

possible modifications to groundfish closed areas and the recent Endangered Species Act listing of Atlantic Sturgeon.

Other business may also be discussed.

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: March 27, 2012.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XB136

### Fisheries of the South Atlantic; South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council will hold meetings of its: Snapper Grouper AP; Joint Shrimp and Deepwater Shrimp AP; Dolphin Wahoo AP; King and Spanish Mackerel AP; and Coral AP in North Charleston, SC. An MPA Workshop will be held in conjunction with the Snapper Grouper AP meeting. All meetings are open to the public. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**DATES:** The meetings will take place from April 18–May 10, 2012. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, 5265 International Blvd., North Charleston,

SC 29418; telephone: (843) 308–9330; fax: (843) 308–9331.

Copies of documents are available from Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer, South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer; telephone: (843) 571–4366 or toll free at (866) SAFMC–10; fax: (843) 769–4520; email: [kim.iverson@safmc.net](mailto:kim.iverson@safmc.net).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Meeting Dates

##### 1. Snapper Grouper AP Meeting: April 18–19, 2012

Members of the Snapper Grouper AP will meet from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. on April 18, 2012 and from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. on April 19, 2012. The AP will receive an update on recent amendments, including Snapper Grouper Amendment 24 (red grouper), Snapper Grouper Amendment 18A (black sea bass), Regulatory Amendment 11 (removal of 240 foot closure), Regulatory Amendment 12 (golden tilefish) and Snapper Grouper Amendment 20A (wreckfish). The AP will discuss developing amendments, including: Snapper Grouper Amendment 18B, which includes measures to implement an endorsement program for the commercial golden tilefish fishery; and Snapper Grouper Amendment 20, which addresses the current Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) program for wreckfish. In addition, the AP will review proposed measures in Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 3 including options to create and/or expand existing marine protected areas to help provide protection for speckled hind and Warsaw grouper. The AP will provide recommendations to the Council for consideration.

##### 2. Marine Protected Area (MPA) Workshop: April 18, 2012

The Council will host an MPA Workshop for the public beginning at 6 p.m. in order to solicit input regarding the use of MPAs to reduce bycatch mortality associated with speckled hind and Warsaw grouper.

##### 3. Joint Shrimp AP and Deepwater Shrimp AP Meeting: April 20, 2012

Members of the Joint Shrimp and Deepwater Shrimp AP will meet from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. The APs will review measures in Shrimp Amendment 9 that include revising the Minimum Stock Size Threshold (MSST) proxy for pink shrimp and streamlining the

concurrent closure process of penaeid shrimp fisheries. Members will receive a briefing on issues related to Atlantic sturgeon which were recently listed as endangered. The APs will also review options and provide recommendations for expansion of Deepwater Coral Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC) as included in the Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment.

##### 4. Dolphin Wahoo AP Meeting: April 24, 2012

Members of the Dolphin Wahoo AP will meet from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon. The AP will review revised numbers for recreational landings of dolphin and wahoo through the Marine Recreational Information Program and discuss allocation issues.

##### 5. King and Spanish Mackerel AP Meeting: April 24–25, 2012

Members of the King and Spanish Mackerel AP will meet from 1:30 p.m. on April 24, 2012 until 4 p.m. on April 25, 2012. The AP will receive updates on amendments and assessments, including: Mackerel Amendment 18, which establishes Annual Catch Limits and Accountability Measures for mackerel and cobia; and the recent stock assessment of Spanish mackerel and cobia. The AP will discuss developing amendments, including Mackerel Amendment 19 addressing permits and sale of bag-limit mackerel and cobia, and Amendment 20 addressing boundaries and transit provisions. The AP will also review a list of framework items and provide recommendations.

##### 6. Coral AP Meeting: May 9–10, 2012

Members of the Coral AP will meet from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on May 9, 2012 and from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon on May 10, 2012. The AP will review alternatives for expansion of Deepwater Coral HAPCs as included in the draft Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 3. The AP will also receive an update from NOAA Fisheries Habitat Conservation Division, an overview of the Florida Reef Managers Meeting, and an update on exotic species. The AP will appoint a chair, elect a vice-chair and will provide recommendations to the Council for consideration.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before these groups for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed 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

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 **ADDRESSES**) 3 days prior to the meeting.

**Note:** The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

Dated: March 27, 2012.

**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-XB133**

#### Western 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 Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold meetings of its Joint Marianas and American Samoa Archipelago Plan Team (Joint PT) and Hawaii and Pacific Remote Island Area Archipelago Plan Team (HI-PRIA PT) to review the status of the nearshore fisheries, data collection issues and improvements, improvements in the Annual Catch Limit specifications, and developing Cooperative Research Priorities.

**DATES:** The Joint PT meeting will be held on April 16-18, 2012 and the HI-PRIA PT on April 19-20, 2012. For specific times and agendas, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**ADDRESSES:** The Joint PT and HI-PRIA PT meetings will be held at the Council office, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Public comment periods will be provided. The order in which agenda items are

addressed may change. The meetings will run as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

#### Schedule and Agenda for the Joint PT Meeting

*April 16, 2012—1 p.m.–5 p.m.*

1. Welcome and Introductions.
2. Approval of the Agenda.
3. Assignment of Rapporteurs.
4. Guiding Principles for Development of Effective Fishery Monitoring Programs.
5. Evaluation of data collection programs in the Western Pacific.
6. Improving fishery data collections and status reporting.

A. Summary of the Fishery Data Collection Improvement Workshop.

B. Update on Status of Fishery Data Collection Improvement Actions.

C. Data collection in military installations in Guam.

D. Discussion on the fishery characterization based on creel survey performance.

*April 17, 2012—8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.*

7. Review of the Status of the Western Pacific Insular Fisheries.

A. American Samoa

- i. Coral reef and crustacean fisheries.
- ii. Bottomfish fisheries.
- iii. Precious corals fishery and coral reef habitat status.

iv. Update on Bio-Sampling Program data summary.

v. Non-stock related factors affecting Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) in the coral reef fisheries.

vi. Estimation of non-commercial landings.

vii. Administrative and regulatory updates.

viii. Discussions.

B. Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

- i. Coral reef fisheries.
- ii. Bottomfish fisheries.
- iii. Crustacean and precious coral fisheries.

iv. Coral reef habitat status.

v. Update on Bio-Sampling Program and Spearfishing Market-flow project.

vi. Estimation of non-commercial landings.

vii. Administrative and regulatory updates.

viii. Discussions.

C. Guam

- i. Coral reef fisheries.
- ii. Bottomfish fisheries.
- iii. Crustacean fisheries.

iv. Precious corals fishery and coral reef habitat status.

v. Update on Bio-Sampling Program Data Summary.

vi. Estimation of non-commercial landings.

vii. Administrative and regulatory updates.

viii. Discussions.

8. Format and information needs for the Annual Report Modules.

9. Improving Annual Catch Limit (ACL) specifications.

A. Surplus production model using biomass, catch, and natural mortality estimates.

B. Use of other data sources (e.g. commercial receipt book, BioSampling).

C. Discussions.

*April 18, 2012—8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.*

10. Essential Fish Habitat/Habitat Area of Particular Concern (EFH/HAPC).

A. Territory bottomfish, pelagic, and precious corals.

B. Coral reef ecosystem management unit species.

C. Coral reef EFH Project.

11. Status of the territorial bottomfish assessment.

12. The Council Five-Year Research Priorities.

13. Development and Review of Cooperative Research Priorities and Projects.

14. Other Business.

15. Public Comments.

16. Rapporteur reports.

17. General discussions and Plan Team recommendations.

#### Schedule and Agenda for the Hawaii and Pacific Remote Island Area Plan Team meeting

*April 19, 2012—8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.*

1. Welcome and Introductions.

2. Approval of the Agenda.

3. Assignment of Rapporteurs.

4. Guiding Principles for

Development of Effective Fishery Monitoring Programs.

5. Status of Fishery Monitoring Programs and Research Projects.

A. Coral reef fisheries.

B. Crustacean fisheries.

C. Precious coral fisheries and gold coral moratorium.

i. Status of the black coral surveys.

D. Bottomfish fisheries.

i. Main Hawaiian Island Annual Catch Target Monitoring.

ii. Performance of trip level reporting.

iii. Status of Cooperative Research Projects.

iv. Evaluation of effectiveness of Bottomfish Restricted Areas.

E. Hawaii non-commercial landing estimation.

F. Administrative and regulatory updates.

G. Report on reef fish tagging in Palmyra Atoll.