

SUMMARY: This action serves as a notice that NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), has found that the Atlantic bigeye tuna stock is subject to overfishing. In addition, Gulf of Mexico gray triggerfish and Gulf of Mexico red snapper continue to be overfished. NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary, notifies the appropriate fishery management council (Council) whenever it determines that overfishing is occurring, a stock is in an overfished condition, a stock is approaching an overfished condition, or when a rebuilding plan has not resulted in adequate progress toward ending overfishing and rebuilding affected fish stocks.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Regina Spallone, (301) 427-8568.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to sections 304(e)(2) and (e)(7) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), 16 U.S.C. 1854(e)(2) and (e)(7), and implementing regulations at 50 CFR 600.310(e)(2), NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary, must notify Councils whenever it determines that a stock or stock complex is overfished or approaching an overfished condition; or if an existing rebuilding plan has not ended overfishing or resulted in adequate rebuilding progress. NMFS also notifies Councils when it determines a stock or stock complex is subject to overfishing. Section 304(e)(2) further requires NMFS to publish these notices in the **Federal Register**.

NMFS has determined that the Atlantic bigeye tuna stock is subject to overfishing, based on a 2015 stock assessment conducted by the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS), which is the scientific body of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). The 2015 assessment also resulted in a determination of “not overfished—rebuilding” under the applicable domestic status determination criteria. NMFS manages Atlantic bigeye tuna under its 2006 Consolidated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Fishery Management Plan and amendments, consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Act and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (ATCA), 16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*, and ICCAT’s “Multi-Annual Conservation and Management Program,” adopted in 2010.

NMFS has also determined that Gulf of Mexico gray triggerfish and Gulf of Mexico red snapper continue to be overfished. The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council has been informed that they must rebuild these stocks.

Dated: July 14, 2016.

Emily H. Menashes,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 2016-17163 Filed 7-20-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Estuarine Research Reserve System

AGENCY: Stewardship Division, Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of Approval for the Padilla Bay, Washington National Estuarine Research Reserve Management Plan revision.

SUMMARY: Under 15 CFR 921.33(d), notice is hereby given that the Stewardship Division, Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce approves the revised Management Plan for Padilla Bay, Washington National Estuarine Research Reserve Management Plan. In accordance with 15 CFR 921.33(c), the Padilla Bay Reserve revised its Management Plan, which will replace the plan previously approved in 2008.

The revised Management Plan outlines the administrative structure; the research/monitoring, stewardship, education, and training programs of the Reserve; and the plans for future land acquisition and facility development to support Reserve operations.

The Padilla Bay Reserve takes an integrated approach to management, linking research, education, coastal training, and stewardship functions. The Reserve has outlined how it will manage administration and its core program providing detailed actions that will enable it to accomplish specific goals and objectives. Since the last Management Plan, the Reserve has built out its core programs and monitoring infrastructure; conducted an educational market analysis and needs assessment to better meet teacher needs and underserved audiences; developed a Reserve Disaster Response Plan; and improved public access to the Reserve through construction of a new boat launch ramp and enhanced trails.

On March 10, 2016, NOAA issued a notice of a thirty day public comment period for the Padilla Bay Reserve revised plan (81 FR 12716). Responses

to the written and oral comments received, and an explanation of how comments were incorporated into the final revised plan, are available in Appendix G of the revised plan.

Since the last management plan was approved in 2008, the Padilla Bay Reserve has acquired an additional 110 acres of tidelands inside the Reserve boundary. With the approval of this management plan, the Padilla Bay Reserve will increase their total acreage to 11,966. The change is attributable to the recent acquisitions of several parcels by the Reserve state agency, totaling 110 acres. All of the proposed additions are owned by the Washington Department of Ecology and will be managed for long-term protection and conservation value. These parcels have high ecological value and will enhance the Reserve’s ability to provide increased opportunities for research, education, and stewardship. The revised Management Plan will serve as the guiding document for the expanded 11,966 acre Padilla Bay Reserve. View the Padilla Bay, Washington Reserve Management Plan at http://www.padillabay.gov/pdfs/ManagementPlan_2016-2020.pdf.

The impacts of the revised management plan have not changed and the initial Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared at the time of designation is still valid. NOAA determined that the revision of the management plan will not have a significant effect on the human environment and therefore qualifies for a categorical exclusion under NOAA Administrative Order 216-6. An environmental assessment will not be prepared.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bree Turner at (206) 526-4641 or Erica Seiden at (301) 563-1172 of NOAA’s National Ocean Service, Office for Coastal Management, Stewardship Division, 1305 East-West Highway, N/ORM5, 10th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Dated: July 14, 2016.

John King,
Deputy Director, Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2016-17216 Filed 7-20-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-08-P