

designated by the Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary Act (HINMSA) on November 4, 1992 (Subtitle C of Public Law 102-587, the Oceans Act of 1992). On Friday, March 28, 1997, the final regulations were published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 14799), and became effective on June 6, 1997.

At the time of designation, NOAA made a commitment to the State of Hawaii that five years after the management plan and regulations had become effective, NOAA, in consultation with the State of Hawaii, would evaluate the progress made toward implementing the management plan, regulations, and goals for the Sanctuary. NOAA also agreed that after the evaluation was complete, NOAA would then re-submit the management plan and regulations in their entirety, as far as they effect State waters, to the Governor for his approval. The draft revised management plan is the result of the five-year evaluation and will be submitted to the Governor. The draft revised management plan does not propose a regulatory or boundary changes.

The draft revised management plan has been completed and is now available for public review. NOAA will conduct public meetings to gather information and other comments from individuals, organizations, and government agencies on the scope, types, and significance of issues related to the Sanctuary's draft revised management plan. Written comments may also be sent to the address below or via email at hihumpbackwhale@noaa.gov. The public review period will run from March 19 until May 24, 2002. The public meetings are scheduled for May 1–May 9, 2002, and were announced in the **Federal Register** on Tuesday, March 19 (67 FR 12525). Two additional meetings have now been added for May 21 and May 22.

DATES AND ADDRESSES: Written Comments may be sent to the Naomi McIntosh, Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (Management Plan Review), 6700 Kalaniana'ole Highway, Suite 104, Honolulu, Hawaii 96825. Comments will be available for public review at the same address. Written comments should be received on or before May 24, 2002. Public meetings already announced will be held on May 1 on Oahu, May 2 on Maui, May 3 on Kauai, and May 8 and 9 on the Big Island of Hawaii (Kona and Hilo respectively). The two new public meetings will be on May 21 on Lanai and May 22 on Molokai as follows:

(1) Tuesday, May 21, 6 to 9 p.m., Lanai Public Library, Frazier Avenue, Lanai City, Lanai, Hawaii.

(2) Wednesday, May 22, 6 to 9 p.m., Mitchell Pauole Center, 90 Ainoa Street, Kaunakakai, Molokai, Hawaii.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anne Reisewitz, MPR Coordinator, by phone at (808) 397-2651 or via e-mail at Annelore.Reisewitz@noaa.gov.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. Section 1431 et seq., Pub. L. 106-513.

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: April 4, 2002.

Margaret A. Davidson,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Extension of Public Scoping Period for the Proposed Designation of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary

AGENCY: National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On December 4, 2000, Executive Order 13178 established the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, pursuant to the National Marine Sanctuaries Amendments Act of 2000. The Reserve extends approximately 1200 nautical miles long and 100 nautical miles wide. Pursuant to this Act and the Executive Order, NOAA initiated the process to designate the Reserve as a national marine sanctuary by issuing a notice of intent on January 19, 2001 (66 FR 5509). The public scoping period was announced on March 18, 2002 (67 FR 11996), with a closing date of May 3, 2002. In order to provide additional time for the public to provide written comments and to better coincide with the comment period on the Draft Reserve Operations Plan that was released on March 18, 2002 (67 FR 11997), the close of the public scoping meeting is extended to May 17, 2002.

DATES AND ADDRESSES: The public scoping process began on March 18, 2002, and ends on Friday, May 17, 2002. Written comments may be sent to NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve, 6700 Kalaniana'ole Highway, #215, Honolulu,

Hawaii 96825; faxed to (808) 397-2662; or emailed to nwhi@noaa.gov.

Comments will be available for public review at the office address above. Summaries of public comments from initial scoping meetings will be available at hawaiireef.noaa.gov. Scoping meetings will be held in April.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Åulani Wilhelm, (808) 397-2657, nwhi@noaa.gov.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. Section 1431 et seq., Pub. L. 106-513,

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: April 4, 2002.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 040402C]

Coral, Golden Crab, Shrimp, Spiny Lobster, Red Drum, Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources, and Snapper-Grouper Fisheries of the South Atlantic

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

ACTION: Notice of receipt of an application for an exempted fishing permit; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the receipt of an application for an exempted fishing permit (EFP) from Lindsey G. Parker, Captain R/V GEORGIA BULLDOG, on behalf of the University of Georgia's Marine Education Center and Aquarium (MECA). If granted, the EFP would authorize the applicant, with certain conditions, to collect up to 200 juvenile (undersized) individuals in the snapper-grouper and coastal pelagics complex annually. Less than 10 non egg-bearing spiny or slipper lobster would be collected on each cruise. Two cruises will be made annually in Federal waters off Georgia for public display purposes. Specimens will be displayed at MECA, which is located on Skidaway Island, near Savannah, Georgia.

DATES: Comments must be received no later than 5 p.m., eastern standard time, on May 13, 2002.