

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN 0648-XE199

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 (Council) will hold a four-day meeting to consider actions affecting the Gulf of Mexico fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The meeting will be held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, October 5–8, 2015, starting at 8:30 a.m. daily.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hilton Galveston Island Hotel, 5400 Seawall Boulevard, Galveston, TX 77551; telephone: (409) 744-5000; fax: (409) 740-2209.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 2203 N. Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Douglas Gregory, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Agenda**

Monday, October 5, 2015

The Gulf Council will begin with updates and presentations from management committees. The Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem Management Committee will review the Integrated Ecosystem Assessment—Management Strategy Evaluation, and receive a presentation on NOAA's Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management Policy. The Joint Administrative Policy & Budget/Personnel Management Committee will review the new Advisory Panels (AP) Staggered Terms, modifications to the standard operating practices and procedures (SOPPs) section discussing AP Appointments, Administrative Committee structure, and review of the Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization Bills. The Mackerel Management Committee will convene after lunch to review the Joint Public Hearing Draft for CMP Amendment 26: Changes in Allocations, Stock Boundaries and Sale Provisions for Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Migratory Groups of King Mackerel, and an

Options Paper for CMP Amendment 28: Separating Permits for Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Migratory Groups of King Mackerel and Spanish Mackerel. The Data Collection Committee will then review the Public Hearing Draft—Joint Electronic Charter Vessel Reporting Amendment; and the Gulf SEDAR Committee will review the SEDAR Steering Committee meeting and SEDAR Assessment Schedule.

Tuesday, October 6, 2015

The Reef Fish Management Committee will provide updates from the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and Reef Fish Advisory Panel (AP) meetings. The committee will discuss final action on Framework Action to set Gag Recreational Season and Gag and Black Grouper Minimum Size Limits, review options papers for Amendment to Define Gulf of Mexico Hogfish Stock and set Acceptable Catch Limits (ACL) and Status Determination Criteria and Framework Action to set Mutton Snapper ACL and management measures, and the revised Public Hearing Draft Amendment 39—Regional Management of Recreational Red Snapper. The committee will also review options papers for Adjust Minimum Stock Size Threshold (MSST) and South Florida Management Issues; discussion on the Ad Hoc Private Recreational AP. NMFS will hold a Question and Answer session immediately following the committee.

Wednesday, October 7, 2015

The Reef Fish Management Committee will continue with any remaining agenda items from the previous day. Shrimp Management Committee will review the Public Hearing Draft for Shrimp Amendment 17A—Addressing the Expiration of the Shrimp Permit Moratorium and the Draft Options Paper for Shrimp Amendment 17B—Establishing Optimum Yield, Target Number of Permits, Permit Pool, and Addressing Transit Provisions through Federal Waters.

The Full Council will convene mid-morning with a Call to Order, Announcements and Introductions; Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Minutes. The Council will review and approve the 2016 Committee Appointments. After lunch, the Council will receive presentations on the Southeast Observer Program and the Standardized Reporting Bycatch Methods; and review of Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs) Applications, if any. The Council will receive Public Comment (2:30 p.m.–5 p.m.) on Final Action on Framework Action to Set Gag

Recreational Season and Gag and Black Grouper Minimum Size Limits; followed by open testimony on any other fishery issues or concerns.

Thursday, October 8, 2015

The Council will receive management committee reports from Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem, Administrative Policy & Budget/Personnel, Mackerel, Data Collection, Shrimp and SEDAR. Upon returning from lunch, the Council will receive a committee report from the Reef Fish Management Committee; vote on Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Applications, if any, and discuss Other Business.

Meeting Adjourns

Although other non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subjects of formal action during this meeting. Council 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 Act, provided that 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 Kathy Pereira (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: September 15, 2015.

Jeffrey N. Lonergan,

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

[FR Doc. 2015-23461 Filed 9-17-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: NMFS Observer Programs' Information That Can be Gathered Only Through Questions.

OMB Control Number: 0648–0593.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular (extension of a currently approved information collection).

Number of Respondents: 3,699.

Average Hours per Response: 51 minutes.

Burden Hours: 27,238.

Needs and Uses: This request is for extension of a currently approved information collection.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) deploys fishery observers on United States (U.S.) commercial fishing vessels and to fish processing plants in order to collect biological and economic data. NMFS has at least one observer program in each of its five Regions. These observer programs provide the most reliable and effective method for obtaining information that is critical for the conservation and management of living marine resources. Observer programs primarily obtain information through direct observations by employees or agents of NMFS; and such observations are not subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA).

However, observer programs also collect the following information that requires clearance under the PRA: (1) Standardized questions of fishing vessel captains/crew or fish processing plant managers/staff, which include gear and performance questions, safety questions, and trip costs, crew size and other economic questions; (2) questions asked by observer program staff/contractors to plan observer deployments; (3) forms that are completed by observers and that fishing vessel captains are asked to review and sign; (4) questionnaires to evaluate observer performance; and (5) a form to certify that a fisherman is the permit holder when requesting observer data from the observer on the vessel. NMFS seeks to renew OMB PRA clearance for these information collections.

The information collected will be used to: (1) Monitor catch and bycatch in federally managed commercial fisheries; (2) understand the population status and trends of fish stocks and protected species, as well as the interactions between them; (3) determine the quantity and distribution of net benefits derived from living marine resources; (4) predict the biological, ecological, and economic impacts of existing management action and proposed management options; and (5) ensure that the observer programs can safely and efficiently collect the information required for the previous four uses. In particular, these biological

and economic data collection programs contribute to legally mandated analyses required under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), Executive Order 12866 (E.O. 12866), as well as a variety of state statutes. The confidentiality of the data will be protected as required by the MSA, Section 402(b).

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Mandatory.

This information collection request may be viewed at reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395–5806.

Dated: September 15, 2015.

Sarah Brabson,

NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2015–23450 Filed 9–17–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XE194

Fisheries of the South Atlantic; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of SEDAR 41 Pre-Assessment webinar for South Atlantic red snapper and gray triggerfish.

SUMMARY: The SEDAR 41 assessments of the South Atlantic stocks of red snapper and gray triggerfish will consist of a series of workshop and webinars: Data Workshops; an Assessment Workshop and webinars; and a Review Workshop. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

DATES: A SEDAR 41 Pre-Assessment webinar will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact Julia

Byrd at SEDAR (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation providing webinar access information. Please request webinar invitations at least 24 hours in advance of each webinar.

SEDAR address: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405; www.sedarweb.org.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julia Byrd, SEDAR Coordinator, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405; phone: (843) 571–4366; email: julia.byrd@safmc.net.

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 Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR is a three-step process including: (1) Data Workshop; (2) Assessment Process utilizing webinars; 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 Assessment Process 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 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, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include: Data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs); international experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

The items of discussion in the Pre-Assessment webinar are as follows: Participants will finalize data