

sablefish season, chosen by the Administrator, Alaska Region, and the halibut season, chosen by the IPHC. The directed fishing season for sablefish with fixed gear managed under the IFQ program will open 1200 hrs, A.l.t., March 15, 2000, and will close 1200 hrs, A.l.t., November 15, 2000. This period runs concurrently with the IFQ season for Pacific halibut announced by the IPHC. The IFQ halibut season is announced by publication in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: February 22, 2000.

**Bruce C. Morehead,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
[FR Doc. 00-4626 Filed 2-25-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-F**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 021600D]

#### Caribbean 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 Caribbean Fishery Management Council (Council) and its Administrative Committee will hold meetings.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held on March 14-16, 2000. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

**ADDRESSES:** All meetings will be held at the Villa Parguera Hotel, 304 St., Km. 3.3, La Parguera, Lajas, Puerto Rico.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 268 Munoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 1108, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918-2577; telephone: (787) 766-5926.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Council will hold its 100th regular public meeting to discuss the items contained in the following agenda:

#### Conflict of Interest Presentation

#### Essential Fish Habitat

-Side Scan Sonar Work, La Parguera  
-Fishing Gear Impact Study La Parguera

#### Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan (FMP)

-Gear Impact Update

#### Queen Conch FMP

-Option Paper for Amendment Number 1

#### Coastal Pelagics FMP (Wahoo/Dolphin)

-Committees Meetings Report

#### Enforcement

-Federal Government  
-Puerto Rico  
-U.S. Virgin Islands

#### Administrative Committee Recommendations

#### Meetings Attended by Council Members and Staff

#### Other Business

#### Next Council Meeting

The Council will convene on Wednesday, March 15, 2000, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., through Thursday, March 16, 2000, from 9:00 a.m. until noon, approximately.

The Administrative Committee will meet on Tuesday, March 14, 2000, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., to discuss administrative matters regarding Council operation.

The meetings are open to the public, and will be conducted in English. However, simultaneous interpretation (Spanish-English) will be available during the Council meeting (March 15-16, 2000). Fishers and other interested persons are invited to attend and participate with oral or written statements regarding agenda issues.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. For more information or request for sign language interpretation and/or other auxiliary aids, please contact Mr. Miguel A. Rolon, Executive Director, Caribbean Fishery Management Council (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: February 22, 2000.

**Bruce C. Morehead,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
[FR Doc. 00-4625 Filed 2-25-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-F**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 021700C]

#### 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 Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will hold a workshop to study the productivity of West Coast groundfish species and to evaluate the Council's harvest rate (F) policy.

**DATES:** The meeting will begin on Monday, March 20, 2000 at 1 p.m. and end on Friday, March 24, 2000. On Tuesday, March 21, 2000; Wednesday, March 22, 2000; Thursday, March 23, 2000, and Friday, March 24, 2000, the workshop will convene at 8:00 a.m. and will continue until business for the day is completed. An opportunity for public comment will be provided each day at 4 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in building nine (9) at NMFS 7600 Sand Point Way NE., Seattle, WA 98115-0070.

*Council address:* Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dan Waldeck, Fishery Management Analyst; telephone: (503) 326-6352.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the workshop is to review past work on spawning potential per recruit (SPR) harvest rate proxies (e.g.,  $F_{35}$ ); determine their appropriateness with respect to West Coast groundfish stocks; and, if appropriate, recommend changes to existing policies. Based on information presented at the workshop, a panel of scientists will write a report to the Council that summarizes the results of the workshop and makes specific recommendations regarding the formulation of default harvest rate policies for West Coast groundfish.

The workshop will be divided into three phases. During the first half-day