

Area Fishery	2003	2004
BSAI Trawl Other Salm- on Incidental Catch	197,091 fish	465,650 fish
GOA Trawl Chinook Inci- dental Catch	15,652 fish	17,798 fish
BSAI Trawl Halibut Mor- tality	3,278 mt (7,226,679 lb)	3,185 mt (7,021,651 lb)
GOA Trawl Halibut Mor- tality	2,080 mt (4,585,568 lb)	2,248 mt (4,955,941 lb)

Halibut incidental catch amounts are constrained by an annual prohibited species catch limit in the BSAI and GOA. Future halibut incidental catch levels likely will be similar to those experienced in 2003 and 2004. Salmon prohibited species incidental catch limits are established for the BSAI pollock fisheries that when attained, result in the closure of specified fishing grounds for a specified period of time. Salmon incidental catch limits are not established for the GOA. In general, salmon incidental catch amounts tend to be variable between years, making accurate prediction of future incidental take amounts difficult.

4. *The potential number of vessels and processors participating in the groundfish trawl fisheries.* In 2004, 14 shoreside processors were permitted to process catch from trawl vessels. Also, in 2004, 217 trawl catcher vessels, 58 trawl catcher/processors, and 59 motherships and stationary floating processors were permitted for the Alaska groundfish trawl fisheries.

The PSD permits are issued to SeaShare for a 3-year period unless suspended or revoked. They may not be transferred; however, they may be renewed following the application procedures in § 679.26.

If the authorized distributor modifies any information on the PSD permit application submitted under § 679.26(b)(1)(xi) or (b)(1)(xiii), the authorized distributor must submit a modified list of participants or a modified list of delivery locations to the Regional Administrator.

These permits may be suspended, modified, or revoked under 15 CFR part 904 for noncompliance with terms and conditions specified in the permit or for a violation of this section or other regulations in 50 CFR part 679.

**Classification**

This action is taken under § 679.26.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 773 *et seq.*, 1801 *et seq.*, and 3631 *et seq.*

Dated: July 8, 2005.

**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. 071105D]

**Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings**

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

Cancellation of public meetings and notice of rescheduling.

**SUMMARY:** The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council has cancelled its meetings scheduled for July 11 – 15, 2005 in Fort Myers Beach, FL, due to Hurricane Dennis. The Council has rescheduled the meetings for August 8–12, 2005.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held August 8–12, 2005.

**ADDRESSES:** These meetings will be held at the DiamondHead Beach Resort, 2000 Estero Boulevard, Fort Myers Beach, FL.

*Council address:* Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Wayne E. Swingle, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Meeting Agenda (Committees and Council)**

*Committees*

Monday, August 8, 2005

8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. – The Scientific and Statistical (SSC) Selection Committee will meet in closed session to appoint SSC members.

8:45 a.m. – 10 a.m. – The Advisory Panel (AP) Selection Committee will meet to develop the structure of the Ad Hoc Red Grouper Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) AP.

10 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. – The Coral Management Committee will meet to review the recommendations of the Coral SSC on coral reef research and other matters.

10:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – The Joint Budget/Personnel Committee will meet

to consider options recommended by staff under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) revision to the SOPPs.

1 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – The Reef Fish Management Committee will review the new red snapper stock assessment conducted under the SouthEast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, which yields a peer-reviewed assessment. They will also review the recommendations of the SSC, SEP and Red Snapper AP on this assessment. The Committee will review Draft Reef Fish Amendment 26 for a red snapper IFQ program and select their preferred alternatives for management measures that will be presented at public hearings in August. The Reef Fish Management Committee will review public hearing summaries, public letters, AP recommendations, SSC recommendations, Federal recommendations and committee recommendations on Reef Fish Amendment 18A/EA, which addresses enforcement and monitoring issues including simultaneous commercial and recreational harvest on a commercial fishing vessel, maximum crew size on a vessel with a Coast Guard Certificate of Inspection when fishing commercially, use of reef fish for bait, and vessel monitoring system requirements for reef fish vessels. Reef Fish Amendment 18A/EA also addresses revisions to the framework procedure for setting total allowable catch, and measures to reduce bycatch mortality of endangered sea turtles and smalltooth sawfish. The Committee will then review public hearing comments on the NMFS interim red grouper rule and select preferred alternatives for a Council regulatory amendment that will replace the interim rule once it expires.

Tuesday, August 9, 2005

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – The Reef Fish Management Committee resumes.

1 p.m. – 4 p.m. – The Shrimp Management Committee will hear a presentation on bycatch reduction devices (BRDs), review a preliminary scoping document on Amendment 14 and hear a report on the status of shrimp stocks.

4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – The Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem Committee will meet to consider the recommendations of the Ecosystem SSC and to develop recommendations to Congress on amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

Wednesday, August 10, 2005

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. – The joint Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem Committee continues.

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. – The Joint Reef Fish/Mackerel Management Committees will review public hearing summaries, public letters, AP recommendations, SEP comments, SSC recommendations and committee recommendations on Final Generic Amendment for Extension of Charter Vessel Permit Moratorium and make recommendations to the Council.

#### Council

Wednesday, August 10, 2005

10:45 a.m. – Convene.

11 a.m. – 12 noon – The Council will hear a presentation on the licensing of liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities.

1:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. – Receive public testimony on the preliminary Red Grouper Regulatory Amendment.

Thursday, August 11, 2005

8:30 a.m. – 8:40 a.m. – Receive the SSC Selection Committee Report (CLOSED SESSION).

8:40 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Receive public testimony on (a) the preliminary Red Grouper Regulatory Amendment, (b) Reef Fish Amendment 18A/EA, (c) Charter Vessel Permit Moratorium Extension (CMP17/RF 25) and (d) Exempted fishing permits (if any).

1 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Receive a presentation on a Permits Information Management System.

1:30 p.m. – 1:35 p.m. – Receive the SSC Selection Committee Report.

1:35 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. – Receive the AP Selection Committee Report.

1:50 p.m. – 5 p.m. – Receive the Reef Fish Management Committee Report.

Friday, August 12, 2005

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. – Receive the Shrimp Management Committee report.

9:30 a.m. – 10 a.m. – Receive the Coral Management Committee report.

10 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. – Receive the Joint Budget/Personnel Committee Report.

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. – Receive the Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem Committee Report.

10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. – Receive the joint Reef Fish/Mackerel Management Committees Report.

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Receive the NRC Recreational Data Meeting report.

11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. – Other Business.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agendas may come before the Council and Committees for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (M-SFCMA), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions of

the Council and Committees will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agendas and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under Section 305(c) of the M-SFCMA, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take action to address the emergency. The established times for addressing items on the agenda may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the agenda items. In order to further allow for such adjustments and completion of all items on the agenda, the meeting may be extended from, or completed prior to the date established in this notice.

#### Special Accommodations

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 July 25, 2005.

Dated: July 12, 2005.

**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. 071105B]

#### 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 Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) and Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel (HMSAS) will hold work sessions, which are open to the public.

**DATES:** The HMSMT work sessions will be Wednesday, August 3, 2005, from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. and Friday, August 5, 2005, from 9 a.m. until business for the day is completed. The HMSMT will hold a joint work session with the HMSAS on Thursday, August 4, 2005, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The work sessions will be held at the United States Tuna Foundation offices, Conference Room, 1

Tuna Lane, San Diego, CA 92101; telephone: (619) 233-6407.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Kit Dahl, Pacific Fishery Management Council; telephone: (503) 820-2280.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The main purpose of these work sessions is for the HMSMT and HMSAS to develop a preliminary range of alternatives for the modification of the annual August 15 through November 15 prohibition on drift gillnet fishing in federal and state waters in Monterey Bay, CA, and vicinity north to the 45° N latitude intersect with the Oregon Coast (66 FR 44549). This time/area closure was first implemented in 2001 based on the reasonable and prudent alternatives in a biological opinion issued by NMFS on October 23, 2000, consequent of a formal consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The primary purpose of this time/area closure is to reduce the incidental take of endangered leatherback sea turtles (*Dermodochelys coriacea*) and threatened loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*).

More recent information suggests that the time/area closure could be modified to improve fishing opportunity without increasing the incidental take of these sea turtles. The range of alternatives for modification of this time/area closure, if adopted by the Council, will be evaluated in an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. Any preferred alternative chosen by the Council would also be subject to a reinitiation of consultations under section 7 of the ESA. A second topic to be discussed during these work sessions is the modification of regulations which currently prohibit holders of a permit issued under the HMS fishery management plan from targeting swordfish on the high seas with pelagic longline gear or landing more than 10 swordfish on the West Coast. As with the aforementioned drift gillnet fishery time/area closure, these measures are consequent of a biological opinion focusing on the incidental take of the same two species of sea turtles. As part of these work sessions the HMSMT and HMSAS may begin considering alternatives which would allow prosecution of a pelagic longline fishery for swordfish while not increasing the overall incidental take of these ESA-listed sea turtles. These HMSMT and HMSAS work sessions are for the purpose of developing information for