

1305 East-West Highway, 10th Floor, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. When the evaluations are completed, OCRM will place a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing the availability of the Final Evaluation Findings.

Notice is hereby given of the availability of the final evaluation findings for the Delaware, Hawaii, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, and Pennsylvania Coastal Management Programs (CMPs); and the Ace Basin (South Carolina), Delaware (Delaware), and Jobos Bay (Puerto Rico) National Estuarine Research Reserves (NERRs). Sections 312 and 315 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA), as amended, require a continuing review of the performance of coastal states with respect to approval of coastal management programs, and the operation and management of NERRs.

The states of Delaware, Hawaii, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, and Pennsylvania were found to be implementing and enforcing their federally approved coastal management programs, addressing the national coastal management objectives identified in CZMA Section 303(2)(A)–(K), and adhering to the programmatic terms of their financial assistance awards. Delaware and Ace Basin NERRs were found to be adhering to programmatic requirements of the NERR System. Jobos Bay NERR was found to be not fully adhering to the programmatic requirements of the NERR System.

Copies of these final evaluation findings may be obtained upon written request from: Ralph Cantral, Chief, National Policy and Evaluation Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS/NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, 10th Floor, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, or Ralph.Cantral@noaa.gov, (301) 713–3155, extension 118.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ralph Cantral, Chief, National Policy and Evaluation Division, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS/NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, 10th Floor, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, (301) 713–3155, extension 118.

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog 11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program Administration)

Dated: October 16, 2003.

Richard W. Spinrad,

Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.

[FR Doc. 03–26777 Filed 10–22–03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Expansion of the New Hampshire Coastal Management Program Boundary; Availability of an Environmental Assessment and Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability of draft environmental assessment and request for comments.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and proposed Finding of No Significant Impact for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) approval of the State of New Hampshire request to expand its coastal management program boundary. The EA was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.* to assess the environmental impacts associated with the approval and implementation of an expanded coastal boundary for the New Hampshire Coastal Program (NHCP) submitted to NOAA by the State of New Hampshire. Pursuant to Section 306(g) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended (CZMA) and NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM) regulations (15 CFR part 923, subpart H), OCRM is required to approve any amendment, modification, or other change to a State's federally-approved coastal management program. This includes changes in a State's coastal boundary. See 15 CFR part 923, subpart D.

For the purposes of this EA, the proposed action is approval of the proposed expanded NHCP coastal boundary to include the full geographic jurisdiction of the State's 17 coastal municipalities. The NHCP's boundary revision will expand the State's coastal management boundary from its current, narrower delineation by a two-tier geographical system related to distance from coastal waste body features, to encompassing the entire jurisdiction of all coastal municipalities. The practical effect will be to increase the State's ability to review State and federal activities in a larger area of the coast for their consistency with the State's federally-approved coastal policies, and to provide CZMA funds for additional activities in the expanded coastal area.

NOAA finds that the NHCP has met the requirements for submitting an

amendment to OCRM and proposes to approve the program change. Based upon the EA, NOAA proposes to conclude that a Finding of No Significant Impact is appropriate, and therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is unnecessary. The Council on Environmental Quality's regulations to implement NEPA requires agencies to provide public notice of the availability of environmental documents. 40 CFR section 1506.6. This notice is part of NOAA's action to comply with this requirement.

A copy of the Draft EA and proposed Finding of No Significant Impact may be found on the NOAA Web site at

<http://www.ocrm.nos.noaa.gov.czm> or may be obtained upon request from: Helen Farr, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, phone: (301) 713–3155, x150, e-mail: helen.farr@noaa.gov.

DATES: Individuals or organizations wishing to submit comments on the Draft EA or proposed Finding of No Significant Impact should do so by November 24, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be made to: John King, Acting Chief, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, phone: (301) 713–3155, x188, e-mail: john.king@noaa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Helen Farr, Coastal Programs Division (N/ORM3), Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, NOS, NOAA, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, phone: (301) 713–3155, x150, e-mail: helen.farr@noaa.gov. (Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog 11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program Administration)

Richard W. Spinrad,

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

[FR Doc. 03–26783 Filed 10–22–03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 101703A]

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene public meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held November 9 through 12, 2003.

ADDRESSES: These meetings will be held at the Palace Casino Resort, 158 Howard Avenue, Biloxi, MS; telephone: 800-725-2239.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne E. Swingle, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Dates, Times, and Agendas

November 9, 2003

9–10 a.m.--(Partially Closed Session) Convene a joint meeting of the Personnel and Administrative Policy Committees to review past personnel issues.

10–11:30 a.m.--Convene the Administrative Policy Committee to review changes to the Administrative Handbook.

1–5:30 p.m.--Convene the Reef Fish Management Committee to review Secretarial Reef Fish Amendment 1 that contains alternatives for arresting overfishing of red grouper by the commercial and recreational fishermen. They will also review Draft Reef Fish Amendment 22 that contains alternatives for a red snapper rebuilding plan; and a Vermilion Snapper Regulatory Amendment that contains alternatives for arresting overfishing of that stock by commercial and recreational fishermen. Public hearings will be held on both of these amendments in December or January. The Committee will also review the yellowtail snapper assessment and will develop recommendations for consideration by full Council on Tuesday afternoon.

November 10, 2003

8:30–10 a.m.--Reconvene the Reef Fish Management Committee if necessary.

10–12 noon--Convene the Shrimp Management Committee to review Draft Shrimp Amendment 13/Environmental Assessment that includes alternatives for status criteria and benchmarks as well as a revised standardized bycatch reporting methodology: The Shrimp

Committee will also review a Draft Options Paper for Shrimp Amendment 14/Supplemental and Environmental Impact Statement that includes alternatives to improve the bycatch reporting methodology, further reduce bycatch, and for a limited access program and vessel monitoring system.

1:30–2:30 p.m.--Convene the Migratory Species Management Committee to review information on bycatch of sharks in the menhaden fishery.

2:30–4 p.m.--Convene the Habitat Protection Committee to review and revise a Council policy for mariculture developed by the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

4–5:30 p.m.--Convene the Data Collection Committee to hear a report on the Fishery Information System program implemented by the states for collection of fishery statistics from recreational and commercial fishermen. The Committee will also discuss a study proposal to collect some of these statistics, data quality assurance and control measures, and separation of guide boats from charter and headboats in the statistical program.

November 11, 2003

8:30 a.m.--Convene Council.

8:45 a.m.--Appointment of Committee members.

9–9:45 a.m.--Receive a presentation on Coral Research on Middle Grounds.

9:45–12 noon--Receive public testimony on Secretarial Reef Fish Amendment 1.

1:30–3:30 p.m.--Receive the Reef Fish Management Committee report.

3:30–5 p.m.--Receive the Administrative Policy Committee report.

5–5:30 p.m.--(Closed Session) Receive the Personnel Committee report.

November 12, 2003

8:30–8:45 a.m.--Receive the Shrimp Management Committee report.

8:45–9 a.m.--Receive the Habitat Protection Committee report.

9–9:15 a.m.--Receive the Migratory Special Management Committee report.

9:15–9:30 a.m.--Receive the Data Collection Committee report.

9:30–9:45 a.m.--Receive a report of the Council Orientation Session.

9:45–10 a.m.--Receive the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas Advisory Committee report.

10–10:15 a.m.--Receive a report of the NMFS Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel meeting.

10:15–10:30 a.m.--Receive a report of the Texas Shrimp Association Meeting.

10:30–11 a.m.--Receive Enforcement Reports.

11–11:15 a.m.--Receive the NMFS Regional Administrator's Report.

11:15–11:45 a.m.--Receive Director's Reports.

11:45–12 noon--Other Business
Although non-emergency issues not contained in the agenda may come before the Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified 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. A copy of the Committee schedule and agenda can be obtained by calling 813-228-2815.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) by November 3, 2003.

Dated: October 17, 2003.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 03-26801 Filed 10-22-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 100703D]

Marine Mammals; Photography Permit Application No. 997-1704

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

ACTION: Issuance of permit.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Bob McLaughlin, P.O. Box 496, 339 Glenwood, Eastsound, Washington 98245, has been issued a permit to take several species of non-listed marine mammals for purposes of commercial/educational photography.

ADDRESSES: The permit 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,