

Secretaries of Commerce and Interior on implementation of section 4 of Executive Order 13158 on MPAs. While the two-day meeting is open to the public, a one-hour time period has been reserved late in the morning on Wednesday for the Committee to receive verbal comments or questions from the public. In general, each individual or group making a verbal presentation will be limited to a total time of five (5) minutes and written statements submitted either on site or beforehand, if possible.

Matters To Be Considered

On Tuesday, June 24, high-level officials from the Departments of Commerce and the Interior will provide opening remarks, followed by FAC member introductions. Presentations will be made by Commerce Department counsel to orient members regarding Federal Advisory Committee Act requirements and ethical guidelines. In the afternoon, officials from NOAA and the Department of the Interior will present on the background of the Executive Order and an overview of National MPA Center goals and activities. This will be followed by a presentation and discussion of the scope and charge to the Committee.

On Wednesday, June 25, the Committee will elect a chairperson before receiving more detailed presentations to develop the foundation for conducting its work. During the afternoon, the Committee will discuss various administrative and operational matters related to getting organized to fulfill its mission.

Dated: May 14, 2003.

Jamison S. Hawkins,

Acting Assistant Administrator, Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 03-14139 Filed 6-4-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 060203B]

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 Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) in June, 2003 to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, June 19, 2003, at 10 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Logan Airport, 225 McClellan Highway, Boston, MA 02128; telephone: (617) 569-5250.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will provide the Council guidance on developing management reference points for the Atlantic Sea Herring Fishery Management Plan (FMP) in light of the stock assessments presented at the U.S. - Canada Transboundary Resource Assessment Committee in February 2003. The Council will consider the SSC's guidance in the development of Amendment 1 to the Herring FMP.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal 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 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 dates.

Dated: June 2, 2003.

Peter H. Fricke,

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

[FR Doc. 03-14179 Filed 6-4-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 052003B]

Marine Mammals; File No. 1003-1665

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Dr. Jennifer Moss Burns, University of Alaska Anchorage, Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, 3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508, has been issued an amendment to scientific research Permit No. 1003-1665-00.

ADDRESSES: The amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)713-0376; and

Alaska Region, NMFS, PO Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; phone (907)586-7221; fax (907)586-7249.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tammy Adams or Amy Sloan, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 7, 2003, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 16786) that an amendment of Permit No. 1003-1665-00, issued April 12, 2002 (67 FR 19167), had been requested by the above-named individual. The requested amendment has been granted under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The permit was amended to increase the number of takes of harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina richardsi*) in Southeast Alaska by disturbance incidental to capture and surveys from 500 to 2,000 per year.

Dated: May 30, 2003.

Stephen L. Leathery,

Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 03-14175 Filed 6-4-03; 8:45am]

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