

(b) Falsify information on an application for a permit, license, or endorsement or submitted in support of such application, as specified in § 622.4(b), (g), or (p) or § 622.17.

(c) Fail to display a permit, license, or endorsement, as specified in § 622.4(i) or § 622.17(g).

* * * * *

4. In § 622.34, a sentence is added at the end of paragraph (g)(1) and paragraph (l) is revised to read as follows:

§ 622.34 Gulf EEZ seasonal and/or area closures.

* * * * *

(g) * * *

(1) * * * The provisions of this paragraph (g)(1) do not apply to the following species: dwarf sand perch, hogfish, queen triggerfish, and sand perch.

* * * * *

(l) *Closures of the commercial fishery for red snapper.* The commercial fishery for red snapper in or from the Gulf EEZ is closed from January 1 to noon on February 1 and thereafter from noon on the 15th of each month to noon on the first of each succeeding month. All times are local times. During these closed periods, the possession of red snapper in or from the Gulf EEZ and in the Gulf on board a vessel for which a commercial permit for Gulf reef fish has been issued, as required under § 622.4(a)(2)(v), without regard to where such red snapper were harvested, is limited to the bag and possession limits, as specified in § 622.39(b)(1)(iii) and (b)(2), respectively, and such red snapper are subject to the prohibition on sale or purchase of red snapper possessed under the bag limit, as specified in § 622.45(c)(1).

5. In § 622.36, the introductory text and paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) are redesignated as paragraph (b) introductory text and paragraphs (b)(1), (b)(2), and (b)(3), respectively, and paragraph (a) is added to read as follows:

§ 622.36 Seasonal harvest limitations.

(a) During March, April, and May, each year, the possession of greater amberjack in or from the Gulf EEZ and in the Gulf on board a vessel for which a commercial permit for Gulf reef fish has been issued, as required under § 622.4(a)(2)(v), without regard to where such greater amberjack were harvested, is limited to the bag and possession limits, as specified in § 622.39(b)(1)(i) and (b)(2), respectively, and such greater amberjack are subject to the prohibition on sale or purchase of greater amberjack

possessed under the bag limit, as specified in § 622.45(c)(1).

* * * * *

6. In § 622.39, paragraph (a)(2) introductory text is republished, paragraph (a)(2)(iv) is added, and paragraph (b)(1)(v) is revised to read as follows:

§ 622.39 Bag and possession limits.

(a) * * *

(2) Paragraph (a)(1) of this section notwithstanding, bag and possession limits also apply for Gulf reef fish in or from the EEZ to a person aboard a vessel that has on board a commercial permit for Gulf reef fish—

* * * * *

(iv) When the vessel has on board or is tending any trap other than a fish trap authorized under § 622.40(a)(2), a stone crab trap, or a spiny lobster trap.

(b) * * *

(1) * * *

(v) Gulf reef fish, combined, excluding those specified in paragraphs (b)(1)(i) through (iv) of this section and excluding dwarf sand perch, hogfish, queen triggerfish, and sand perch—20.

* * * * *

7. In § 622.42, paragraph (a)(1)(i) is revised to read as follows:

§ 622.42 Quotas.

(a) * * *

(1) * * *

(i) Red snapper—4.65 million lb (2.11 million kg), round weight, apportioned as follows:

(A) 3.06 million lb (1.39 million kg) available at noon on February 1 each year, subject to the closure provisions of §§ 622.34(l) and 622.43(a)(1)(i).

(B) The remainder available at noon on September 1 each year, subject to the closure provisions of §§ 622.34(l) and 622.43(a)(1)(i).

* * * * *

8. In § 622.44, paragraph (e) is revised to read as follows:

§ 622.44 Commercial trip limits.

* * * * *

(e) *Gulf red snapper.* (1) The trip limit for red snapper in or from the Gulf for a vessel that has on board a valid commercial permit for Gulf reef fish and a valid Class 1 red snapper license is 2,000 lb (907 kg), round or eviscerated weight.

(2) The trip limit for red snapper in or from the Gulf for a vessel that has on board a valid commercial permit for Gulf reef fish and a valid Class 2 red snapper license is 200 lb (91 kg), round or eviscerated weight.

(3) The trip limit for red snapper in or from the Gulf for any other vessel for

which a commercial permit for Gulf reef fish has been issued is zero.

(4) As a condition of a commercial vessel permit for Gulf reef fish, as required under § 622.4(a)(2)(v), without regard to where red snapper are harvested or possessed, a vessel that has been issued such permit—

(i) May not possess red snapper in or from the Gulf in excess of the appropriate vessel trip limit, as specified in paragraphs (e)(1) through (3) of this section.

(ii) May not transfer or receive at sea red snapper in or from the Gulf.

* * * * *

Appendix A to Part 622 [Amended]

9. In Table 3 of appendix A to part 622, the family Haemulidae—Grunts and the three species and scientific names thereunder are removed; under the family Serranidae, the species Bank sea bass, Rock sea bass, and Black sea bass and their scientific names are removed and the family name “Serranidae—Sea Basses and Groupers” is revised to read “Serranidae—Groupers”; and the family Sparidae—Porgies and the six species and scientific names thereunder are removed.

[FR Doc. 97–28166 Filed 10–22–97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[I.D. 101497F]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a 2-day public meeting to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 5, 1997, at 10 a.m., and on Thursday, November 6, 1997, at 8:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring Street, Portland, ME; telephone (207) 775–2311. Requests for special accommodations should be addressed to the New England Fishery Management

Council, 5 Broadway, Saugus, MA 01906-1097; telephone: (781) 231-0422.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council (781) 231-0422.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Wednesday, November 5, 1997

After introductions, the Council meeting will begin with a presentation on a Council plan to address Sustainable Fisheries Act requirements and the 13 overfished stocks recently identified in the NMFS report entitled "Status of Fisheries of the United States." The Habitat Committee will review its discussions about the Council's essential fish habitat (EFH) amendment process and habitat requirements for fishery management plans (FMPs). Following a mid-day break, the Whiting Committee will provide an update on progress to develop a whiting amendment to the Northeast Multispecies FMP and, if necessary, will seek approval of this ongoing process. The Groundfish Committee will recommend initial action on a framework adjustment to the Northeast Multispecies FMP to establish an exempted gillnet fishery for dogfish in the area of Nantucket Shoals and waters east of Cape Cod. The Groundfish Committee will also recommend initial action on a second framework adjustment to shorten the duration of the Cultivator Shoal and Small Mesh Area 2 exempted fisheries. There will be a discussion and possible action on other items including (a) options for regulating trawl ground gear, particularly "street sweepers"; (b) a strategy to address overfished groundfish stocks listed in the above-mentioned NMFS report; (c) options to allow scalloping in groundfish closed areas; and (d) halibut management. The Mid-Atlantic Plans Committee will review its recommendations to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council concerning the management of mahogany quahogs in the Gulf of Maine. The Chairman of the Council's Lobster Committee will discuss the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC's) response to the Council about options for meeting the Federal mandate to develop a plan to end overfishing and to rebuild the lobster resource. There may be a decision on future Council involvement, including consideration of ASMFC's revised draft plan and possible Council development of a new amendment by October 1998.

Thursday, November 6, 1997

The Council may consider and approve monkfish management measures for inclusion in Amendment 9 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP. There may also be a request to the Secretary of Commerce to implement interim management measures for the monkfish fishery. The Sea Scallop Committee will provide an update on the Amendment 7 (consolidation of days-at-sea and closed area management) public hearings. There will be a presentation on the results of the 1997 NMFS sea scallop survey followed by possible action to adjust days-at-sea allocations for 1998. The Council will review and approve objectives and discuss potential management alternatives for the Herring Fishery Management Plan. After the mid-day break, NMFS staff will report on an experiment to evaluate vessel-monitoring system effectiveness. The Professional Standards and Practices Committee will recommend Council approval of standards for participation in experimental and exempted fisheries and mechanisms to establish an industry-funded fisheries observer program. The Enforcement Committee Report will include recommendations on the implementation and the use of vessel monitoring systems. Following this discussion, there will be reports from the Council Chairman, Executive Director, NMFS Regional Administrator, Northeast Fisheries Science Center and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council liaisons, and representatives of the Coast Guard and the ASMFC. The meeting will adjourn after the conclusion of any other outstanding business.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically 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 Paul J. Howard (see ADDRESSES) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: October 16, 1997.

Bruce Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 97-27967 Filed 10-22-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 660

[I.D. 100397C]

Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Public Hearings

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

ACTION: Notice of public hearings.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a series of public hearings on a proposed Amendment 13 to its Fishery Management Plan for Commercial and Recreational Salmon Fisheries Off the Coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California (FMP). The amendment proposes alternative management objectives for Oregon coastal natural coho.

DATES: The Council will hold hearings on Monday, October 27, 1997 at 7 p.m. and Tuesday, October 28, 1997 at 7 p.m. and will consider the amendment during its meeting Tuesday, November 4, 1997. Written comments must be received by the Council no later than noon, October 29, 1997, to assure time for processing and distribution before final consideration of the amendment by the Council.

ADDRESSES: The Monday, October 27 hearing will be held at the Red Lion Inn, Pacific Room, 400 Industry, Astoria, OR; telephone (503) 325-7373. The Tuesday, October 28 hearing will be held at the Pony Village Motor Inn, Ballroom, Virginia Avenue, North Bend, OR; telephone (541) 756-3191. The Council will meet Tuesday, November 4 at the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel, 8235 NE Airport Way, Portland, OR. Send written comments to: Mr. Lawrence D. Six, Executive Director, Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Coon, Salmon Fishery Management Coordinator, Pacific Fishery Management Council, at (503) 326-6352.