

meeting. However, proposed items that may be discussed by the GMT in preparation for the Council's November meeting include development of final acceptable biological catch and harvest guideline recommendations for 1998, review and analysis of proposed management options for 1998, inseason catch projections for the remainder of 1997, and preparation of fishery management plan amendments, the Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation document, and the Draft Environmental Assessment for Proposed Harvest Levels.

Although other issues may come before the GMT for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal GMT action during this meeting. GMT action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is 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: September 8, 1997.

Gary C. Matlock,

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

[FR Doc. 97-24230 Filed 9-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 090597C]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of its Bottomfish Task Force.

DATES: The meeting will be held on October 2, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Council office, Conference Room, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

Council address: Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164

Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Bottomfish Task Force will review a draft amendment for the Mau Zone bottomfish fishery limited entry program in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. The Task Force will also discuss new entry criteria for the limited entry program and consider other business as needed.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Task Force for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Task Force action during this meeting. Task Force action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed in this notice.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, 808-522-8220 (voice) or 808-522-8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to meeting date.

Dated: September 5, 1997.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 97-24204 Filed 9-11-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 090497B]

Marine Mammals; Permit No. 837 (File No. P771#67)

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

ACTION: Receipt of application for amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the National Marine Mammal Laboratory, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NMFS, NOAA, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, BIN C15700, Seattle, Washington 98115, has requested an amendment to permit no. 837.

DATES: Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before October 14, 1997.

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

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

Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 (907) 586-7221.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this request should be submitted to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, 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 amendment request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301) 713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by email or other electronic media. Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject amendment to permit no. 837, issued on June 4, 1993 (58 FR 33085) is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (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 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR 222.23), and the Fur Seal Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1151 *et seq.*).

Permit no. 837 authorizes the permit holder to: harass up to 222,720 northern fur seals (*Callorhinus ursinus*) and 3500 California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*) while conducting ground surveys; capture, restrain, shear-mark, sample and handle up to 30,000+ northern fur seals over a 5-year period; and collect parts from dead animals. The permit holder now requests authorization to collect biopsies from 60 additional female northern fur seals, (30 seals on St. Paul, 30 seals on St. George). The permittee is currently authorized to