

Dated: April 1, 1997.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 97-8741 Filed 4-4-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 033197E]

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene public meetings of the Red Snapper Advisory Panel (AP) and Standing and Special Reef Fish Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC).

DATES: The meetings are scheduled as follows: Red Snapper AP will meet on April 28, 1997, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Standing and Special Reef Fish SSC will meet on April 29, 1997, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the New Orleans Airport Radisson Hotel, 2150 Veterans Boulevard, Kenner, LA 70062; telephone: 504-467-3111.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Atran, Population Dynamics Statistician; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Red Snapper AP will review draft Reef Fish Amendment 15 which contains: proposals for a red snapper commercial license limitation system; limits on harvest of reef fish from crustacean traps; a vermilion snapper minimum size limit increase; removal of sea bass, grunts, and porgies from Federal management; and removal of several reef fish species from the aggregate bag limit rule. The Red Snapper AP may also provide recommendations to the Council, and the AP will also hear a presentation on marine reserves from NMFS.

The SSC will also review draft Reef Fish Amendment 15 and provide recommendations on the scientific merits of the alternatives contained within.

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 April 21, 1997.

Dated: April 1, 1997.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 040197A]

Marine Mammals; Scientific Research Permits (PHF#s 779_1339 and 849_1341)

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

ACTION: Receipt of applications.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the following applicants, have applied in due form for a permit to take and/or import marine mammals for purposes of scientific research.

The Southeast Fisheries Science Center, NMFS (PHF#779_1339), 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, FL 33149; and

The University of Oklahoma, Department of Zoology, 730 Van Vleet Oval, Norman, OK 73019-0235.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before May 7, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The applications and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813-570-5301).

Written data or views, or requests for a public hearing on these requests, should be submitted to the Director, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the applications to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permits are requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR 222.23).

Southeast Fisheries Science Center (PHF# 779-1339) requests a permit to (1) harass all species of cetaceans for the purpose of estimating abundance, collecting behavioral data, photography and biopsy sampling, and (2) collect and import biopsy tissue samples taken with a projectile dart. Activities will occur in the North Atlantic Ocean including the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, U.S. territorial seas and international waters.

University of Oklahoma, Department of Zoology (PHF# 849-1341) requests authority to import two skeletal remains of the South American dolphin (*Sotalia fluviatilis*) from Managua, Nicaragua for deposit at the Oklahoma Museum of Natural History for use in scientific research projects. The axial skeletons and skulls were found on the beach and are being held by the Nicaraguan Government pending receipt of appropriate permits.

Dated: April 1, 1997.

Ann D. Terbush,

Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 10:00 a.m., Thursday, April 24, 1997.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C. Lobby Level Hearing Room.

STATUS: Open.