

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Council office in Portland, OR.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. John Coon, Salmon Management Coordinator; telephone: (503) 326-6352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is a work session of the Salmon Technical Team to draft the 1997 stock status report, "Preseason I: Stock abundance Analysis for 1996 Ocean Salmon Fisheries." The final report will be distributed to the public and reviewed by the Council at its March meeting in Portland, OR.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Eric W. Greene at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: January 9, 1997.

Bruce Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 97-1006 Filed 1-14-97; 8:45 am]

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[I.D. 010797D]

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Teleconference

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of the Scientific and Statistical Committee (Committee) and the ad hoc Bycatch Reduction Device (BRD) Advisory Panel (AP) via conference call. The Committee and AP will provide additional technical recommendations on the development of a BRD testing protocol. This protocol will specify minimum data requirements, outline a basic experimental design, and recommend a statistical technique for testing and analyzing new or modified BRDs.

DATES: The meeting will be held on January 27, 1997, at 2:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The following two listening locations will be provided to allow the public to hear the Committee and Advisory Panels' deliberations on the BRD testing protocol:

1. Charleston, SC—South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, One

Southpark Circle, Suite 306, Charleston, SC 29407-4699; telephone: (803) 571-4366.

2. St. Petersburg, FL—NMFS Southeast Regional Office, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702; telephone: (813) 570-4301.

Council address: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; One Southpark Circle, Suite 306; Charleston, SC 29407-4699.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Buchanan, Public Information Officer; telephone: (803) 571-4366; fax: (803) 769-4520; email: susan_buchanan@safmc.nmfs.gov

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) by January 20, 1997.

Dated: January 9, 1997.

Bruce Morehead,

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

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Final Certification for the Consolidation of 70 Weather Service Offices (WSOs)

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On January 2, 1997 the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere approved and transmitted 70 consolidation certifications to Congress.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 15, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of the final consolidation certification packages should be sent to Tom Beaver, Room 09356, 1325 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie Scanlon at 301-713-1698 ext 151.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The 70 consolidation certifications were comprised of three groups as described and listed below. The first group, consisting of 42 consolidations, were proposed and the 60-day public comment period commenced upon publication of three Federal Register notices between December 1995 and February 1996. There were no public comments received. The Modernization Transition Committee (MTC) considered and endorsed these 42 consolidation certifications at its April 24, 1996 meeting, concluding that these certifications would not result in any degradation of service.

- (1) Akron, OH
- (2) Atlantic City, NJ
- (3) Apalachicola, FL
- (4) Baltimore, MD
- (5) Bristol, TN
- (6) Cape Hatteras, NC
- (7) Columbus, OH
- (8) Concord, NH
- (9) Colorado Springs, CO
- (10) Concordia, KS
- (11) Dayton, OH
- (12) Daytona Beach, FL
- (13) Del Rio, TX
- (14) Detroit, MI
- (15) Grand Island, NE
- (16) Harrisburg, PA
- (17) Hartford, CT
- (18) Havre, MT
- (19) Helena, MT
- (20) Kansas City, MO
- (21) Knoxville, TN
- (22) Lynchburg, VA
- (23) Mansfield, OH
- (24) Moline, IL
- (25) New York City, NY
- (26) Norfolk, VA
- (27) Pensacola, FL
- (28) Port Arthur, TX
- (29) Portland, ME
- (30) Providence, RI
- (31) Raleigh, NC
- (32) Richmond, VA
- (33) Roanoke, VA
- (34) Rockford, IL
- (35) Toledo, OH
- (36) Tupelo, MS
- (37) Waco, TX
- (38) West Palm Beach, FL
- (39) Williamsport, PA
- (40) Wilmington, DE
- (41) Worcester, MA
- (42) Youngstown, OH

The second group, consisting of 18 consolidations, were proposed and the 60-day public comment period commenced upon publication of two Federal Register notices in between March and April 1996. Two public comments were received; one with regard to WSO Bakersfield, CA and one with regard to WSO Indianapolis, IN. These comments and responses are set forth here for reference.

Comment: A comment from Sean Boyd, KSEE 24 Television, Fresno, California questioned the WSR-88D precipitation algorithm. He stated, "Initially, I have concerns, which were unfounded, about the potential health hazards for those in close proximity to the WSR-88D. Those concerns have long been put to rest now. There is no question that the WSR-88D is the finest tool to date for the detection of severe weather, and for precipitation estimates. Regarding the former: severe weather in central California is rare; however the rules for such episodes are different