

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

[I.D. 092599G]

**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 the Socioeconomic Panel (SEP).

**DATES:** A meeting of the SEP will be held beginning at 8:30 a.m. and concluding at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 14, and Friday October 15, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Tampa Airport Hilton Hotel, 2225 Lois Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33607; telephone 813-877-6688.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Antonio B. Lamberte, Economist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, Florida 33619; telephone 813-228-2815.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The SEP will convene to review available social and economic data on red snapper and red grouper, and to determine the social and economic implications of the levels of acceptable biological catches that may be recommended by the Council's Reef Fish Stock Assessment Panel. The SEP may recommend to the Council a total allowable catch for fishing year 2000.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before the SEP for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal SEP action during this meeting. Panel action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice.

A copy of the agenda can be obtained by contacting the Gulf Council (SEE ADDRESSES).

**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 October 7, 1999.

Dated: September 28, 1999.

**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. 092899C]

**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 Dolphin/Wahoo Committee, Executive Committee, New England Jurisdictional Committee, Habitat Committee, Comprehensive Management Committee, Law Enforcement Committee, and Squid-Mackerel-Butterfish Committee will hold public meetings.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 1999, to Thursday, October 14, 1999. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

**ADDRESSES:** This meeting will be held at the Ramada Inn, 1701 South Virginia Dare Trail, Kill Devil Hills, NC; telephone: 800-635-1824.

*Council address:* Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 300 S. New Street, Dover, DE 19904, telephone 302-674-2331.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: 302-674-2331, ext. 19.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999, from 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.—the Dolphin/Wahoo Committee will meet.*

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999, from 10:00 a.m.-12 noon—the Executive Committee will meet.*

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999, from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.—the New England Jurisdictional Committee will meet.*

*Tuesday, October 12, 1999, from 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.—the Habitat Committee will meet.*

*Wednesday, October 13, 1999, from 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.—the Comprehensive Management Committee will meet.*

*Wednesday, October 13, 1999, from 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.—the Law Enforcement Committee will also meet.*

*Wednesday, October 13, 1999, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.—Full Council convenes as a Council Committee of the Whole for demersal species with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's (ASMFC) Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Board.*

*Wednesday, October 13, 1999, 3:00 p.m.* there will be a presentation by Admiral John E. Shkor of the United States Coast Guard (USCG) 5th District followed by Council participation in a USCG vessel boarding from 4:00 until 5:30 p.m.

*Thursday, October 14, 1999, 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.—the Squid-Mackerel-Butterfish Committee will meet.*

*Thursday, October 14, 1999, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.—Council will meet to receive various reports and*

*recommendations, and to address, among other things, submission of the Tilefish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Secretarial review.*

Agenda items for this meeting include: Review of the South Atlantic Council's actions regarding the Dolphin/Wahoo FMP; FY1999 budget status review, FY2000 grant application, Standard Operating Policies and Procedures update; recommendation on New England Council's advance notice of proposed rulemaking control date for multispecies and sea scallops, develop recommendation regarding proposed rule to implement Amendment 12 of the NEC's Multispecies Fisheries Management Plan; Hudson River Park Project review, general concurrence on NMFS permits, NMFS Habitat Workshop recap, tilefish essential fish habitat, industry advisors; exempted experimental fishing permit review, field program design approval; Council enforcement recognition program, compliance issues; summer flounder constant harvest, summer flounder conservation equivalency, scup allocations (annual and state-by-state); mackerel limited entry, seasons and real time management for *Illex*, spawning closures and control rule for *Loligo*, quota set asides; receipt of committee reports and other fishery management issues; receive Tilefish Committee report and consider adoption of Tilefish FMP for Secretarial submission.

The Regional Administrator (RA) is considering authorizing exempted experimental fishing activities to reduce scup bycatch in small mesh fisheries in areas of the Mid-Atlantic. Investigations should focus on possible fishing method(s), gear type(s), gear configuration(s), and fishing effort by area and season. Exempted