

International Trade Administration
Website at www.ita.doc.gov/icp.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Further inquiries may be directed to Dominic Bianchi, Acting Assisting USTR for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Liaison, Winder Building, Room 100, 600 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20230 or Ingrid V. Mitchem, Acting Director, Industries Consultations Program, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 2015-B, Washington, DC 20230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In section 135 of the 1974 Trade Act, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2155), Congress established a private-sector advisory system to ensure that U.S. trade policy and trade negotiation objectives adequately reflect U.S. commercial and economic interests. Section 135(a)(1) of the 1974 Trade Act directs the President to "seek information and advice from representative elements of the private sector and the non-Federal governmental sector with respect to:

(A) Negotiating objectives and bargaining positions before entering into a trade agreement under [title I of the 1974 Trade Act and section 1102 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988];

(B) The operation of any trade agreement once entered into; including preparation for dispute settlement panel proceedings to which the United States is a party; and

(C) Other matters arising in connection with the development, implementation, and administration of the trade policy of the United States.

* * *

Section 135(c)(2) of the 1974 Trade Act provides:

(2) The President shall establish such sectoral or functional advisory committees as may be appropriate. Such committees shall, insofar as is practicable, be representative of all industry, labor, agricultural, or service interests (including small business interests) in the sector or functional areas concerned. In organizing such committees, the United States Trade Representative and the Secretaries of Commerce, Labor, Agriculture, the Treasury, or other executive departments, as appropriate, shall:

(A) Consult with interested private organizations; and

(B) Take into account such factors as—

(i) Patterns of actual and potential competition between United States industry and agriculture and foreign enterprise in international trade,

(ii) The character of the nontariff barriers and other distortions affecting such competition,

(iii) The necessity for reasonable limits on the number of such advisory committees,

(iv) The necessity that each committee be reasonably limited in size, and

(v) In the case of each sectoral committee, that the product lines covered by each committee be reasonably related.

Pursuant to this provision, Commerce and USTR have established and co-chair seventeen Industry Sector Advisory Committees (ISACs) and four Industry Functional Advisory Committees (IFACs). The Committees' efforts have resulted in strengthening U.S. negotiating positions by enabling the United States to display a united front when it negotiates trade agreements with other nations. Committees meet an average of four times a year in Washington, D.C. Members serve without compensation and are responsible for all expenses incurred in attending Committee meetings. For additional information regarding the functions and membership of these committees, and general qualifications for membership, see 64 FR 10448-10449, March 4, 1999 (Volume 64, Number 42).

Eligibility

Eligibility to serve as an environmental representative on ISAC 10 is limited to U.S. citizens who are not full-time employees of a governmental entity, who represent a "U.S. entity", and who are not registered with the Department of Justice under the Foreign Agents Registration Act. For purposes of the preceding sentence, a "U.S. entity" is an organization incorporated in the United States (or, if unincorporated, having its headquarters in the United States):

(1) That is controlled by U.S. citizens or by another U.S. entity. An entity is not a U.S. entity if more than 50 percent of its Board of Directors or membership is made up of non-U.S. citizens. If the nominee is to represent an organization more than 10 percent of whose Board of Directors or membership is made up of non-U.S. citizens, or non-U.S. entities, the nominee must demonstrate at the time of nomination that this non-U.S. interest does not constitute control and will not adversely affect his or her ability to serve as a trade advisor to the United States; and

(2) at least 50 percent of whose annual revenue is attributable to non-governmental, U.S. sources.

Selection Criteria

USTR and Commerce will select environmental representatives eligible for appointment to ISAC 10 based upon the following:

(1) The organization to be represented will be considered based on environmental interest in trade policies in the sector relevant to the work of the Committee; and

(2) The nominee should demonstrate special interest in and knowledge of the formulation of environmental policies in the sector relevant to the work of the Committee, and the ability to work with governmental officials and industry representatives to reach consensus on complex environmental and trade issues affecting the relevant industry sectors.

(3) Preference will be accorded nominees who also demonstrate knowledge of and familiarity with the relevant industry sectors, as well as with international trade matters, including trade policy development relevant to those sectors.

Environmental representatives, as members of the Committee, will be required to have a security clearance. Members serve without compensation and are responsible for all expenses incurred in attending committee meetings.

Application Procedures

Requests for applications should be sent to the Director of the Industry Consultations Program, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Room 2015-B, Washington, D.C. 20230. This notice is issued under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C., app. 2) and 21 CFR part 14 relating to advisory committees.

Michael J. Copps,

Assistant Secretary for Trade Development.

[FR Doc. 00-25566 Filed 10-4-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 100200A]

New England 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 New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is

scheduling public meetings of its Groundfish Committee, Monkfish Advisory Panel and Research Steering Committee in October 2000, to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The meetings will be held between Tuesday, October 24, 2000, and Thursday, October 26, 2000. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held in Danvers, MA; Wakefield, MA; and Warwick, RI. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific locations.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950; (978) 465-0492.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council (978)465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Dates, Locations, and Agendas

Tuesday, October 24, 2000, 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday, October 25, 2000, 8:30 a.m.—Groundfish Oversight Committee Meeting

Location: Sheraton Ferncroft, 50 Ferncroft Road, Danvers, MA 01923; telephone: (978) 777-2500.

The Groundfish Oversight Committee will continue its development of management alternatives for Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan. The Committee will consider comments from its Advisory Panel on the area management and sector allocation proposals and may make changes to those proposals based on the comments received. They will finalize recommendations for rebuilding plans for overfished stocks, measures to address capacity in the groundfish fishery, and recommendations for closed areas. In addition, the Committee will refine its proposals for a revised status quo, area management, and sector allocation alternatives. They will review access by other fisheries or gears to closed areas and may develop recommendations for changes to those vessels and gears that are currently allowed access to closed areas. They will also develop priorities for cooperative research proposals that will be forwarded to the Research Steering Committee. The Committee will meet in a closed session to review advisory panel applications.

Thursday, October 26, 2000, 9:30 a.m.—Monkfish Advisory Panel Meeting

Location: Radisson Airport Hotel, 2081 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886; telephone: (401)739-3000.

The Panel will discuss monkfish trip limit options to address perceived inequities across fleet sectors and develop recommendations to the Monkfish Committee. It will also develop a statement of purpose and a range of alternatives for monkfish spawning area/time management, and will discuss possible options for bycatch control and minimizing discards of monkfish in small mesh fisheries.

Thursday, October 26, 2000, 9:30 a.m.—Research Steering Committee Meeting

Location: Sheraton Colonial, One Audubon Road, Wakefield, MA 01880; telephone: (781) 245-9300.

The Research Committee will discuss priorities for funding regional research projects in 2001.

Recommendations from these groups will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate. 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. Council 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. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least five days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: October 2, 2000.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service. [FR Doc. 00-25648 Filed 10-4-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE: 3510-22 -S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D.092800D]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Issuance of scientific research permit (1253) and a modification to a scientific research permit (1190).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of scientific research and/or enhancement: NMFS has issued permits to: Carlos Diez and Robert Van Dam, Puerto Rico DNR (PR-DNR) (1253); and NMFS has issued modifications to scientific research permits to: NMFS-Southwest Region (1190).

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on any of the new applications or modification requests must be received at the appropriate address or fax number no later than 5 p.m. eastern standard time on November 6, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on any of the new applications or modification requests should be sent to the appropriate office as indicated below. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the application or modification request. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet. The applications and related documents are available for review in the indicated office, by appointment:

For permits 1253, 1190: Office of Protected Resources, Endangered Species Division, F/PR3, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (ph: 301-713-1401, fax: 301-713-0376).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Terri Jordan, Silver Spring, MD (ph: 301-713-1401, fax: 301-713-0376, e-mail: Terri.Jordan@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Issuance of permits and permit modifications, as required by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) (ESA), is based on a finding that such permits/modifications: (1) are applied for in good faith; (2) would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species which are the subject of the permits; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and