

activities of American Commodity Company, LLC;

(d) Establish prices, quantities and terms for sale of rice in export markets;

(e) Solicit orders from potential foreign distributors and purchasers of U.S. rice for delivery to export markets;

(f) Submit offers to potential distributors and purchasers for sale of U.S. rice for delivery to export markets;

(g) Negotiate and enter into agreements for sale of U.S. rice in export markets;

(h) Enter into agreements to purchase U.S. rice from one or more suppliers to fulfill a specific sales commitment, which may be agreements whereby suppliers agree to sell exclusively to American Commodity Company, LLC for delivery in a particular export market or markets and/or whereby American Commodity Company, LLC agrees to purchase exclusively from particular supplier(s) for resale of U.S. rice in a particular export market or markets;

(i) Enter into agreements with one or more export trade intermediaries or purchasers for their purchases of U.S. rice which may be agreements whereby American Commodity Company, LLC agrees to deal exclusively with a given customer and/or by which that customer agrees to deal exclusively with American Commodity Company, LLC and/or agrees not to purchase from competitors of the American Commodity Company, LLC unless authorized by American Commodity Company, LLC to do so;

(j) Allocate sales of U.S. rice and/or distribute export orders among suppliers on any basis American Commodity Company, LLC deems appropriate;

(k) Act as broker and/or operate as sub-contractor to suppliers and possibly taking title to U.S. rice;

(l) Utilize applicable export assistance and incentive programs which are available to American Commodity Company, LLC within the government and trade sectors;

(m) Provide and/or arrange for the provision of Export Trade Facilitation Services;

(n) Use its discretion, in good faith, to purchase rice or provide information regarding export sales of rice to any suppliers or other entities of its choosing, for any reason the American Commodity Company, LLC deems appropriate;

(o) Use its discretion, in good faith, to sell rice, quote prices for rice, provide information regarding rice, or to market or sell rice to any distributors or purchasers of its choosing in export

markets or in any countries or geographic areas in export markets; and

(p) Meet with suppliers or other entities periodically to discuss general matters specific to exporting U.S. rice (not related to price and supply arrangements between applicant and the individual suppliers) such as relevant facts concerning export markets (e.g., demand conditions, transportation costs and prices) or the possibility of joint marketing, selling or bidding arrangements in the export markets.

Definition

“Supplier” means a person who produces, provides or sells a Product.

Dated: September 3, 2003.

Jeffrey C. Anspacher,

Director, Office of Export Trading, Company Affairs.

[FR Doc. 03-22861 Filed 9-8-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Judges Panel of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of partially closed meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, notice is hereby given that the Judges Panel of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award will meet Thursday, September 18, 2003. The Judges Panel is composed of nine members prominent in the field of quality management and appointed by the Secretary of Commerce. The purpose of this meeting is to review the consensus process, select applicants for site visits, determine possible conflict of interest for site visited companies, review feedback to first stage applicants, begin stage III of the judging process, a debriefing on the State and Local Workshop and a program update. The applications under review contain trade secrets and proprietary commercial information submitted to the Government in confidence. All visitors to the National Institute of Standards and Technology site will have to pre-register to be admitted. Anyone wishing to attend this meeting must register 48 hours in advance in order to be admitted. Please submit your name, time of arrival, email address and phone number to Virginia Davis no later than

Monday, September 15, 2003, and she will provide you with instructions for admittance. Ms. Davis' e-mail address is virginia.davis@nist.gov and her phone number is 301/975-2361.

DATES: The meeting will convene September 18, 2003 at 9 a.m. and adjourn at 3 p.m. on September 18, 2003. It is estimated that the closed portion of the meeting will last from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. and the open portion of the meeting will last from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Building 222, Red Training Room, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899. Please note admittance instructions under **SUMMARY** paragraph.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Harry Hertz, Director, National Quality Program, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899, telephone number (301) 975-2361.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Assistant Secretary for Administration, with the concurrence of the General Counsel, formally determined on December 3, 2002, that part of the meeting of the Judges Panel will be closed pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, as amended by section 5(c) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, Public Law 94-409. The meeting, which involves examination of Award applicant data from U.S. companies and a discussion of this data as compared to the Award criteria in order to recommend Award recipients, may be closed to the public in accordance with section 552b(c)(4) of Title 5, United States Code, because the meetings are likely to disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person which is privileged or confidential.

Dated: September 2, 2003.

Arden L. Bement, Jr.,

Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 090303A]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees will hold public meetings.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees will hold public meetings in Anchorage.

DATES: The meetings will be held on October 6 through October 14, 2003. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times. All meetings are open to the public except executive sessions.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Sheraton Hotel, 401 E 6th Avenue, Anchorage, AK.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Council staff, telephone: 907-271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council's Advisory Panel will begin at 8 a.m., Monday, October 6 and continue through Saturday, October 11, 2003. The Scientific and Statistical Committee will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, October 6, and continue through Wednesday, October 11, 2003. The Enforcement Committee will meet Tuesday, October 7, at 6:30 p.m.

The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, October 8 continuing through Wednesday October 14.

Council Plenary Session: The agenda for the Council's plenary session will include the following issues. The Council may take appropriate action on any of the issues identified.

1. Reports
 - (a) Executive Director's Report
 - (b) NMFS Management/Enforcement Reports
 - (c) United States Coast Guard Report
 - (d) Alaska Department Fish & Game Reports
2. Gulf of Alaska Rationalization (GOA): Receive report from Joint Protocol Committee; review discussion paper on GOA crab/salmon bycatch and take action as necessary; review staff discussion paper on alternatives and options, open access fisheries, License Limitation Program transfers and catch history, allocation of community shares, observer issues, and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) alternatives.
3. Community Development Quota (CDQ) Issues: Review proposed appeals process; review discussion paper on eligible CDQ communities.
4. Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)/Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC): Preliminary review of EIS; finalize HAPC process.

5. Improved Retention/Improved Utilization (IR/IU): Receive Committee report and finalize alternatives for Amendment A.

6. Steller Sea Lion (SSL): Receive SSL Mitigation Committee report and discuss next steps.

7. Halibut Subsistence: Discuss subsistence regulations (data collection, sale, gear regulations); finalize action on Ninilchik eligibility; discuss petitions from other communities.

8. Groundfish Management: Discuss Aleutian Island pollock fishery management; receive report on F40 recommendations; receive report from non-target species committee; review preliminary Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) report; set initial groundfish specifications for 2004; take final action on Total Allowable Catch (TAC)-setting process; review discussion paper on repeal of Vessel Incentive Program (VIP).

9. Crab Management: Review Bering Sea Aleutian Island Crab SAFE report; take final action on Pribilof blue king crab rebuilding plan.

10. Staff Tasking: Receive report from Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Implementation and Cost Recovery Committee, and review IFQ proposals received; review tasking and provide direction to staff, and discuss direction to Committees.

11. Other Business.

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, these issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during the meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda 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.

Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC): The SSC agenda will include the following issues:

1. C-3 Essential Fish Habitat
2. C-5 Steller Sea Lion
3. D-1(b-f) Groundfish Management
4. D-2 Crab Management

Advisory Panel: The Advisory Panel will address the same agenda issues as the Council.

Enforcement Committee: The Enforcement Committee will meet during each meeting of the Council to discuss enforcement issues or concerns related to any subject on the Council agenda.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Gail Bendixen at 907-271-2809 at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: September 3, 2003.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 090303C]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Non-Target Species Committee will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on October 9, 2003, at 6 p.m., Ballroom C.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Hotel, 401 East 6th Avenue, Yukon Room, Anchorage, AK.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jane DiCosimo, Council staff, telephone: (907) 271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Non-Target Species Committee will hold an organizational meeting to review technical recommendations on management of non-target groundfish species by the ad hoc working group and to identify appropriate alternative management approaches. The proposed terms of reference for this committee include identification of efficient methods for monitoring non-target catch, improving abundance estimates of non-target species, and development of harvest recommendations that build sustainable populations of non-target species. Another meeting of the committee will be scheduled before the end of 2003.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come