

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Leard, Senior Fishery Biologist; telephone: (813) 228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meeting will be to review management alternatives being considered by the Council in Amendment 15 to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Reef Fish in the Gulf of Mexico. Amendment 15 includes a license limitation system for red snapper with initial trip-limit allocations. In order to help alleviate the effects of derby fishing, the amendment also considers opening the commercial season for red snapper for only the first 15 days of each month until the quota is reached and the fishery is closed. In addition to proposed measures for red snapper, Amendment 15 considers alternatives regarding the harvest of reef fish in traps other than permitted reef-fish traps and the potential removal of certain species of sea basses, grunts, and porgies from the management unit.

The Law Enforcement AP will also review the current regulations on bag limits for reef fish species and any potential enforcement problems. Finally, the AP will review the schedule for implementation of Amendment 9 to the Shrimp FMP that requires virtually all shrimp trawls used in Federal waters west of Cape San Blas, FL to be equipped with certified bycatch reduction devices.

At 1:00 p.m., members of the Law Enforcement AP will attend a meeting of the Ad Hoc Interjurisdictional Legal Panel of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission at the same location. This meeting will focus on:

(1) Consistency of state fishery regulations with Magnuson-Stevens Act FMP guidelines;

(2) Consistency among Gulf States in licensing and vessel registration;

(3) Development of guidelines for effective state prosecution of Federal fishery violations; and

(4) Future of state jurisdictional authority within and without states' waters. If necessary, the Law Enforcement AP will reconvene following the Ad Hoc Legal Panel meeting to consider any recommendations that arise from these discussions. All business is expected to be concluded by 5:00 p.m.

The AP comprises chief enforcement agents for the state and Federal fishery agencies in the Gulf area who advise the Council on law enforcement issues.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) by March 12, 1997.

Dated: February 26, 1997.
Bruce Morehead,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 97-5336 Filed 3-4-97; 8:45 am]
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[I.D. 022597C]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings and Hearings

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

ACTION: Notice of availability of reports; notice of public meetings and hearings.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) has begun its annual preseason management process for the 1997 ocean salmon fisheries. This notice announces the availability of Council documents and the dates and locations of Council meetings and public hearings. These actions comprise the complete schedule of events followed by the Council for determining the annual proposed and final modifications to ocean salmon management measures.

DATES: Written comments on the season options must be received by April 2, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Lawrence D. Six, Executive Director, Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201; telephone: (503) 326-6352. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for dates, times, and locations of public meetings and hearings.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

February 24, 1997: Council reports which summarize the 1996 salmon season and project the expected salmon stock abundance for 1997 are available to the public from the Council office.

March 3-7, 1997: Council and advisory entities meet at the Red Lion Hotel Lloyd Center, 1000 NE Multnomah, Portland, OR, to adopt 1997 regulatory options for public review.

March 18, 1997: Report with proposed management options and public hearing

schedule is mailed to the public. (The report includes options, rationale, and summary of biological and economic impacts.)

March 31 - April 1, 1997: Public hearings are held to receive comments on the proposed ocean salmon fishery regulatory options adopted by the Council. All public hearings begin at 7 p.m. on the dates and at the locations specified below.

March 31, 1997: Westport High School Commons, 2850 S. Montesano Street, Westport, WA.

March 31, 1997: Pony Village Motor Inn, Ballroom, Virginia Avenue, North Bend, OR.

April 1, 1997: Red Lion Inn, Chinook Room, 400 Industry, Astoria, OR.

April 1, 1997: Red Lion Inn, Evergreen Room, 1929 Fourth Street, Eureka, CA.

April 7-11, 1997: Council and its advisory entities meet at the Clarion Hotel, Millbrae, CA, to adopt final 1997 regulatory measures.

April 17, 1997: Newsletter describing adopted ocean salmon fishing management measures is mailed to the public.

April 11-22, 1997: Salmon Technical Team completes "Preseason Report III Analysis of Council Adopted Regulatory Measures for 1996 Ocean Salmon Fisheries."

May 1, 1997: Federal regulations implemented and preseason report III available for distribution to the public.

Special Accommodations

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

Dated: February 26, 1997.
Bruce Morehead,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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[I.D. 022797B]

Marine Mammals; Permit No. 968 (P557D)

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

ACTION: Scientific research permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that a request for amendment of scientific