

**DATES:** The initial sequence library will be compiled on March 17, 2006. Contributions received later than this date will be considered for inclusion in the library, but may not be included in the first round of testing.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Marc Salit, Advanced Chemical Science Laboratory, Stop 8310, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8310. Telephone: (301) 975-3646; FAX: 301 975-5449; or by e-mail: [salit@nist.gov](mailto:salit@nist.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NIST is collecting nucleic acid sequences to form a library of sequences suitable for the preparation of RNA reference materials. These reference materials are intended to act as external RNA controls in gene expression assays.

Development of these reference materials is being done in conjunction with the External RNA Control Consortium, an ad hoc international consortium of approximately 70 organizations from the public, private, and academic sectors. This group has described the materials to be developed (see <http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/Cell&TissueMeasurements/GeneExpression/ERCC.htm>) has published a plan to qualify the performance of the candidate sequence library (see Consortium, E.R.C., Proposed methods for testing and selecting the ERCC external RNA controls. BMC Genomics, 2005. 6(1): p. 150) and is developing guidance for using external RNA controls to validate a gene expression assay (see <http://www.clsi.org> description of provisional guidance MM-16).

The External RNA Reference Material sequences are intended to mimic endogenous mRNA transcripts, in particular for mammalian species. These sequences should:

1. Be from 500 to 2000 nucleotides in length;
2. Have not more than marginal expected cross reactivity with assay probes for popular research organisms (including *H. sapiens*, *M. musculus*, *S. cerevisiae*, *A. thaliana*, *E. coli*, *C. elegans*, *D. melanogaster*, *D. rerio*). Marginal cross reactivity will be defined as having no more than 20 contiguous bases of identity and overall homology less than 70% with any section of the genomes of interest; and,

3. Have GC content of 40–60% and be void of significant repetitive elements, palindromes or regions of low complexity (Human, mouse and rat genomes are an average of 40–42% GC).

To be included in the library, RNA sequences must:

1. Be entered in the National Center for Biotechnology Information's

GenBank database (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Genbank/index.html>).

2. Be dedicated to the Public Domain for broad dissemination and unrestricted use by any interested party.

Sequences provided to NIST for inclusion in the library must be physically embodied in a suitable vector, in a suitable organism, and should be provided as such to NIST.

Dated: February 11, 2006.

**William Jeffrey,**

*Director.*

[FR Doc. E6-2775 Filed 2-27-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-13-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Notice of Public Meeting

**SUMMARY:** The Advisory Committee on Commercial Remote Sensing (ACCRES) will meet March 10, 2006.

**DATE AND TIME:** The meeting is scheduled as follows: March 10, 2006, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. The first part of this meeting will be closed to the public. The public portion of the meeting will begin at 1 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in the Horizon room of the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center Washington, DC. The Reagan Building is located at 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20004. While open to the public, seating capacity may be limited.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** As required by section 10(a) (2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. (1982), notice is hereby given of the meeting of ACCRES. ACCRES was established by the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) on May 21, 2002, to advise the Secretary through the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere on long- and short-range strategies for the licensing of commercial remote sensing satellite systems.

#### Matters To Be Considered

The first part of the meeting will be closed to the public pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, as amended by section 5(c) of the Government in Sunshine Act, P.L. 94-409 and in accordance with section 552b(c)(1) of Title 5, United States Code. Accordingly, portions of this meeting which involve the ongoing review and implementation of the April 2003 U.S.

Commercial Remote Sensing Space Policy and related national security and foreign policy considerations for NOAA's licensing decisions may be closed to the public. These briefings are likely to disclose matters that are specifically authorized under criteria established by Executive Order 12958 to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and are in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive Order.

All other portions of the meeting will be open to the public. During the open portion of the meeting, the Committee will have updates of the Landsat Mission, data archive issues, and new licensed remote sensing space systems. The committee will also receive public comments on its activities.

#### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for special accommodations may be directed to ACCRES, NOAA/NESDIS International and Interagency Affairs Office, 1335 East-West Highway, Room 7311, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

#### Additional Information and Public Comments

Any member of the public wishing further information concerning the meeting or who wishes to submit oral or written comments should contact Kay Weston, Designated Federal Officer for ACCRES, NOAA/NESDIS International and Interagency Affairs Office, 1335 East-West Highway, Room 7311, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. Copies of the draft meeting agenda can be obtained from Tahara Moreno at (301) 713-2024 ext. 202, fax (301) 713-2032, or e-mail [Tahara.Moreno@noaa.gov](mailto:Tahara.Moreno@noaa.gov).

The ACCRES expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously-submitted oral or written statements. In general, each individual or group making an oral presentation may be limited to a total time of five minutes. Written comments (please provide at least 13 copies) received in the NOAA/NESDIS International and Interagency Affairs Office on or before March 6, 2006, will be provided to Committee members in advance of the meeting. Comments received too close to the meeting date will normally be provided to Committee members at the meeting.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kay Weston, NOAA/NESDIS International and Interagency Affairs, 1335 East West Highway, Room 7313, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910; telephone (301) 713-2024 x205, fax (301) 713-2032, e-mail [Kay.Weston@noaa.gov](mailto:Kay.Weston@noaa.gov), or Tahara

Moreno at telephone (301) 713-2024  
x202, e-mail [Tahara.Moreno@noaa.gov](mailto:Tahara.Moreno@noaa.gov).

**Gregory W. Withee,**

*Assistant Administrator for Satellite and  
Information Services.*

[FR Doc. E6-2760 Filed 2-27-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-HR-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration**

[I.D. 022206A]

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

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

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Gulf of Mexico Fishery  
Management Council (Council) will  
convene its Law Enforcement Advisory  
Panel (LEAP).

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on  
Monday, March 13, 2006, from 1 p.m. to  
5 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at  
the Holiday Inn Downtown/Market  
Square, 318 W. Durango Boulevard, San  
Antonio, TX.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr.  
Richard Leard, Deputy Executive  
Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery  
Management Council; telephone: (813)  
348-1630.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The  
Council will convene the LEAP to  
review an Options Paper for Joint  
Amendment 27 to the Reef Fish Fishery  
Management Plan (FMP)/Amendment  
14 to the Shrimp FMP. This amendment  
contains alternatives to regulate the  
harvest and bycatch of red snapper by  
both the directed commercial and  
recreational fisheries and the shrimp  
fishery in the Gulf of Mexico. The need  
for this amendment arose from the  
Southeast Data, Assessment and Review  
(SEDAR) process through which a  
recent stock assessment showed that the  
red snapper stock in the Gulf was  
overfished and overfishing was  
continuing.

In addition, the LEAP will discuss the  
Automated Identification System that  
will soon be required of many fishing  
vessels in the Gulf. The LEAP will  
review a discussion paper that may  
ultimately be used as the basis for

developing Individual Fishing Quota  
(IFQ) programs for the grouper and  
potentially other commercial reef fish  
fishing operations in the Gulf. Finally,  
the LEAP will review the status of  
various FMP amendments and other  
regulatory actions and report on the  
various activities of participating  
organizations.

The LEAP consists of principal law  
enforcement officers in each of the Gulf  
States, as well as the NMFS, U.S. Fish  
and Wildlife Service (FWS), the U.S.  
Coast Guard, and the NOAA General  
Counsel. A copy of the agenda and  
related materials can be obtained by  
calling the Council office at (813) 348-  
1630.

Although other non-emergency issues  
not on the agendas may come before the  
LEAP for discussion, in accordance with  
the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery  
Conservation and Management Act  
(Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues  
may not be the subject of formal action  
during this meeting. Actions of the  
LEAP 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  
Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the  
public has been notified of the Council's  
intent to take 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  
Dawn Aring at the Council (see  
**ADDRESSES**) at least 5 working days prior  
to the meeting.

Dated: February 22, 2006.

**Helen Troupis,**

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

[FR Doc. E6-2778 Filed 2-27-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration**

[I.D. 021706D]

**Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management  
Council; Public Meetings**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Mid-Atlantic Fishery  
Management Council (Council), its

Ecosystems Committee, Surfclam/Ocean  
Quahog/Tilefish Committee, its Squid,  
Mackerel, Butterfish Committee, and its  
Executive Committee will hold public  
meetings.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on  
Tuesday, March 14, 2006 through  
Thursday, March 16, 2006. See

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for meeting  
agenda.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at  
Congress Hall Hotel, 251 Beach Avenue,  
Cape May, NJ; telephone: (608) 884-  
8421

*Council address:* Mid-Atlantic Fishery  
Management Council, 300 S. New  
Street, Dover, DE 19904, telephone:  
(302) 674-2331.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director,  
Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management  
Council; telephone: (302) 674-2331, ext.  
19.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Tuesday, March 14, 2006*

The Ecosystems Committee will meet  
from 10 a.m. - 12 noon. The Committee  
will review final draft of Mid-Atlantic  
Fishery Management Council's  
Ecosystem Report regarding ecosystem  
based fishery management and address  
strategy regarding introduction of circle  
hooks as the hook of choice in  
recreational sector.

The Surfclam/Ocean Quahog/Tilefish  
Committee will meet from 1 p.m.-1:30  
p.m. The Committee will review 2006  
Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)  
reimbursement program / conditions,  
and address timing of tilefish  
specifications adjustments.

The Squid, Mackerel, Butterfish  
Committee will meet from 1:30 p.m.-4  
p.m. This Committee will review status  
of Amendment 10 and discuss and  
adopt rebuilding schedules developed  
by Fishery Management Action Team  
(FMAT) for the butterfish stock.

The Executive Committee will meet  
from 4 p.m.-4:30 p.m. The Committee  
will review status of 2006 and 2007  
budgets, and review criteria for Ricks E  
Savage Award.

*Wednesday, March 15, 2006*

The Council will convene at 9 a.m.  
The Council will conduct its regular  
business session from 9 a.m. to 11:30  
a.m., to approve December and January  
Council meeting minutes, approve  
actions from January meeting and  
receive various reports. From 12:30  
p.m.-5:30 p.m., the Council will discuss  
Amendment 9 to Squid, Mackerel,  
Butterfish Fishery Management Plan  
(FMP), review and adopt the public  
hearing document (PHD) for  
Amendment 9 and associated draft  
environmental impact statement (DEIS).