

FRA to follow that will prevent roadway worker injuries and fatalities.

FRA continues to believe that public participation is critical to the success of this process. Negotiation sessions will be open to the public, so interested parties may observe the negotiations and communicate their views. Pursuant to Committee ground rules, observers who wish to speak to the Committee may do so through a member of the Committee, by advising the Committee members of the matter to be presented; through a Facilitator at the discretion of the Committee; or at the invitation of a Committee member, subject to the discretion of the Committee. FRA has given advance notice to all committee members of the meeting schedule and anticipates attendance or representation by all Committee members, as well as the public during this important process.

S. Mark Lindsey,

Chief Counsel, Federal Railroad Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17

RIN 1018-AB

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reopening of Comment Period on Koala Review

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Status review; notice of reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: The Service gives notice that the comment period on the status review of the Australian koala, as initiated in response to a petition to add the species to the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife, will be reopened until April 1, 1995.

DATES: All comments and information received through April 1, 1995, will be considered in making a final decision on whether the requested action is warranted, and will be included in the administrative record.

ADDRESSES: Comments, information, and questions should be submitted to the Chief, Office of Scientific Authority; Room 725, 4401 North Fairfax Drive; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Arlington, Virginia 22203 (Fax number 703-358-2276). Express and messenger-delivered mail should be addressed to the Office of Scientific Authority; Room

750, 4401 North Fairfax Drive; Arlington, Virginia 22203. The petition finding, supporting data, and comments will be available for public inspection, by appointment, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Arlington, Virginia address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Charles W. Dane, Chief, Office of Scientific Authority, at the above address (phone 703-358-1708).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the **Federal Register** of October 4, 1994 (59 FR 50557-50558), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announced the 90-day finding that a petition to add the Australian koala (*Phasocarctos cinereus*) to the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife had presented substantial information indicating that the requested action may be warranted. A status review was initiated, with the original comment period ending February 1, 1995. During that period, requests to extend the comment period were received from the Fund for Animals and Australians for Animals (the original petitioners), the Zoological Society of San Diego, and the American Zoo and Aquarium Association's Marsupial and Monotreme Advisory Group. All indicated that more time was needed to collect pertinent information. In response, the Service has decided to reopen the comment period until April 1, 1995.

Authority: Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: February 7, 1995.

Mollie H. Beattie,

Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 646

[Docket No. 950203035-503501; I.D. 120594C]

Snapper-Grouper Fishery Off the Southern Atlantic States; Regulatory Amendment for Hogfish, Cubera Snapper, Gray Triggerfish

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

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the framework procedure for adjusting management measures of the Fishery

Management Plan for the Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region (FMP), NMFS proposes to establish a daily recreational bag limit of five hogfish per person; limit the harvest and possession of cubera snapper 30 inches (76.2 cm), total length, or larger to two per day; and establish a minimum size limit for gray triggerfish of 12 inches (30.5 cm), total length. These measures would apply only in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) off the Atlantic coast of Florida. The intended effects of this rule are to rebuild the snapper-grouper resources and enhance enforcement.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before March 2, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Comments on the proposed rule must be sent to Peter J. Eldridge, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

Requests for copies of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's (Council) regulatory document, which includes a regulatory impact review and an environmental assessment, should be sent to the Council, One Southpark Circle, Suite 306, Charleston, SC 29407-4699; FAX 803-769-4520.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter J. Eldridge, 813-570-5305.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Snapper-grouper species in the Atlantic Ocean off the southern Atlantic states (North Carolina to Florida) are managed under the FMP. The FMP was prepared by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) and is implemented through regulations at 50 CFR part 646 under the authority of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson Act).

Background

The Council is concerned about the biological status of hogfish, cubera snapper, and gray triggerfish, especially off the Atlantic coast of Florida where recreational fishing pressure is intense. The majority of hogfish and cubera snapper catches occur off Florida, and a large portion of the gray triggerfish catch occurs off Florida. Gray triggerfish is overfished with an estimated spawning stock ratio (SSR) of 27 percent. Under the FMP, species with SSRs below 30 percent are considered overfished. The SSRs for cubera snapper and hogfish are unknown, but these species are thought to be overfished.

Florida implemented in its waters a harvest/possession limit for large cubera snapper on March 1, 1994, and a bag limit for hogfish on July 1, 1994. A size limit for gray triggerfish will be implemented on January 1, 1995. The