

successful implementation of the goals and objectives of the Reserve.

The mission of the Reserve management plan is to improve the stewardship of the region's estuarine and coastal watershed ecosystems. The management plan identifies the following priority issues facing the Reserve: Water quality/eutrophication/watershed land-use; climate change/sea level rise/shoreline change; and assessment of ecosystem response to natural variability and human impacts.

The management plan identifies five goals that are addressed through active management. The goals are (1) improve the understanding of coastal ecosystems and the human influences on them, (2) improve environmental literacy in communities to enable environmentally-sustainable decision-making, (3) demonstrate sustainable stewardship of the land and water ecosystems within the Reserve to serve as a model for community stewardship in the region, (4) foster dialogue and development of coastal ecosystem management solutions through sustained community engagement, (5) improve operations, infrastructure and stature of the Reserve.

The Reserve's management plan addresses these goals with specific programs for resource management and protection and stewardship, research and monitoring, education and training, public access and visitor use, program administration, and partnerships and regional coordination.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Doris Grimm at (301) 563-7101 or Kate Barba, Acting Chief, Estuarine Reserves Division at (301) 563-1158 of NOAA's National Ocean Service, Estuarine Reserves Division, 1305 East-West Highway, N/ORM5, 10th floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Dated: August 25, 2006.

**David M. Kennedy,**  
Director, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 081406A]

#### Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Meeting of Consolidated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS will hold a two-day Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Advisory Panel (AP) meeting in October 2006. The intent of the meeting is to consider options for the conservation and management of HMS.

**DATES:** The AP meeting will be held from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, October 3, 2006, and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, October 4, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held at the Hilton Mark Center, 5000 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA, 22311; phone: 703-845-1010

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Othel Freeman or Chris Rilling at 301-713-2347.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act, Public Law 104-297, provided for the establishment of an AP to assist in the collection and evaluation of information relevant to the development of any Fishery Management Plan (FMP). NMFS consults with and considers the comments and views of AP members when preparing and implementing FMPs or FMP amendments for Atlantic tunas, swordfish, billfish, and sharks. The AP has previously consulted with NMFS on: the HMS FMP (April 1999), Amendment 1 to the HMS FMP (December 2003), Amendment 1 to the Billfish FMP (April 1999), and the Consolidated Atlantic HMS FMP in February 2006. The October 2006 AP meeting will focus on conservation and management options for Atlantic tunas, swordfish, billfish, and sharks.

#### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Othel Freeman or Chris Rilling at (301) 713-2347, at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.* and 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: August 24, 2006.

**James P. Burgess,**  
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.  
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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 082506B]

#### New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC); Public Meeting

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

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

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a 3-day Council meeting to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 26 beginning at 9 a.m., and Wednesday and Thursday, September 27 and 28, beginning at 8:30 a.m., each day.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, One Newbury Street, Peabody, MA 01960; telephone: (978)535-4600. Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council, telephone: (978) 465-0492.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### Tuesday, September 26, 2006

Following introductions, the Council will hold elections for 2006-07 officers. A series of brief reports will follow from the Council Chairman and Executive Director, the NOAA Northeast Regional Administrator, Northeast Fisheries Science Center and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council liaisons, NOAA General Counsel and representatives of the U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA Enforcement, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, the Scallop Survey Advisory Panel and the Northeast Multispecies Capacity Reduction Committee. During this morning session, the Council also will receive a report from the Northeast Fisheries Science Center on recent oceanographic variability in the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank regions and the implications for fisheries. The Council will then review and approve the following for inclusion in phase I of the NEFMC's Essential Fish Habitat Omnibus Amendment: essential fish habitat designation alternatives for red crab and Atlantic salmon; alternatives for habitat areas of particular concern