

Scoping Process

All persons affected by or otherwise interested in skate management are invited to participate in determining the scope and significance of issues to be analyzed by submitting written comments (see **ADDRESSES**) and/or by attending one of the scoping meetings. Scope consists of the range of actions, alternatives, and impacts to be considered. Alternatives include the following: Not amending the management plan (taking no action); developing an amendment that contains management measures such as those discussed in this notice; or other reasonable courses of action. Impacts may be direct, indirect, or cumulative.

This scoping process will also identify and eliminate from detailed analysis issues that are not relevant or feasible. When, after the scoping process is completed, the Council proceeds with the development of an amendment to the Skate FMP, the Council will prepare an EIS to analyze the impacts of the range of alternatives under consideration. The Council will hold public hearings to receive comments on the draft amendment and on the analysis of its impacts presented in the EIS.

Scoping Hearing Schedule

The Council will discuss and take scoping comments at the following public meetings:

1. *Tuesday, May 22, 2007, from 7 – 9 p.m.*; Gloucester City Hall, Kyrouz Auditorium, 9 Dale Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930; telephone: (978) 281–9720.
2. *Wednesday, May 23, 2007, from 7 – 9 p.m.*; Narragansett Town Hall, 25 Fifth Avenue, Narragansett, RI 02882; telephone: (401) 789–1044.
3. *Thursday, May 24, 2007, from 7 – 9 p.m.*; Mass Maritime, 101 Academy Drive, Buzzards Bay, MA 02532; telephone: (508) 830–5000.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are accessible to people with physical disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: April 24, 2007.

James P. Burgess,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E7–8187 Filed 4–27–07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 042407C]

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 will convene a public meeting of the Red Snapper Advisory Panel.

DATES: The Red Snapper AP meeting will convene at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 and conclude no later than 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Four Points by Sheraton, 6401 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Metairie, LA 70003; telephone: (504) 885–5700.

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, telephone: (813) 348–1630.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Red Snapper AP will be convened to review and comment on Draft Amendment 27 to the Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan and Amendment 14 to the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan. This amendment contains potential management measures to modify the rebuilding plan for red snapper in order to end overfishing and recover this overfished stock. These measures would further reduce the directed red snapper harvest as well as bycatch from both the directed fishery and the shrimp fishery. Copies of the Amendment can be obtained by calling the Council office at (813) 348–1630.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agenda may come before the Red Snapper AP 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 these meetings. Actions of the Red Snapper AP will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda 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.

Copies of the agenda can be obtained by calling (813) 348–1630.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Tina Trezza at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 working days prior to the meeting.

Dated: April 25, 2007.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. E7–8143 Filed 4–27–07; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 042507A]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council(Council) will hold six public hearings to solicit comment on Draft Amendment 11 including a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) to the Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan (FMP).

DATES: Written public comments must be received on or before 5 p.m. EST, June 11, 2007. The meetings will be held in May, 2007. For specific dates and times, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: The public hearing document can be obtained by contacting the New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

Meeting addresses: The meetings will be held in Hyannis, MA, Fairhaven, MA, Ellsworth, ME, Durham, NH, Newport News, VA and Manahawkin, NJ. For specific locations, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

Written comments: Should be mailed to Patricia Kurkul, National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Regional Office, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark on the envelope "Comments on Scallop Amendment 11". Comments may also be sent via fax to (978)281–9135 or submitted via e-mail to *Scallop.Eleven@noaa.gov* with