

(8) Demonstrate that any cooperative development activity is consistent with positive environmental stewardship.

Fiscal Year 1998 Preapplication Submission

Preapplications must include a clear statement of the goals and objectives of the project and a plan which describes the proposed project as required by the statute and 7 CFR part 4284, subpart F. Each preapplication received in the State Office will be reviewed to determine if the preapplication is consistent with the eligible purposes outlined in 7 CFR part 4284, subpart F. Preapplications without supportive data to address selection criteria will not be considered. Copies of 7 CFR part 4284, subpart F, will be provided to any interested applicant by making a request to the Rural Development State Office or RBS National Office.

Preapplications must be completed and submitted to the State Rural Development Office as soon as possible, but no later than June 15, 1998. Preapplications received after June 15 will not be considered.

For ease of locating information, each preapplication must contain a detailed Table of Contents containing page numbers for each component of the preapplication. The preapplication must also contain a project summary of 250 words or less on a separate page. This page must include the title of the project and the names of the primary project contacts and the applicant organization, followed by the summary. The summary should be self-contained and should describe the overall goals, relevance of the project, and a listing of all organizations involved in the project. The project summary should immediately follow the Table of Contents.

The National Office will score applicants based on the grant selection criteria contained in 7 CFR part 4284, subpart F, and will select awardees subject to the availability of funds and the awardee's satisfactory submission of a formal application and related materials in accordance with subpart F. Entities submitting preapplications that are selected for award will be invited by the State Office to submit a formal application prior to September 1. It is anticipated that grant awardees will be selected by September 1, 1998.

Dated: April 16, 1998.

Dayton Watkins,

Administrator, Rural Business-Cooperative Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041698A]

Notice of Workshop

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that NMFS will sponsor a workshop for the members of its Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Advisory Panels and of the National Research Council (NRC) Committee to Study IFQs. The workshop will be held in Boston, Massachusetts and will be open for public observation.

DATES: The workshop will begin at 8:30 a.m. on May 5, 1998, and will end at 2 p.m. on May 6, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The workshop will be held at the Harborside Hyatt Conference Center and Hotel, 101 Harborside Drive, Boston, MA; telephone: 800-233-1234.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amy Gautam, NMFS, Office of Science and Technology; telephone: (301) 713-2328.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), Congress required the NRC to provide a report with recommendations on a national policy for implementing IFQs by October 1, 1998. The Magnuson-Stevens Act also required the formation of NMFS Advisory Panels to provide support to the NRC committee and to NMFS in their respective roles of preparing and evaluating the IFQ study. The workshop is intended to continue the dialogue between IFQ Advisory Panel and NRC committee members related to key questions the NRC has developed. Issues discussed will include initial allocation criteria, restrictions on transferability of quota shares, enforcement and monitoring requirements, and long-term implications of implementing IFQs relative to other management regimes. Members of the public are invited to observe the proceedings, but will not be allowed to participate.

Dated: April 20, 1998.

Lamarr B. Trott,

Acting Director, Office of Science and Technology, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041798D]

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 Council (Council) will hold its 96th meeting in Honolulu, HI.

DATES: The full Council (some members by conference call) will meet on May 8, 1998, from 12:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Honolulu time.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Council Office Conference Room, 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: At the May 8 meeting, the Council will consider two regulatory amendments:

1. Fishing bank/area-specific harvest guidelines for the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands lobster fishery (this will be the second meeting under the Crustaceans Fishery Management Plan framework procedure for a new measure [final action]); and

2. Prohibition of the taking of pelagic management unit species by domestic or foreign fishing vessels longer than 50 feet (length overall) from waters within 100 nautical miles of the islands of American Samoa.

Summary of Issue

1. Lobster bank/area guidelines: Using the Amendment 7 and 9 formula for determining the harvest guideline, the Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, has determined that the total 1998 guideline for the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands fishery is 286,000 lobsters. At its November 1997 meeting, the Council requested NMFS to investigate bank or area specific guidelines for review by its advisory bodies. At its April 1998 meeting, the Council concurred with the recommendations of its advisory bodies (that met in March 1998) to limit the harvest of lobsters at specific banks/areas as follows: Maro Reef no more