

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 122297G]

Magnuson Act Provisions; Essential Fish Habitat; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: NMFS is convening a meeting of the west coast salmon essential fish habitat (EFH) technical team to review EFH descriptions for salmon and adverse affects on salmon EFH. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The EFH technical team meeting is on February 10, 1998, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be at the Park Plaza International Hotel - San Francisco, 1177 Airport Blvd., Burlingame, CA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joe Scordino, NMFS, 206-526-6143.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS is in the process of developing recommendations on EFH for west coast salmon in accordance with recent amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. EFH recommendations to be presented to the Pacific Fishery Management Council for an amendment to the salmon fishery management plan include a description of EFH for coho salmon, chinook salmon, pink salmon and sockeye salmon; a description of adverse effects to EFH, including fishing and non-fishing threats; and a description of measures to ensure the conservation and enhancement of EFH.

NMFS has formed a technical team consisting of industry, state, tribal, university, and Federal individuals to provide technical input and advice on the development of the NMFS recommendations. The technical team met once before in November to review draft EFH documents. The February 10 EFH salmon technical team meeting will be open to the public and the public will have an opportunity to comment. EFH documents will be available at the meeting. EFH background material can also be found on the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission website at www.psmfc.org/efh.html.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other

auxiliary aids should be requested at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

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

Dated: January 5, 1998.

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. 122297H]

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Essential Fish Habitat; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: NMFS is convening a meeting of the Pacific coast groundfish essential fish habitat (EFH) technical team to review EFH descriptions for groundfish and adverse effects on groundfish EFH. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The technical team meeting is on January 30, 1998, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Pacific Fishery Management Council offices, 2130 SW Fifth Ave., Suite 224, Portland, OR.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Yvonne deReynier, NMFS, 206-526-6120.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS is in the process of developing recommendations on EFH for Pacific coast groundfish in accordance with recent amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. EFH recommendations to be presented to the Pacific Fishery Management Council for an amendment to the Pacific Coast groundfish fishery management plan (FMP) include a description of EFH for groundfish species managed by the FMP; a description of adverse effects to EFH, including fishing and non-fishing threats; and a description of measures to ensure the conservation and enhancement of EFH.

NMFS has formed a technical team consisting of individuals from fishing industry, environmental, state, tribal, and Federal interests and agencies to provide technical input and advice on

the development of the NMFS recommendations. The technical team will meet on January 30 and in early March to review draft EFH documents as they are prepared. The first meeting of the technical team is scheduled for January 30, 1997, and will focus on the description of EFH. The meetings will be open to the public, and the public will have an opportunity to comment. EFH documents will be available at the meeting.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be requested at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

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

Dated: January 5, 1998.

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. 010698B]

Mid-Atlantic 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 Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council and its Committee Chairmen; Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Committee; Habitat Committee and Coastal Migratory Committee, together with Habitat Advisors and the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC); Executive Committee; Large Pelagics Committee; and Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Committee will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meetings will be held on Tuesday, January 27, 1998 through Thursday, January 29, 1998. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: These meetings will be held at the Sheraton Atlantic City West, 6821 Black Horse Pike, Atlantic City West, NJ 08234, telephone: 1-800-782-9237.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 300 S. New