

Meeting Dates and Agendas

Thursday, January 13, 2005, 9:30 a.m. – Groundfish Oversight Committee Meeting

Location: Holiday Inn, 31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA 02048; telephone: (508)339-2200.

Regulations implementing Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP) were implemented on May 1, 2004. This amendment calls for an updated assessment of multispecies stocks in 2005 to evaluate stock status and the effectiveness of the regulations. Subsequent to that assessment, the Council will be considering changes to the management measures, if necessary, in order to meet the objectives of Amendment 13. In addition to changes that may be needed to respond to the updated assessments, the Council may consider changes to other management measures. These could include, but are not limited to, an extension of the days-at-sea leasing program, modifications to the default measures, modifications to existing Special Access Programs (SAPs) or additional SAPs, changes to permitting conditions, reviews of bycatch information, etc. As a result of the extensive scope of this next management action, the committee will meet to develop recommendations on the broad issues to be addressed in the next adjustment, identify the information that will be needed to support decisions on those issues, develop a timeline for the Committee's work, and may begin to identify specific measures that will be included. The committee's recommendations will be presented to the full Council for consideration at a later date.

Wednesday, January 26, 2005, 9:30 a.m. – Scallop Oversight Committee Meeting

Location: Four Points By Sheraton, 407 Squire Road, Revere, MA 02151; telephone: (781) 284-7200.

The committee will review the analysis of general category Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) alternatives in Framework Adjustment 17 and recommend a final alternative to the Council. The committee will also discuss scallop research priorities and the total allowable catch/days-at-sea (TAC/DAS) set-aside research application review process following a presentation by the NMFS Regional Office staff. Other business may be discussed, as needed. Finally, the agenda includes a closed-door session at the end of the meeting to develop Advisory Panel appointment recommendations.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in these agendas may come before these groups for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. 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: December 17, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

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

[FR Doc. E4-3765 Filed 12-21-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 121704C]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Ad Hoc Bycatch Committee in January, 2005 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 January 14, 2005. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in Mansfield, MA. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific location.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council (978) 465-0492. Requests for special accommodations should be addressed to

the New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Friday, January 14, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. – Ad Hoc Bycatch Committee Meeting.*

Location: Holiday Inn, 31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA 02048; telephone: (978) 339-2200.

The Ad Hoc Bycatch Committee will meet to continue development of fishery management measures to reduce potential bycatch of the very large 2003-year class of haddock. They will also review available bycatch information and refine practicable management measures identified at the last meeting to address anticipated haddock bycatch issues in the herring, groundfish and whiting fisheries.

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.

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Dated: December 17, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 121504G]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of the Coral Reef