

organizations involved with or affected by marine conservation including in the Great Lakes. Fifteen members of the Committee have terms that expire October 31, 2007, and nominations are sought to fill these vacancies.

Individuals seeking membership on the Committee should possess demonstrable expertise in a related field or represent a stakeholder interest affected by MPAs. Nominees also will be evaluated based on the following factors: Marine policy experience, leadership and organization skills, region of country represented, and diversity characteristics. The membership reflects the Departments' commitment to attaining balance and diversity. The full text of the Committee Charter and its current membership can be viewed at the Agency's Web page at <http://mpa.gov/fac.html>.

DATES: Nominations must be postmarked on or before November 1, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Nominations should be sent to Lauren Wenzel, National Marine Protected Areas Center, NOAA, 1305 East West Highway, Station #12227, Silver Spring, MD 20910. E-mail: Lauren.Wenzel@noaa.gov. E-mail nominations are acceptable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lauren Wenzel, National Marine Protected Areas Center (301) 713-3100 x136, Lauren.Wenzel@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In Executive Order 13158, the Department of Commerce and the Department of the Interior were directed to seek the expert advice and recommendations of non-Federal scientists, resource managers, and other interested people and organizations through a Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee. The Committee was established in June 2003 and includes 30 members.

The Committee meets at least once annually. Committee members serve for one four-year nonrenewable term. Members of the Committee will not be compensated, but may, upon request, be allowed travel and per diem expenses.

Each nomination submission should include the proposed Committee member's name and organizational affiliation, a cover letter describing the nominee's qualifications and interest in serving on the Committee, a curriculum vitae or resume of nominee, and no more than three supporting letters describing the nominee's qualifications and interest in serving on the Committee. Self-nominations are acceptable. The following contact information should accompany each submission: The nominee's name,

address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address if available.

Dated: September 20, 2006.

Mitchell A. Luxenberg,

Deputy Director, Management and Budget, National Ocean Service.

[FR Doc. E6-15759 Filed 9-25-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 082106A]

Notice of Availability of a Final Record of Decision on the Issuance of Permits

AGENCIES: Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Interior; National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability of Final Record of Decision and issuance of permits.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service (Services) announce the availability of a Final Record of Decision on the issuance of incidental take permits to the state of Washington under section 10 of the Endangered Species Act for the Washington Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). The two incidental take permits (one from each of the Services) authorize incidental take of aquatic species (16 listed fish species, 54 unlisted fish species, and 7 unlisted amphibian species) from covered forest practices implemented under the HCP. These forest practices affect approximately 9 million acres of non-Federal and non-tribal lands in Washington State. The permits were issued on June 5, 2006, and will remain in effect for 50 years.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, or to receive copies of the documents, please contact Sally Butts, Project Manager, FWS, (360) 753-5832; or Laura Hamilton, Project Manager, NMFS, (360) 753-5820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice advises the public that the Services gathered the information necessary to; (1) determine impacts and formulate alternatives for the EIS related to the issuance of incidental take permits to the state of Washington; and (2) develop and implement the HCP,

which describes the measures to minimize and mitigate the effects of the incidental take of federally listed species to the maximum extent practicable. The notice of availability for the draft EIS, draft Forest Practices HCP, and draft Implementing Agreement was published in the **Federal Register** on February 11, 2005 (70 FR 7245), and the notice of availability for the Final EIS, Final Forest Practices HCP, and Implementing Agreement was published in the **Federal Register** on January 27, 2006 (71 FR 4609). Copies of the Record of Decision, which was signed on June 5, 2006, are available from the Services. (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** for contact information).

Dated: September 19, 2006.

David Wesley,

Deputy Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 1, Portland, Oregon

Dated: September 19, 2006.

Angela Somma,

Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 092006A]

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Application for Exempted Fishing Permit

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

ACTION: Notice; proposal to conduct experimental fishing; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator) has made a preliminary determination that the subject exempted fishing permit (EFP) application submitted by the Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI) contains all the required information and warrants further consideration. The Regional Administrator has also made a preliminary determination that the activities authorized under the EFP would be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and the Northeast Multispecies FMP. However, further review and consultation may be necessary before a final determination is made to issue the