

Commissioner, with a copy to Catherine Corson (see ADDRESSES). All persons wishing to be considered for the U.S. Commissioner's recommendation to the Department of State concerning the composition of the delegation should ensure that nominations are received by this date. Prospective Congressional advisers to the Delegation should contact the Department of State directly.

April 23, 1998: 2:00 p.m., Room 1863, Herbert C. Hoover Building, Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution, Washington, DC: Tentative Interagency Committee meeting to review recent events relating to the IWC and to review U.S. positions for the 1998 IWC annual meeting.

April 27 to May 9, 1998 (Oman): IWC Scientific Committee Meeting.

May 11 to 20, 1998 (Oman): IWC 50th Annual Meeting.

Special Accommodations

Department of Commerce meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Catherine Corson at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: February 17, 1998.

Patricia Montanio,

Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 98-4364 Filed 2-17-98; 3:44 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 021398A]

Western Pacific 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 Western Pacific Fishery Council (Council) will hold meetings of its Bottomfish and Crustaceans Plan Teams in Honolulu, HI.

DATES: The Bottomfish Plan Team (BPT) meeting will be held on March 11-13, 1998, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., each day. The Crustaceans Plan Team (CPT) meeting will be held on March 17-19, 1998, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., each day.

ADDRESSES: Both meetings will be held at the Council office conference room, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BPT will discuss and may make recommendations to the Council on a draft comprehensive amendment to implement new Sustainable Fishery Act (SFA) requirements (bycatch, fishing sectors, fishing communities, overfishing, essential fish habitat); a draft amendment with management options to restore overfished Main Hawaiian Island (MHI) onaga and ehu, or address the situation in other ways; and draft island-area modules for the 1997 bottomfish annual report. Other agenda items that the BPT will discuss and may take action on include:

1. State and Federal research on MHI overfished bottomfish;
2. Possible addition of generic level management unit species to the fishery management plan;
3. Improvements to annual report modules, including reconsideration of geographic reporting of overfishing indicator;
4. Update on the status of the draft amendment for the limited access program for the Mau Zone in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI); and
5. Other business as required.

The CPT will discuss and make recommendations to the Council on a draft comprehensive amendment to implement new SFA requirements (bycatch, fishing sectors, fishing communities, overfishing, essential fish habitat); the draft 1997 NWHI lobster annual report; and the addition of new areas (Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and U.S. Possessions) to Permit Area 3.

Other agenda items that the CPT will discuss and may take action on include:

1. Research and data collection plans for 1998;
2. Determination of the 1998 harvest guideline, including estimation of exploitable population size and establishment of separate bank quotas;
3. Status of framework regulatory changes: Vessel Monitoring System vessel transit of 50 mile closed area, announce harvest guideline 28 February, add May to closed season for MHI Federal waters; and
4. Other business as required.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before these Teams for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. 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: February 13, 1998.

Gary C. Matlock,

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

[FR Doc. 98-4365 Filed 2-19-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 021298A]

Marine Mammals

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Christopher W. Clark, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14850, has been issued an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 875-1401.

ADDRESSES: The amendment 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 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Director, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (562/980-4001).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeannie Drevenak, 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 23, 1997, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 61093) that an amendment of Permit No. 875-1401, issued September 8, 1997 (62 FR 48611) had been requested by the above-name individual. The requested amendment has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the provisions of § 216.39 of 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 provisions of § 222.25 of the