

Dated: April 15, 2003.

Matteo J. Milazzo,

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

[FR Doc. 03-9791 Filed 4-18-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041003A]

Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of meetings of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC) from May 13 through 15, 2003.

DATES: The meetings are scheduled as follows:

May 13, 2003, 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

May 14, 2003, 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

May 15, 2003, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at Paradise Point Resort, 1404 Vacation Road, San Diego, CA. Requests for special accommodations may be directed to MAFAC, Office of Constituent Services, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laurel Bryant, Designated Federal Official; telephone: (301) 713-9501 ext. 171.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As required by section 10(a) (2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1982), notice is hereby given of meetings of MAFAC. MAFAC was established by the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) on February 17, 1972, to advise the Secretary on all living marine resource matters that are the responsibility of the Department of Commerce. This Committee ensures that the living marine resource policies and programs of the Nation are adequate to meet the needs of commercial and recreational fisheries, and of environmental, state, consumer, academic, tribal, and other national interests.

Matters to Be Considered

May 13, 2003

Overview and updates on the status of various management initiatives and issues including regulatory streamlining

initiative, and results of the five year review of implementing the 1996 Sustainable Fisheries Act amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act, annual Status of Stocks report and national standard 1 guidelines.

May 14, 2003

Update on national bycatch strategy and discussion of various science and technology management issues and initiatives. MAFAC will then review a final draft of the MAFAC Ecosystem Task Force report for final submission to the National Marine Fisheries Service, and discuss the status of essential fish habitat in the fisheries management process.

May 15, 2003

Committee will make final reports to NOAA Fisheries, discuss next meeting agenda, locations and dates for 2004, and adjourn.

Time will be set aside for public comment on agenda items.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to MAFAC (see **ADDRESSES**).

Dated: April 15, 2003.

John Oliver,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 03-9787 Filed 4-18-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041003C]

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Trawl Survey Advisory Committee, composed of representatives from the Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), the MAFMC, the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC), and several independent scientific researchers, will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Monday, May 5th, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

and Tuesday, May 6th, from 8 a.m. until noon.

ADDRESSES: This meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Meadowlands, Two Harmon Plaza, Secaucus, NJ; telephone: 201-348-6900.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: 302-674-2331, ext. 19.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this meeting is to prioritize goals and objectives in order to provide important advice and feedback to the NEFSC on its trawl surveys.

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 Joanna Davis at the Mid-Atlantic Council Office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: April 15, 2003.

Matteo J. Milazzo

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041403F]

North 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 North Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Committee will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 5–6, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at NMFS Alaska Region, 709 W. 9th Street, Room 150, Juneau, AK.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501–2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cathy Coon, Council staff, telephone: 907–271–2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee will meet from noon to 6 p.m. on Monday, May 5, and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6. The Committee will continue working on a process for identifying and evaluating potential habitat areas of particular concern. Committee recommendations will be presented to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council in June.

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 Gail Bendixen at 907–271–2809 at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: April 15, 2003.

Matteo J. Milazzo,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041403G]

South Atlantic 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 South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will

hold a meeting of its Information and Education Committee and a joint meeting of the Committee and Information and Education Advisory Panel in Charleston, SC.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 13–15, 2003. SEE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Town & Country Inn, 2008 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC 29407; telephone: (843) 571–1000; fax: (843) 766–9444.

Council address: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, One Southpark Circle, Suite 306, Charleston, SC 29407.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer,; phone: (843) 571–4366 or toll free: (866) SAFMC–10; fax: (843) 769–4520.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Information and Education Committee will meet from 10 a.m. until 12 noon on May 13, 2003. The Committee will meet jointly with the Information and Education Advisory Panel from 1:30 p.m. until 5 p.m. on May 13, 2003, from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. on May 14, 2003, and from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon on May 15, 2003.

The Information and Education Committee will meet to review and discuss issues to be addressed during the joint meeting relative to outreach and public affairs. During the joint meeting, the Advisory Panel will receive an overview of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's current Information and Education program. The Advisory Panel will review and make recommendations regarding a draft strategic management plan for the program. In addition, members will review and make recommendations concerning the Council's Information and Education program including outreach efforts, working with the media, networking with state and federal partners and program evaluation. The Advisory Panel and Committee will develop a list of recommendations and priorities for the Council to consider.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the council office (see **ADDRESSES**) by May 12, 2003.

Dated: April 15, 2003.

Matteo J. Milazzo,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041403E]

Western 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 83rd meeting of the Western Pacific Fishery Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will convene in Honolulu, HI.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 6–8, 2003. The SSC meeting will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on May 6, 2003 and from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on May 7–8 2003.

ADDRESSES: The 83rd SSC meeting will be held at the Council office conference room, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI; telephone: (808–522–8220).

Council address: Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The SSC will discuss and may make recommendations to the Council on the agenda items below. The order in which agenda items will be addressed can change.

Tuesday, May 6, 2003, 9 a.m.

1. Bottomfish
 - a. 2002 Annual Report
 - b. Overfishing/Maximum Sustainable Yield
 - i. Status of the stocks based on new control rule
 - ii Genetic research
 - iii. Main Hawaiian Islands (MHI) area closure monitoring
 - iv. Rebuilding options for stocks
 - c. Guam offshore fishery management
 - d. Plan Team report
2. Protected Species
 - a. Status of Sea Turtle Recovery Team and Recovery Plans