

Reisenweber at (301) 713-2363 at least 10 business days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 20, 1998.

Gary C. Matlock,

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

[FR Doc. 98-22812 Filed 8-20-98; 4:05 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 081098C]

Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene a public meeting of an Ad Hoc Technical Review Panel (Panel).

DATES: This meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 2, 1998 and conclude by 3:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 333 Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne E. Swingle, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The panel, consisting of Council members with technical backgrounds, will review analyses on the effectiveness of shrimp trawl bycatch reduction devices (BRDs) in reducing the number of juvenile red snapper taken as bycatch. NMFS will complete their analyses based on an ongoing observer program (63 FR 27485, May 19, 1998) that is collecting data on the effectiveness of the BRDs being used in trawls on commercial shrimp vessels in the Gulf.

NMFS will use the data collected to determine if all or a portion of an additional 3.12 million pounds (MP) of red snapper will be allocated to recreational and commercial fishermen in September. That action is based on an interim rule (63 FR 18144, April 14, 1998) implemented by NMFS whereby the 3.12 MP allocation was withheld contingent upon the BRDs reducing the bycatch of juvenile red snapper by 60 percent. Ten percent of the allocation will be released for each percent of

bycatch reduction over 50 percent, as determined by the observer program.

Copies of the agenda can be obtained by calling 813-228-2815.

Although other issues not on the agenda may come before the Panel for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed as available by 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 Anne Alford at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) by August 26, 1998.

Dated: August 17, 1998.

Gary C. Matlock,

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

[FR Doc. 98-22811 Filed 8-20-98; 4:05 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D.081798A]

Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of meetings of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee (MAFAC) from September 23-25, 1998.

DATES: The meetings are scheduled as follows:

1. September 23, 1998, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
2. September 24, 1998, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
3. September 25, 1998, 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center, 2700 Turf Valley Road, Ellicott City, MD. Requests for special accommodations may be directed to MAFAC, Office of Operations, Management and Information, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Elizabeth Lu Cano, Executive Secretary; telephone: (301) 713-2252.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As required by section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1982), notice is hereby given of meetings of MAFAC and MAFAC Subcommittees. MAFAC was established by the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) on February 17, 1971, to advise the Secretary on all living marine resource matters that are the responsibility of the Department of Commerce. This Committee ensures that the living marine resource policies and programs of the Nation are adequate to meet the needs of commercial and recreational fisheries, and of environmental, state, consumer, academic, and other national interests.

Matters to be Considered

September 23, 1998 Vision and mission of fisheries into the next millennium

Role of the Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee for the future

September 24, 1998

Strategic plan for fisheries for the next 5 years

Priority program areas and budgetary issues for fisheries

Summary and recommendations for final report

September 25, 1998

Budget, Legislative and Steering Committee Reports

Report and discussion on the status of the Oceans Act, Vessels, NOAA Corps, and Personnel Changes

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to MAFAC (see **ADDRESSES**).

Dated: August 19, 1998.

Andrew A. Rosenberg,

Deputy Assistant Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 98-22776 Filed 8-24-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 072498A]

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 the Southwest Fisheries Science Center,