AMS Testing Program

AMS and FSIS have developed a collaborative testing program to verify pathogen control for closed-face sandwiches produced under FSIS voluntary inspection and intended for export to Canada. This program, which AMS will administer, may eventually include other RTE products. The program will include two types of testing, routine and intensified, to ensure that participating establishments are controlling Lm and Salmonella.

For routine testing, AMS will randomly select dates once per year when product samples will be collected. FSIS will collect the product samples and pack them for shipment to the USDA National Science Laboratories in Gastonia, North Carolina. FSIS will collect six samples regardless of plant size, production volume, or process design. If an establishment produces both post-lethality-exposed and non-post-lethality-exposed products, six product samples will be taken from the former and two from the latter. AMS will analyze the samples for Lm and Salmonella and will require that establishments hold or maintain control of the product until acceptable results become available. If the product is positive, the establishment will have to properly dispose of the affected product in accordance with FDA regulations. At least once per year, AMS also will select dates for intensified testing at a participating establishment. AMS will also conduct this testing if it finds a positive Lm or Salmonella result or in response to continuing sanitation non-compliances at the establishment. The samples will vary in number depending on whether product is being tested for Lm or Salmonella but will always include environmental, product, and food-contact-surface samples. AMS will collect the samples.

For both types of testing, the establishment will pay all costs for sample collection, shipping, shipping materials, and analysis. See http://www.ams.usda.gov/services/import-exports/rte-canada for a full description of the program, including sample collection and laboratory testing methods.

HACCP Verification

In order for the establishments to meet Canada’s requirements for import of closed-face sandwiches, FSIS will offer voluntary inspection services and will verify that the establishments are producing these products under HACCP and Sanitation SOPs. Therefore, to ship this product to Canada, establishments will need to comply with the requirements in 9 CFR part 417 and 9 CFR 416.11–17.

By participating in the EV program and receiving voluntary inspection from FSIS (including verification of HACCP plans and Sanitation SOPs), establishments that produce closed-face sandwiches and that meet all FSIS and AMS EV program requirements will be able to meet Canada’s stated import requirements for closed-faced sandwiches. To receive these services, establishments should contact FSIS at (202) 720–0082, or by email at importexport@fsis.usda.gov.

Comments are invited on: (a) The timetable for implementation of this program, including readiness to participate in the program’s pathogen testing and HACCP verification, and business and trade interests affected by compliance or non-compliance with the program; (b) how the proposed programs can be implemented operationally to avoid disruption of trade or business activities; and (c) any other operational issues that commenters need clarified. FSIS will clarify any issues or make adjustments to the implementation date of the program in a Constituent Update.

USDA Non-Discrimination Statement

No agency, officer, or employee of the USDA shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, or political beliefs, exclude from participation in, deny the benefits of, or subject to discrimination any person in the United States under any program or activity conducted by the USDA.

How To File a Complaint of Discrimination

To file a complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which may be accessed online at http://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf, or write a letter signed by you or your authorized representative.

Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail, fax, or email: Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20250–9410. Fax: (202) 690–7442.

Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and TDD).

Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all aspects of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, FSIS will announce this Federal Register publication on-line through the FSIS Web page located at: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register.

FSIS also will make this publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, Federal Register notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The Update is available on the FSIS Web page. Through the Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a broad and diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an email subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe.

Subscription options range from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

Done at Washington, DC, on October 28, 2015.

Alfred V. Almanza,
Acting Administrator.

[FR Doc. 2015–27846 Filed 10–30–15; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–DM–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XE286

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice; public hearings.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold one public hearing and one webinar to solicit Public comments on Draft Amendment 19 to the Scallop Fishery Management Plan (FMP).
be held on November 18, 2015. For specific dates and times, see SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION. Written public comments must be received on or before 5 p.m. EST, Friday, November 20, 2015.


Meeting address: These meetings will be held in Warwick, RI, and via webinar. For specific locations, see SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

Public comments: Mail to John K. Bullard, Regional Administrator, NMFS, Northeast Regional Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope “Comments on Scallop Amendment 19”. Comments may also be sent via fax to (978) 281–9135 or submitted via email to nmfs.gar.Amendment19@noaa.gov with “Comments on Scallop Amendment 19” in the subject line.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The agendas for the following hearings are as follows: New England Fishery Management Council staff will brief the public on the scallop amendment and the contents of the Draft Environmental Assessment prior to opening the hearing for public comments. The schedule is as follows:

Public Hearings: Locations, Schedules, and Agendas


2. Wednesday, November 18, 2015, from 6–8 p.m.; Radisson Airport Hotel, 2081 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886; telephone: (401) 739–3000; fax: (401) 732–9300.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Thomas Nies (see ADDRESSES), at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

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


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

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
RIN 0648–XE279
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 Recreational Advisory Panel 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 Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton, 50 Ferncroft Road, Danvers, MA 01923; phone: (978) 777–2500; fax: (978) 750–7959. 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:

Agenda

The Advisory Panel will receive a presentation on the results of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center’s (NEFSC) 2015 Groundfish Operational Assessments for Gulf of Maine cod, Gulf of Maine haddock, and other groundfish stocks of interest to the recreational fishery. The panel will also receive an overview of draft alternatives in Framework Adjustment 55 (FW 55) specifications and management measures of interest to the recreational fishery, and associated draft impact analysis. They will also review a presentation on the results from NEFSC’s bioeconomic model for recreational fisheries for cod and haddock in the Gulf of Maine. Also on the agenda is to develop recommendations to the Groundfish Committee for FY 2016 Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock recreational measures. The panel will also develop recommendations to the Groundfish Committee for 2016 Council priorities. Additionally, they will also discuss GARFO’s Recreational Implementation Plan and develop recommendations to the Groundfish Committee. 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

This 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.


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

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Caribbean Fishery Management Council; Public Hearings; Correction

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

ACTION: Notice of a correction to a public hearing on Amendments to the U.S. Caribbean Reef Fish, Spiny Lobster, and Corals and Reef Associated Plants and Invertebrates Fishery Management Plans: Timing of Accountability Measure-Based Closures.

SUMMARY: The Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC) is considering modifying the timing for the implementation of accountability measure (AM)-based closures in the Caribbean Exclusive Economic Zone.