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Ronald N. Langston,

National Director, Minority Business Development Agency.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 020504C]

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 Groundfish Advisory Panel and its Joint Herring Oversight Committee and Advisory Panel in February and March, 2004 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 on February 25, 2004, and March 1-2, 2004. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held in Portsmouth, NH and Portland, ME. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific locations.

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 (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Dates and Agendas

Wednesday, February 25, 2004, at 9:30 a.m. B Groundfish Advisory Panel Meeting.

Location: Holiday Inn, 300 Woodbury Ave., Portsmouth, NH 03801; telephone: (603) 431-8000.

The Groundfish Advisory Panel will meet to discuss Framework Adjustment 40 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP). They will develop recommended requirements for the use of Category B days-at-sea (DAS). They will consider identifying opportunities for using Category B (regular) DAS that are based on seasons, areas, and gear types, and may consider additional Special Access Programs (SAPs). The panels' recommendations will be forwarded to the Groundfish Oversight Committee for consideration at a future meeting. The Advisory Panel will also discuss the steaming time issue and will discuss other business.

Monday, March 1, 2004, at 9:30 a.m. and Tuesday, March 2, 2004, at 8:30 a.m. B Joint Herring Oversight Committee and Advisory Panel Meeting.

Location: Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring Street, Portland, ME 04101; telephone: (207) 775-2311.

The Committee will review progress on development of alternatives and analyses for Amendment 1 to the Herring FMP. They will review Herring Plan Development Team recommendations regarding the range of alternatives in Amendment 1 and possible elimination of some alternatives. Also on the agenda is the review of recommendations from the Enforcement Committee, Habitat Technical Team, and other groups regarding the range of alternatives under consideration in Amendment 1. These groups will develop Herring Committee recommendations regarding the range of alternatives in Amendment 1, including possible elimination of some alternatives.

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

These meetings are 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: February 5, 2004.

Tracey Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. E4-251 Filed 2-10-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 020504D]

New England 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 New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Groundfish Oversight Committee in March, 2004. Recommendations from the committee will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: The meeting will held on Tuesday, March 2, 2004 at 9:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring Street, Portland, ME 04101; telephone: (207) 775-2311.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Groundfish Oversight Committee will meet to develop alternatives for Framework 40 (FW 40) to the Northeast

Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP). FW 40 will identify opportunities to use regular and reserve Category B Days-At-Sea (DAS). In addition, it will consider changing 10 Category C DAS to 10 Category B (reserve) DAS for those vessels that will not receive Category A or Category B DAS under Amendment 13. FW 40 will also consider changes to the conservation tax applied in the DAS leasing and DAS transfer programs. The Committee will receive the report of the Groundfish Advisory Panel and will develop specific details of proposed measures that, subject to Council approval, will be included in FW 40. The Committee will also discuss other business, including receiving the report of the Advisory Panel on steaming time issues.

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: February 6, 2004.

Tracey Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E4-252 Filed 2-11-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 020504B]

Pacific 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 groundfish subcommittee of the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will meet

via telephone conference call to review revised stock assessment information for cabezon and lingcod. The stock assessments are to be used for developing management recommendations for 2005-2006 groundfish fisheries. The work session is open to the public.

DATES: The SSC groundfish subcommittee will review the cabezon assessment from 8 a.m. until 12 p.m. on Wednesday, February 25, 2004. Also on Wednesday, February 25, 2004, the subcommittee will review the lingcod assessment from 1 p.m. until business for the day is completed.

ADDRESSES: Four public listening stations will be established for the public to participate in the telephone conference call. *See SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION* for the locations of the listening stations.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Dan Waldeck, Staff Officer; 503-820-2280.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The listening station locations are:

1. NMFS, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Room 2143, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Building 4, Seattle, WA 98115; telephone: 206-526-6548;
2. Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200, Portland, OR 97220-1384; telephone: 503-820-2280;
3. NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Room 219, 110 Schaffer Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95060; telephone: 831-420-3949;
4. NMFS, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, Room C-115, 8604 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037; telephone: 858-546-7052.

At the November 2003 Council meeting, the SSC noted apparent deficiencies in the cabezon and lingcod stock assessments. The stock assessments had been developed to inform management decision making for the 2005-20 fishing years. However, because the SSC could not endorse the cabezon and lingcod stock assessments, the Council deferred full incorporation of these assessments until the SSC could review revised assessments prior to the March 2004 Council meeting. Since the November 2003 Council meeting, Stock Assessment Teams have prepared revised assessments for cabezon and lingcod. This new information will be reviewed and discussed by the groundfish subcommittee during the telephone conference call. Public comment will be accommodated during

the conference call. The initial recommendations of the groundfish subcommittee will be finalized by the SSC and presented to the Council at the March 2004 Council meeting in Tacoma, WA (March 7-12, 2004).

Entry to NMFS facilities requires identification with a photograph (such as a student ID, state drivers license, etc.) A security guard will review the identification and issue a Visitor's Badge valid for the date of the meeting.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this notice may come before the SSC groundfish subcommittee for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. SSC groundfish subcommittee 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 subcommittee's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Ms. Carolyn Porter at 503-820-2280 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: February 5, 2004.

Tracey Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E4-250 Filed 2-10-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

[Docket No. 000410097-4033-09]

Public Telecommunications Facilities Program: Closing Date

AGENCY: National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice availability of funds.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce, announces the solicitation of applications for planning and construction grants for public telecommunications facilities under the Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP). The PTFP