

entitlement for each groundfish stock. Legal-sized regulated groundfish would be retained and landed, as required by the FMP. Undersized groundfish would be handled according to the EM project guidelines in view of cameras and returned to the sea as quickly as possible. All other species would be handled per normal commercial fishing operations. No legal-size regulated groundfish would be discarded, unless otherwise permitted through regulatory exemptions granted to the participating vessel's sector.

If approved, the applicant may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the year. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and have minimal impacts that do not change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request. Any fishing activity conducted outside the scope of the exempted fishing activity would be prohibited.

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

Dated: April 11, 2017.

**Karen H. Abrams,**

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

[FR Doc. 2017-07581 Filed 4-13-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XF360

#### Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting (webinar).

**SUMMARY:** The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Pacific Council) Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Subcommittee of the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will hold a meeting via webinar to review the 2017 Pacific mackerel biomass projection estimate. The meeting is open to the public.

**DATES:** The webinar meeting will be held Monday, May 1, 2017, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., or until business for the day has been completed.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held via webinar. A public listening station is available at the Pacific Council office

(address below). To attend the webinar, visit: <http://www.gotomeeting.com/online/webinar/join-webinar>. Enter the Webinar ID, which is 344-427-787, and your name and email address (required). After logging into the webinar, dial this TOLL number 1+ (562) 247-8422 (not a toll-free number), then enter the Attendee phone audio access code: 235-460-983, then enter your audio phone pin (shown after joining the webinar). NOTE: We have disabled Mic/Speakers on GoToMeeting as an option and require all participants to use a telephone or cell phone to participate. You may send an email to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt at [kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov](mailto:kris.kleinschmidt@noaa.gov) or contact him at (503) 820-2280, extension 411 for technical assistance.

**Council address:** Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Kerry Griffin, Pacific Council; telephone: (503) 820-2409.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the meeting is to conduct a technical review of the 2017 biomass projection estimate for Pacific mackerel. At its June 2017 meeting, the Pacific Council will use the biomass estimate for use in setting harvest specifications and management measures for two consecutive fishing years, July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019.

#### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt (503) 820-2280 at least 10 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: April 11, 2017.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2017-07584 Filed 4-13-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Notice of Approval for the Weeks Bay, Alabama National Estuarine Research Reserve Management Plan Revision

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

**ACTION:** Public notice.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Stewardship Division, Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Department of Commerce approves the Revised Management Plan for the Weeks Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) located in Alabama. Refer to **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for additional information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Matthew Chasse, Stewardship Division, Office for Coastal Management at 240-533-0808 or via email at [matt.chasse@noaa.gov](mailto:matt.chasse@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS) is a federal-state partnership administered by NOAA. The system protects more than 1.3 million acres of estuarine habitat for long-term research, monitoring, education and stewardship throughout the coastal United States. Established by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, each reserve is managed by a lead state agency or university, with input from local partners. NOAA provides funding and national programmatic guidance.

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 Weeks Bay Reserve takes an integrated approach to management, linking research, education, coastal training, and stewardship functions. The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources has outlined how it will administer the Reserve and its core programs by providing detailed actions that will enable it to accomplish specific goals and objectives. Under the previous management plan, the Reserve built out its core programs and monitoring infrastructure; constructed several facilities including a Resource Center that supports education, training, and outreach events; participated in more than 35 research projects and conducted over 100 coastal training program events; convened a permanent Restoration Advisory Board; and built new partnerships with organizations within the Mobile Bay of Alabama.

With the approval of this management plan, the Weeks Bay Reserve will increase their total acreage from 6,594 acres to 9,317 acres. The change is attributable to acquisition of seven tracts acquired by the State of Alabama totaling 933 acres of land and 1,790

acres of water bottoms adjacent to the newly acquired land, totaling 2,723 acres. These parcels have high ecological value and provide increased opportunities for research, education, and restoration. The revised management plan will serve as the guiding document for the 9,317-acre Weeks Bay Reserve for the next five years.

On December 29, 2016, NOAA issued notice of a public meeting and a thirty-day public comment period for the Weeks Bay Reserve Management Plan revision (81 FR 94964). The Weeks Bay, Alabama Reserve Management Plan revision is available at: (<http://www.outdooralabama.com/weeks-bay-reserve>), and at <https://coast.noaa.gov/nerrs/reserves/weeks-bay.html>.

Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog 11.420, Coastal Zone Management Program Administration.

Dated: April 7, 2017.

**Donna Rivelli,**

*Deputy Associate Assistant Administrator for Management and CFO/CAO, Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2017-07560 Filed 4-13-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-08-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 public comment period for the South Slough, Oregon National Estuarine Research Reserve management plan revision.

**SUMMARY:** 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 is announcing a thirty (30) day public comment period for the revised management plan for South Slough, Oregon National Estuarine Research Reserve management plan revision.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bree Turner at (206) 526-4641 or Erica Seiden at (240) 533-0781 of NOAA's National Ocean Service, Stewardship Division, Office for Coastal Management, 1305 East-West Highway,

N/ORM5, 10th floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to 15 CFR 921.33(c), the revised plan will bring the reserve into compliance. The South Slough Reserve revised plan will replace the plan previously approved in 2006.

The revised management plan outlines a strategic plan; administrative structure; science, education, public involvement, and training programs of the reserve; resource protection and public access plans; strategies for future land acquisition; and facility development to support reserve operations.

The South Slough Reserve takes an integrated approach to management, linking research, education, coastal training, and resource management functions. The reserve has outlined how it will manage administration and its core programs, 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; compiled a comprehensive report on environmental and socio-economic conditions of the Coos estuary; and conducted an educational market analysis and needs assessment to understand current needs of teachers and underserved audiences. Additionally, the reserve has developed a disaster response plan, restoration action plan, and improved public access to the reserve through construction of a new non-motorized boat launch areas and enhanced trails.

There will be no boundary change with the approval of the revised management plan. The management plan will serve as the guiding document for the 4,771-acre South Slough Reserve.

View the South Slough Reserve management plan revision on their Web site, at <http://www.oregon.gov/dsl/SS/Pages/About.aspx>, and provide comments to Hannah Schrager, [hannah.schrager@state.or.us](mailto:hannah.schrager@state.or.us).

Dated: April 7, 2017.

**Donna Rivelli,**

*Deputy Associate Assistant Administrator for Management and CFO/CAO, Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2017-07565 Filed 4-13-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-08-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XF357**

#### 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 Scallop Plan Development Team and Scallop Advisory Panel 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, May 4, 2017 at 9 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn Boston Logan Airport, 100 Boardman Street, Boston, MA 02128; phone: (617) 571-5478.

*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 Plan Development Team (PDT) and Advisory Panel (AP) will receive status updates and summary of preliminary findings from the recipients of recent Scallop Research Set-Aside (RSA) awards. Presentations will include RSA projects that have not yet been used directly in the scallop management process. This meeting is not a formal review of the methods or results of these projects. Instead, this meeting is only an overview to better inform the PDT and AP of current research status and help identify future research priority recommendations. The PDT and AP will also review current RSA research priorities and discuss potential recommended changes for the 2017/18 Scallop RSA funding announcement. The PDT and AP may discuss progress on 2017 work priorities. Other issues may be discussed, time permitting.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those