. The Council will meet as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

The agenda during the full Council meeting will include the items listed below:

1. Introductions
2. Approval of agenda
3. Approval of 108th and 109th Meeting Minutes
4. Island Reports
 - A. American Samoa
 - B. Guam
 - C. Hawaii
 - D. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
5. Federal Fishery Agency and Organization Reports
 - A. Department of Commerce
 - (1) NMFS
 - (a) Southwest Region, Pacific Islands Area Office
 - (b) Southwest Fisheries Science Center, La Jolla and Honolulu Laboratories
 - (2) NOAA General Counsel, Southwest Region
 - B. Department of the Interior/U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - C. U.S. State Department
 6. Enforcement
 - A. U.S. Coast Guard activities
 - B. NMFS activities
 - C. Commonwealth, Territories, and State activities
 - D. Archipelago Marine Research Ltd. - digital monitoring
 - E. Digital Observer project
 - F. Report on Enforcement meeting
 - G. Status of Violations
 7. VMS
 - A. NMFS status of VMS report
 - B. USCG request to use VMS for targeting boardings
 - C. Report on VMS issues from the Enforcement meeting
 8. Hawaiian Monk Seals
 - A. Current population trends and factors affecting monk seal populations
 - B. Recommendations of the Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Team
 - C. Bottomfish/monk seal mitigation measures
 9. Precious Corals
 - A. Status of 1999 framework amendment regarding new harvesting requirements
 - B. Status of 2000 framework adjustment regarding Hawaiian Islands exploratory area quota increase