

members, was allocated 371 mt of cod, which represented 12.587 percent of the total 2004 GB cod TAC.

NMFS provided interested parties an opportunity to comment on the Sector Agreement proposed for the 2005 fishing year through notification published in the **Federal Register** on April 1, 2005 (70 FR 16804); additional background and details of the Sector Agreement are contained in that notification and are not repeated here. No comments from the public were received.

After consideration of the proposed Sector Agreement, which contains the Sector Contract and Operations Plan, NMFS has concluded that the Sector Agreement is consistent with the goals of the FMP and other applicable law and is in compliance with the regulations governing the development and operation of a sector as specified under 50 CFR 648.87.

There are 49 members of the approved Sector. The calculation of GB cod TAC for the Sector was based upon historic GB landings under the following two regulatory scenarios: (1) The current regulations, as implemented by Amendment 13, that restrict GB cod landings to only hook gear; and (2) based upon the proposed Framework Adjustment 40-B (currently under review by the NMFS) that, if approved, would not restrict GB cod landings to certain gear types. The allocation percentages were calculated by dividing the sum of GB cod landings by Sector members for the FYs 1996 through 2001 by the sum of the accumulated landings of GB cod harvested by all NE multispecies vessels for same time period (113,278,842 lb or 51,383 mt) for each of the two regulatory scenarios described above. The resulting numbers are 10.79 percent and 11.12 percent for the two methods, respectively. Based upon the 49 Sector members, the Sector TAC of GB cod for FY 2005 is 441 mt, and would be 455 mt, upon approval of FW 40-B.

Letters of Authorization will be issued to members of the Sector exempting them, conditional upon their compliance with the Sector Agreement, from the requirements of the Gulf of Maine trip limit exemption program, limits on the number of hooks, and the GB Seasonal Closure Area, as specified in §§ 648.86(b), 648.80(a)(4)(v), and 648.81(g), respectively.

Classification

This action is required by 50 CFR part 648 and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: April 29, 2005.

Anne M. Lange

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[042705A]

U.S. Climate Change Science Program Workshop: Climate Science in Support of Decisionmaking

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice, public workshop and opportunity for public discussion.

SUMMARY: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration publishes this notice to announce the U.S. Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) Workshop: Climate Science in Support of Decisionmaking, addressing the capability of science to inform decisionmaking. This workshop will include discussion of decisionmaker needs for scientific information on climate variability and change, as well as expected outcomes of CCSP's research and assessment activities that are necessary for resource management, adaptive planning, and policy formulation.

DATES: The workshop will be held Monday, November 14, 2005, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 15, 2005, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Wednesday, November 16, 2005, from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

ADDRESSES: The workshop will be held at the Marriott Crystal Gateway, 1700 Jefferson Davis Highway in Arlington, VA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sandy MacCracken, Telephone: 202-223 6262, Fax: 202 223 3065, Email: smaccrac@usgcrp.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Climate Change Science Program, sponsored by 13 participating departments and agencies of the U.S. Government, coordinates and integrates scientific research on changes in climate and related systems. The CCSP Strategic Plan emphasizes the application of knowledge from CCSP to develop, improve, and disseminate products for use in decisionmaking related to climate variability and change. Many CCSP programs and activities address these needs—for example, the use of

observations and seasonal-to-interannual climate forecasts in the management of natural resources, or application of scientific knowledge in integrated assessments of global change.

The CCSP Strategic Plan calls for the development of 21 Synthesis and Assessment products that provide current evaluations of climate science issues, complementing other international assessments such as that prepared by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). To maximize the effectiveness of all CCSP products, it is vital that these products account for the science information needs of their users. The workshop will be an opportunity for scientists and user communities to discuss future application and development of climate science, recognizing the multiple ways in which climate information will be utilized to address societal and scientific challenges.

Status: The times above may be subject to change. Refer to the website listed below for a final meeting agenda. Participation will be limited to the first 800 registrants. Webcast of the proceedings may be arranged if demand for participation exceeds this limit. Early registration is strongly encouraged. A registration form and other logistical information, including fees, are available at: <http://www.climate-science.gov/workshop2005>.

The workshop will include both plenary and breakout sessions. The plenary sessions will include presentations by leading figures from the international scientific community and the government, NGO, and private sectors. The breakout sessions will foster interactions among those involved in producing CCSP decision support resources, and representatives of the scientific, resource management, policy development, and other stakeholder communities. Abstracts for contributed presentations at the workshop that focus on development of scientific resources for decisionmaking are encouraged. Instructions on how to submit abstracts will be posted by June 1, 2005 at: www.climate-science.gov/workshop2005/contribpres.htm.

Dated: April 28, 2005.

James R. Mahoney,

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, Director, Climate Change Science Program.

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