

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Monday, June 18, 2007, at 1 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Eastland Park Hotel, 157 High Street, Portland, ME 04101; telephone: (207) 775-5411.

*Council address:* New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The items of discussion in the committee's agenda are as follows:

1. Introduction: safety, regulation compliance, and familiarizing industry with the proper use of VMS.

2. Presentation by NOAA's Office for Law Enforcement: the capabilities and limitations of VMS as an enforcement tool.

3. Comments and recommendations from the public, VMS users, state agencies and the Coast Guard. The committee has received the following requests:

a. Safe harbor protocol, to suspend a fishing trip due to storms or other emergencies;

b. Produce a laminated sheet of emergency contacts;

c. Declaration in/out of a fishery while at sea, rather than in port;

d. Change polling frequency, to be based on fishery declaration;

e. Closed area transit declaration, to minimize gear stowage requirements;

f. Completion of the days-at-sea (DAS) web page by NMFS;

g. Inform fishermen of existing safety features on their VMS units by vendors.

h. Examine polling outages, frequency and duration, by vendor.

i. Improve safety by consistently applying the minimum landing limit to once per 24 hours across all fisheries.

j. Develop an updated VMS program to eliminate inconsistent or duplicative regulations, and increase flexibility and improve administration of industry reporting requirements.

4. Industry and law enforcement dialog on VMS usage and how it can be improved.

5. Other business.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management

Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final 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 Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: May 11, 2007.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. E7-9373 Filed 5-15-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[XRIN: 0648-XA30]

#### Fisheries of the South Atlantic; Southeastern Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); greater amberjack; red snapper.

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

**ACTION:** Notice of SEDAR Workshops for South Atlantic greater amberjack and red snapper.

**SUMMARY:** The SEDAR assessments of the South Atlantic stocks of greater amberjack and red snapper will consist of a series of three workshops: a Data Workshop, an Assessment Workshop, and a Review Workshop. This is the fifteenth SEDAR. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**DATES:** The Data Workshop will take place July 9-13, 2007; the Assessment Workshop will take place October 22-26, 2007; the Review Workshop will take place January 28-February 1, 2008. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**ADDRESSES:** The Data Workshop will be held at the Francis Marion Hotel, 387 King Street, Charleston, SC 29103; telephone: (843) 722-0600. The

Assessment Workshop will be held at the Center for Coastal Fisheries and Habitat Research Beaufort Laboratory, 101 Piver's Island Road, Beaufort, NC 28516. The Review Workshop will be held at the Holiday Inn Brownstone, 1707 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC 27605; telephone: (919) 828-0811.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Carmichael, SEDAR Coordinator, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North

Charleston, SC 29405; telephone: (843) 571-4366.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions have implemented the SEDAR process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR includes three workshops: (1) Data Workshop, (2) Stock Assessment Workshop and (3) Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a data report which compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The product of the Stock Assessment Workshop is a stock assessment report which describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The assessment is independently peer reviewed at the Review Workshop. The product of the Review Workshop is a Consensus Summary documenting Panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data. Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and NGO's; International experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

#### SEDAR 15 Workshop Schedule:

##### July 9-13, 2007; SEDAR 15 Data Workshop

July 9, 2007: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m.; July 3-12, 2007: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.; July 13, 2007: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

An assessment data set and associated documentation will be developed during the Data Workshop. Participants will evaluate all available data and select appropriate sources for providing information on life history characteristics, catch statistics, discard estimates, length and age composition, and fishery dependent and fishery independent measures of stock abundance.

### October 22–26, 2007; SEDAR 15 Assessment Workshop

October 22, 2007: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m.;  
October 23–25, 2007: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.;  
October 26, 2007: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Using datasets provided by the Data Workshop, participants will develop population models to evaluate stock status, estimate population benchmarks and Sustainable Fisheries Act criteria, and project future conditions. Participants will recommend the most appropriate methods and configurations for determining stock status and estimating population parameters. Participants will prepare a workshop report, compare and contrast various assessment approaches, and determine whether the assessments are adequate for submission to the review panel.

### January 28–February 1, 2008; SEDAR 15 Review Workshop

January 28, 2008: 1 p.m. - 8 p.m.;  
January 29–31, 2008: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.;  
February 1, 2008: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The Review Workshop is an independent peer review of the assessment developed during the Data and Assessment Workshops. Workshop Panelists will review the assessment and document their comments and recommendations in a Consensus Summary.

### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) at least 10 business days prior to each workshop.

Dated: May 11, 2007.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RIN 0648-XA19]

### Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

**ACTION:** Receipt of application for scientific research/enhancement permit (1610) and request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that NMFS has received an application for a permit from Thomas R. Payne and Associates, Arcata, California (Permit 1610). This permit would affect the Southern California (SC) steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) distinct population segment (DPS), Northern California (NC) steelhead DPS, Central California Coast (CCC) steelhead DPS, California Coastal (CC) Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) Evolutionarily Significant Population (ESU), Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast (SONCC) coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) ESU, and CCC coho salmon ESU. This document serves to notify the public of the availability of the permit application for review and comment before a final approval or disapproval is made by NMFS.

**DATES:** Written comments on the permit application must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Daylight Savings Time on June 15, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments on this permit request should be sent to the office indicated below. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the request. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the internet. The application and related documents are available for review, by appointment at NMFS, 1655 Heindon Road, Arcata, CA 95521 (ph: 707-825-5185, fax: 707-825-4840).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Diane Ashton at phone number (707-825-5185), or e-mail: [diane.ashton@noaa.gov](mailto:diane.ashton@noaa.gov)

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Authority

Issuance of permits and permit modifications, as required by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) (ESA), is based on a finding that such permits/modifications: (1) Are applied for in good faith; (2) would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species which are the subject of the permits; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits. Permits and modifications are issued in accordance with and are subject to the ESA and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Those individuals requesting a hearing on the application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on that application would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such a hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the permit action summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

### Species Covered in This Notice

This notice is relevant to the endangered CCC coho salmon ESU, and the following threatened salmonid DPSs and ESUs: SC steelhead DPS, NC steelhead DPS, CCC steelhead DPS, CC Chinook salmon ESU, and SONCC coho salmon ESU.

### Permit Request Received.

#### Permit 1610

Thomas Payne has requested a Permit (1610) for take of the above listed species associated with four studies. Study 1 (Ventura River Project) would assess the distribution and estimate the abundance of juvenile steelhead/rainbow trout, with a comparison to estimates from 2006, in the Ventura River and principal tributaries, Ventura County, California. Study 2 (Martin Slough Project) would assess the fish habitat quality of Martin Slough and to document the distribution and abundance of fish, including juvenile salmonids, in Martin Slough which flows into Swain Slough, a tributary to Elk River which flows into Humboldt Bay, Humboldt County, California. Study 3 (Russian River Project) would assess the fish habitat quality and fish distribution, including juvenile salmonids, in two tributaries of the upper Russian River basin near Ukiah, Mendocino County, California. Study 4 (PALCO Marsh Project) would assess the fish populations in PALCO Marsh and tidal channels to Humboldt Bay, Humboldt County, California.

Permit 1610, if issued, would expire September, 2017.

Dated: May 10, 2007.

Angela Somma,

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

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