

Friday, January 12, 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 noon.

**ADDRESSES:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Silver Spring Metro Center III, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 4527, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Ronald C. Baird, Director, National Sea Grant College Program, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 11716, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, (301) 713-2448.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Panel, which consists of a balanced representation from academia, industry, state government and citizens groups, was established in 1976 by Section 209 of the Sea Grant Improvement Act (Pub. L. 94-461, 33 U.S.C. 1128). The Panel advises the Secretary of Commerce and the Director of the National Sea Grant College Program with respect to operations under the Act, and such other matters as the Secretary refers to them for review and advice. The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

*Thursday, January 11, 2001*

8:30 a.m.—Welcoming and Opening Formalities  
 8:45 a.m.—Executive Committee Report  
 9:00 a.m.—State of Sea Grant Presentation  
 9:20 a.m.—Sea Grant Association Presentation  
 10:15 a.m.—Break  
 10:30 a.m.—Sea Grant Review Panel Subcommittee Reports  
 —Science & Technology Task Force Report  
 —Membership Committee Report  
 —Minority Serving Institutions Report  
 11:00 a.m.—National Extension Review Report Presentation  
 12:30 p.m.—Working Lunch  
 2:00 p.m.—Transition/Sea Grant Retreat  
 —NSGO Transition White Paper  
 —Sea Grant Retreat 2000  
 3:30 p.m.—Break  
 3:45 p.m.—Sea Grant Week Update  
 4:00 p.m.—Review of the National Sea Grant Office  
 4:30 p.m.—Pending Panel Business  
 5:15 p.m.—Adjourn

*Friday, January 12, 2001*

8:30 a.m.—Program Evaluation Discussion  
 9:00 a.m.—NOAA and OAR Update  
 9:30 a.m.—Congressional Update  
 10:30 a.m.—Break  
 10:45 a.m.—National Sea Grant Office Update  
 11:45 a.m.—Sea Grant/John A. Knauss Marine Policy Fellow Program

12:15 p.m.—Wrap-up  
 12:30 p.m.—Adjourn

This meeting will be open to the public.

**David L. Evans,**

*Assistant Administrator, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.*

[FR Doc. 00-32447 Filed 12-20-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-KA-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121800A]

#### 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 a public meeting of its Research Steering Committee, Groundfish Oversight Committee and Scallop Oversight Committee Meeting in January 2001 to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from these groups will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held between Wednesday, January 10, 2001, and Monday, January 22, 2001. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

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

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

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

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **Meeting Dates, Locations and Agendas**

Wednesday, January 10, 2001, at 9:30 a.m. and Thursday, January 11, 2001, at 8:30 a.m.—Research Steering Committee Meeting

Location: Holiday Inn Peabody, One Newbury Street, Route 1, Peabody, MA 01960; telephone: (978) 535-4600.

Finalize priorities for Council review and for subsequent use in soliciting

fisheries research proposals in 2001. Review draft Request for Proposals to be used for fisheries research proposal solicitation.

Wednesday, January 17, 2001, at 9:30 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 recommendations for management alternatives for Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan. This will include recommendations on rebuilding programs, measures to address capacity issues, and the four broad approaches to management that are under consideration (status quo, adjustments to the status quo, area management, and sector allocation). The Committee may also discuss changes to existing closed areas and measures to minimize, to the extent practicable, impacts on habitat. The Committees' recommendations will be reviewed by the Council at a future date. After approval by the Council, the proposed alternatives will be analyzed and a draft supplemental environmental impact statement and public hearing document prepared.

The Committee will also identify management alternatives for a framework adjustment to reduce discards of Gulf of Maine cod and ensure mortality objectives are met for Gulf of Maine cod. The initial meeting for this framework adjustment will be at the January 23-25 Council meeting. The final meeting will not be scheduled until after receipt of an updated Gulf of Maine cod assessment in summer, 2001.

Monday, January 22, 2001, at 9:30 a.m.—Scallop Oversight Committee Meeting

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

The Committee will discuss new strategies for developing management alternatives for Amendment 10 and develop recommendations for the final action in Framework Adjustment 14. The Committee will meet in a closed session to review advisory panel applications.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, 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

This meeting is 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 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: December 18, 2000.

**Richard W. Surdi,**

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

[FR Doc. 00-32596 Filed 12-20-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE: 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121500B]

#### North Pacific Management Council; Public Meetings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) will conduct public meetings on protection of deep sea corals off coastal Alaska.

**DATES:** The meeting dates are January 10, 2001, 7 p.m., Sitka, AK, and January 12, 2001, 12 noon, Yakutat, AK.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting locations are: Sitka, AK-Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association Office, 1308 Sawmill Creek Road, Sitka, AK.

Yakutat, AK-Alaska Native Brotherhood Hall, 220 Max Italio, Yakutat, AK.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cathy Coon, NPFMC, telephone (907) 271-2809.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** These stakeholder meetings will address Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC) for the protection of deep-sea corals off coastal Alaska. The concept is to develop a comprehensive and iterative approach for future HAPC identification and habitat protection involving researchers, stakeholders, and management agencies. These meetings

are for an informal exchange of information between the public and management agencies.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this notice may come before this Council for discussion, these 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 Helen Allen, telephone (907) 271-2809 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: December 15, 2000.

**Richard W. Surdi**

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

[FR Doc. 00-32474 Filed 12-20-00; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121500F]

#### Endangered Species; Permits

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

**ACTION:** Receipt of request to modify permit 1093 for scientific research.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the following action regarding permits for takes of endangered or threatened species for the purposes of scientific research: the NMFS has received an application for modification of existing permit 1093, in due form, from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), California Cooperative Fishery Research Unit in Arcata, CA.

**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 January 22, 2001.

**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:

Protected Species Division, NMFS, 777 Sonoma Avenue, Room 325, Santa Rosa, CA 95404-6528 (707-575-6053).

Documents may also be reviewed by appointment in the Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dan Logan, Protected Resources Division, Santa Rosa, CA (ph: 707-575-6053, fax: 707-578-3435, e-mail: Dan.Logan@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 policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits. Permits and modifications are issued in accordance with and are subject to the ESA and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Those individuals requesting a hearing on an application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on that application would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the permit action summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

#### Species Covered in This Notice

The following species and evolutionarily significant units (ESUs) are covered in this notice:

##### Fish

Coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*): threatened Southern Oregon/Northern California Coasts.