

The permit holder is requesting the permit be amended to expand the geographic area where research is conducted in Antarctica to include the Weddell Sea. No other changes are requested. The permit holder requests the changes proposed in the amendment be for the duration of the permit.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: November 13, 2008.

P. Michael Payne,

Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E8-27336 Filed 11-17-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN: 0648-XL73

Caribbean Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Caribbean Fishery Management Council (Council) and its Administrative Committee will hold meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held on December 9-10, 2008. The Council will convene on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the Administrative Committee will meet from 5:15 p.m. to 6 p.m., on that same day. The Council will reconvene on Wednesday, December 10, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., approximately.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Marriott Frenchman's Reef & Morning Star Hotel, 5 Estate Bakkeroe, St. Thomas, U.S.V.I.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 268 Munoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 1108, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918-1920; telephone: (787) 766-5926.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council will hold its 129th regular Council meeting to discuss the items contained in the following agenda:

December 9, 2008, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Call to Order
Adoption of Agenda
Consideration of the 128th Council Meeting Verbatim Transcription
Executive Director's Report
Bajo de Sico Scoping Meeting Results
Queen Conch Manual - Final Report
Nassau Grouper Initiative Report
-Nassau Grouper Workshop Report
-WECAFC
-Aquaculture Project in Colombia
Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) National Workshop
ACLs National Guidelines Update

December 9, 2008, 5:15 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Administrative Committee Meeting
-Advisory Panel (AP)/SSC/Habitat AP Membership
-Budget 2008/09
-SOPPs Amendment(s)
-Other Business

December 10, 2008, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

PARFISH Update
Lion Fish Update
Enforcement Reports
-Puerto Rico - DNER
-U.S. Virgin Islands - DPNR
-NOAA/NMFS
-U.S. Coast Guard
Administrative Committee

Recommendations

Meetings Attended by Council Members and Staff

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (5-minute presentations)

Other Business
Next Council Meeting

The meetings are open to the public, and will be conducted in English. Fishers and other interested persons are invited to attend and participate with oral or written statements regarding agenda issues.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be subjects for formal action during these meetings. Actions 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 that the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities.

For more information or request for sign language interpretation and/or other auxiliary aids, please contact Mr. Miguel A. Rolon, Executive Director, Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 268 Munoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 1108, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918-1920; telephone: (787) 766-5926, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: November 13, 2008.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. E8-27333 Filed 11-17-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XL71

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees will hold public meetings, December 10-16, 2008, in Anchorage, AK.

DATES: The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, December 10 continuing through Tuesday, December 16, 2008. The Council's Advisory Panel (AP) will begin at 8 a.m., Monday, December 8 and continue through Friday December 12. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, December 8 and continue through Wednesday, December 10, 2008. The Ecosystem Committee will meet Tuesday, December 9, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The Enforcement Committee will meet Tuesday, December 9, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the. All meetings are open to the public, except executive sessions.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Hilton Hotel, 500 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage, AK.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Witherell, Council staff, telephone: (907) 271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Council Plenary Session: The agenda for the Council's plenary session will include