

the seat for which they are applying; community and professional affiliations; philosophy regarding the protection and management of marine resources; and possibly the length of residence in the area affected by the Reserve. Applicants who are chosen as members should expect to serve 3-year terms, pursuant to the Council's Charter.

DATES: Applications are due by January 31, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Application kits may be obtained from Moani Pai, 6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy. Suite 300, Honolulu, HI 96825, (808) 397-2660 or online at <http://hawaiiireef.noaa.gov>. Completed applications should be sent to the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Aulani Wilhelm, 6600 Kalaniana'ole Hwy. Suite 300, Honolulu, HI 96825, (808) 397-2660, aulani.wilhelm@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve is a new marine protected area designed to conserve and protect the coral reef ecosystem and related natural and cultural resources of the area. The Reserve was established by Executive Order pursuant to the National Marine Sanctuaries Amendments Act of 2000 (Pub. L. 106-513). The NWHI Reserve was established by Executive Order 13178 (12/00), as finalized by Executive Order 13196 (1/01).

The Reserve encompasses an area of the marine waters and submerged lands of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, extending approximately 1200 nautical miles long and 100 nautical miles wide. The Reserve is adjacent to and seaward of the seaward boundary of Hawaii State waters and submerged lands and the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, and includes the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge to the extent that any such refuge waters extends beyond Hawaii State waters and submerged lands. The Reserve is managed by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to the National Marine Sanctuaries Act and the Executive Orders. The Secretary has also initiated the process to designate the Reserve as a National Marine Sanctuary. The management principles and implementation strategy and requirements for the Reserve are found in the enabling Executive Orders, which are part of the application kit and can be found on the website listed above.

In designating the Reserve, the Secretary of Commerce was directed to establish a Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council, pursuant to section 315 of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, to provide advice and

recommendations on the development of the Reserve Operations Plan and the proposal to designate and manage a Northwestern Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary by the Secretary.

The National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP) has established the Reserve Advisory Council and is now accepting applications from interested individuals for Council Members and Alternates for each of the following citizen/constituent positions on the Council.

1. Three (3) representatives from the Native Hawaiian community with experience or knowledge regarding Native Hawaiian subsistence, cultural, religious, or other activities in the northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

2. Two (2) representatives from non-governmental wildlife/marine life, environmental, and/or conservation organizations.

3. One (1) representative from the commercial fishing industry that conducts activities in the northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

4. One representative from the non-Federal science community with experience specific to the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and with expertise in at least one of the following areas:

(A) Marine mammal science.

(B) Coral reef ecology.

(C) Native marine flora and fauna of the Hawaiian Islands.

(D) Oceanography.

(E) Any other scientific discipline the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

The Council consists of 25 members, 14 of which are non-government voting members (the State of Hawaii representative is a voting member) and 10 of which are government non-voting members. The voting members are representatives of the following constituencies: Conservation, Citizen-At-Large, Ocean-Related Tourism, Recreational Fishing, Research, Commercial Fishing, Education, State of Hawaii and Native Hawaiian. The government non-voting seats are represented by the following agencies: Department of Defense, Department of the Interior, Department of State, Marine Mammal Commission, NOAA's Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, National Science Foundation, U.S. Coast Guard, Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, and NOAA's National Ocean Service.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1431, *et seq.*

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: December 21, 2004.

Daniel J. Basta,

Director, National Marine Sanctuary Program, National Oceanic Services, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Environmental Statements; Notice of Intent: Washington Coastal Zone Management Program; Meetings

AGENCY: Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement. Notice to conduct public scoping meetings in Olympia, Seattle and Mount Vernon, WA on the proposed incorporation of the revised Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Guidelines Rule (Chapter 173-26) as an amendment to the federally approved Washington Coastal Zone Management Program (WCZMP).

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended (CZMA), OCRM is considering whether to approve Washington's proposed amendment to incorporate the revised WA SMP Guidelines Rule as an amendment to its federally approved WCZMP. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, OCRM will conduct scoping meetings as an opportunity for federal and state agencies, local governments and their citizenry, and representatives of non-governmental organizations, American Indian tribes, or any other interest persons to identify to OCRM what impacts or issues should be addressed in the Environment Impact Statement (EIS).

DATES:

Tuesday, January 18, 2005 at 7 p.m., Washington Department of Ecology in the Auditorium, 300 Desmond Drive, Lacey, WA 98503. (Visitor parking available.)

Wednesday, January 19, 2005, at 7 p.m., Pinnacle Room—3rd Floor in The Mountaineers Building, 300 Third Avenue West, Seattle, WA 98119, (Parking lots and some street parking available with time constraints.)

Thursday, January 20, 2005, at 7 p.m. Aqua Room in Skagit County PUD,

1415 Freeway Drive, Mount Vernon, WA 98273, (Visitor parking available.)

Interested persons are welcome to submit suggestions or comments on the scope or content of the proposed EIS by attending any of the above meetings or provide written comments to the designated official below. Written comments will be accepted until February 25, 2005.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The WCZMP was the first in the nation to receive federal approval under the CZMA in 1976. The basis for the WCZMP participation in the federal coastal zone management program was the implementation of the Washington Shoreline Management Act of 1971 (SMA). The SMA set in motion the designation of shorelines of statewide significance, policy objectives and guidelines with respect to managing shoreline uses, a process for local governments to develop Shoreline Master Programs (SMPs) that would meet the objectives of the Act, and a management process to include the Shorelines Hearing Board that would serve as an administrative appeals body. From 1976 to the present, the WCZMP has received federal CZMA funds to supplement their state funds to implement the WCZMP.

In 1995, the Washington State Legislature directed the Department of Ecology (Ecology) to periodically review and adopt guidelines consistent with SMA policies and to integrate shorelines with the provisions of the Growth Management Act critical areas ordinances. Ecology has spent the better part of 6 years developing revised guidance for updating SMPs. The new guidelines recognize advancements in science regarding shoreline ecological processes, changes in laws, changes in the character of shoreline development and innovations in shorelines and growth management practices. More information can be found on the Washington Department of Ecology Web Site at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/SMA/index.html>.

OCRM has been requested by the State of Washington to incorporate the revised SMP Guidelines Rule into the federally approved WCZMP. OCRM has determined that this is a major federal action and will therefore develop an environmental impact statement to identify what environmental consequences may be associated with this proposed action. The State of WA adopted the revised SMP Guidelines Rule in December 2003. OCRM's consideration of Washington's proposed amendment to its already approved Federal coastal zone management

program does not affect state law or regulations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Comments and questions should be made to: Masi Okasaki, Assistant Regional Manager, 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 extension 185, e-mail wa.guidelines.noaa.gov.

Dated: December 28, 2004.

Eldon Hout,

Director, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 122904A]

Fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Spiny Lobster Data Workshop

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

ACTION: Notice of data workshop for Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Spiny Lobster.

SUMMARY: The State of Florida, along with the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC) and the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC), will hold a data workshop, the first in a series of three workshops, to evaluate the stock status of the spiny lobster.

DATES: The data workshop will convene at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 25, 2005, and conclude no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, January 27, 2005.

ADDRESSES: The data workshop will be held at the Florida State Regional Service Center, 2796 Overseas Highway, Suite 104, Marathon, FL.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stu Kennedy, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A data workshop will be held to generate an assessment data set on the Gulf of Mexico/South Atlantic Spiny Lobster. The assessment data set will include catch statistics, discard estimates, length and age composition, fishery descriptions, biological sampling intensity, fishery dependent and fishery independent monitoring results and life history characteristics. Workshop participants will draft preliminary Assessment Report sections. Participants include data collectors, database managers, stock assessment scientists, biologists, fisheries researchers, fishermen, environmentalists, Council members, international experts and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and Federal agencies.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda 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 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 Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Dawn Aring at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) by January 7, 2005.

Dated: December 30, 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. 123004B]

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 Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Ad Hoc Groundfish Information Policy