

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting**

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

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Groundfish Committee to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: This meeting will be held on Thursday, June 4, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: The meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1 Thurber Street, Warwick, RI 02886; phone: (401) 734-9600; fax: (401) 734-9700.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The items of discussion on the agenda are:

The Committee plans to discuss, Framework Adjustment 55/Groundfish Specifications, this action would set specifications for all stocks in the Northeast Multispecies (Groundfish) Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Fishing Year 2016 through Fishing Year 2018. They will also review the At-Sea Monitoring Framework Adjustment. They will review work of the Groundfish Plan Development Team and develop potential modifications to at-sea monitoring requirements in the groundfish sector program. They will provide a brief update on Amendment 18 progress, (fleet diversity and accumulation limits). Additionally, the committee will receive an update on the Monkfish Framework 9/Northeast Multispecies Framework 54. This joint action would modify Northeast Multispecies regulations to allow the declaration of a Northeast Multispecies Day-At-Sea while at sea and the reduction in minimum standup gillnet mesh size in order to target dogfish. They will also discuss other business as necessary.

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 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

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: May 13, 2015.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2015-11950 Filed 5-15-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****North Pacific 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 North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees will hold public meetings, June 1-9, 2015.

DATES: The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, June 3, continuing through Tuesday, June 9, 2015. The Scientific Statistical Committee (SSC) will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, June 1 and continue through Wednesday, June 3, 2015. The Council's Advisory Panel (AP) will begin at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, June 2, and continue through Saturday, June 6, 2015. All meetings are open to the public, except executive sessions. The Council's Legislative Committee will meet Tuesday, June 2 at the Westmark Hotel, 330 Seward Street, Founders Room, Sitka, AK 99835, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: All meetings except for the Legislative Committee meeting will be held at the Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive, Sitka, AK.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W.

4th Avenue, Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David Witherell, Council staff; telephone: (907) 271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Council Plenary Session: The agenda for the Council's plenary session will include the following issues. The Council may take appropriate action on any of the issues identified.

1. Executive Director's Report (including Draft National Standard 1 (NS1) comments/legislative updates, Fisheries Forum Information Network (FFIN))
NMFS Management Report
ADF&G Report
NOAA Enforcement Report
U.S. Coast Guard Report
U.S. FWS Report
Protected Species Report
2. *BSAI Crab:* Plan team report; Overfishing Levels/Acceptable Biological Catch (OFL/ABC) for 3 stocks
3. Final Action—Bering Sea Halibut Prohibited Species Catch (PSC)
4. Review Observer Program Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA)
5. Review Observer Program Annual Report
6. Review Observer Advisory Committee (OAC) report
7. Electronic Monitoring (EM) Workgroup report
8. Observer coverage on BSAI trawl catcher vessels (CVs): Discuss alternatives
9. Final Action on Observer coverage on small Catcher Processors (CPs)
10. Determine priorities—Research Priorities
11. Initial review—Adak crab offload (T)
12. Pacific cod modeling report (SSC only)
13. Staff Tasking

The SSC agenda will include the following issues:

1. BSAI Crab
2. Halibut PSC
3. Observer Issues
4. Review NS Guidelines
5. Research Priorities
6. Pacific cod modeling report
7. Adak crab offload

In addition to providing ongoing scientific advice for fishery management decisions, the SSC functions as the Council's primary peer review panel for scientific information as described by the Magnuson-Stevens Act section 302(g)(1)(e), and the National Standard 2 guidelines (78 FR 43066). The peer review process is also deemed to satisfy the requirements of the Information

Quality Act, including the OMB Peer Review guidelines.

The Agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted at <http://www.npfmc.org>. Background documents, reports, and analyses for review are posted on the Council Web site in advance of the meeting. The names and organizational affiliations of SSC members are also posted on the Web site.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before these groups for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. 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 Gail Bendixen at (907) 271-2809 at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: May 12, 2015.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2015-11865 Filed 5-15-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 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 and hearings.

SUMMARY: The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of its American Samoa Archipelago Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Advisory Panel (AP) to discuss and make recommendations on fishery management issues in the Western Pacific Region.

DATES: The American Samoa Archipelago FEP AP will meet on June 1, 2015, between 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. All times listed are local island times. For specific times and agendas, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: The American Samoa Archipelago FEP AP will meet at the Toa Conference Room at the Toa Bar & Grill in Nu'uli, Tutuila, American Samoa.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public comment periods will be provided in the agenda. The order in which agenda items are addressed may change. The meetings will run as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

Schedule and Agenda for the American Samoa Archipelago FEP AP Meeting

4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m., Monday, June 1, 2015

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Review and Approval of the Agenda
3. Issues to be discussed at 163rd Council Meeting
 - A. Upcoming Council Action Items
 - i. Cooperative Research Priorities
 - ii. Five-year Research Priorities
 - B. American Samoa FEP Community Activities
4. American Samoa Archipelago FEP Issues
 - A. Report of the Subpanels
 - i. Island Fisheries Subpanel
 - ii. Pelagic Fisheries Subpanel
 - iii. Ecosystems and Habitat Subpanel
 - iv. Indigenous Fishing Rights Subpanel
 - B. Other Issues
5. Public Comment
6. Discussion and Recommendations
7. Other Business

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, (808) 522-8220 (voice) or (808) 522-8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: May 12, 2015.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Joint Ecosystem Based Fishery Management (EBFM) and Herring Committees to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from these groups will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: This meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 2, 2015 at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, 300 Woodbury Avenue, Portsmouth, NH 03801; telephone: (603) 431-8000; fax: (603) 501-3733.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The committees plan to review and discuss scientific advice developed by the EBFM Plan Development Team (PDT) on Atlantic herring control rules considering its role in the ecosystem and as a forage species. Related input will also be provided by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC). The Joint Committee may develop recommendations on how to apply this advice for Amendment 8 to the Herring FMP. They will also be reviewing Amendment 8 scoping comments and discuss Amendment 8 goals and objectives; develop further guidance and related recommendations. The committees will also review and discuss results from the Atlantic herring operational assessment, including comments/recommendations from the May 20, 2015 SSC meeting; develop recommendations. Additionally, the Herring Committee will convene a closed session to review Advisory Panel applications and nominate individuals to fill open seats on the Herring Advisory Panel. The committee will discuss other business as necessary.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before these groups for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal 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 Act, provided the public has been