

Friday Harbor, WA) on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 7pm; in Anacortes (City Council Chambers, Anacortes City Hall, 904 6th St., Anacortes, WA) on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 7pm; and in Seattle (Seattle Aquarium, Puget Sound Hall, 1483 Alaskan Way, Seattle, WA) on Thursday October 20, 2016 at 7 p.m.

References Cited

The complete citations for the references used in this document can be obtained by contacting NMFS (See **ADDRESSES** and **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) or on our Web page at: http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/protected_species/rockfish/rockfish_in_puget_sound.html. <http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/>.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: August 9, 2016.

Angela Somma,

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

[FR Doc. 2016-19459 Filed 8-15-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XE805

Pacific 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 Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Pacific Council) *Groundfish* Management Team (GMT) will hold a one-day work session that is open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. on Thursday, October 6, 2016, and end after business for the day is completed.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Natural Resources Building, Room 682, 1111 Washington St. SE., Olympia, WA 98501, (360) 902-2200.

Council address: Pacific Council, 7700 NE. Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, Oregon 97220-1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Kelly Ames, Pacific Council, 503-820-2426.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda

The primary purpose of the GMT work session is to discuss with the West Coast *Groundfish* Observer Program refinements to *groundfish* projection models for use in fishery management. The GMT's task will be to identify which models need improvements, outline the improvements necessary, and develop recommendations for consideration by the Pacific Council at its November meeting in Garden Grove, California. During the November meeting, the Council will determine which models are ready for review and recommend a review schedule. A detailed description on the process for revising and approving models is outlined in Council Operating Procedure 25. The GMT may also address other assignments relating to *groundfish* management. No management actions will be decided by the GMT.

Although nonemergency issues not contained in the meeting agenda may be discussed, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this document and any issues arising after publication of this document 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 intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

The meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt, at (503) 820-2425, at least five days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: August 11, 2016.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2016-19490 Filed 8-15-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XE036

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Exempted Fishing Permit

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of an application for an exempted fishing permit; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the receipt of an application for an exempted fishing permit (EFP) from the Florida Keys Commercial Fisherman's Association (Association). If granted, the EFP would authorize the deployment of four fish trap designs at several sites in the Federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) and the South Atlantic to determine the effectiveness of these gear types for attracting and collecting invasive lionfish and to obtain lionfish life-history information over a 1 year period. The EFP would also utilize an outreach and education program to inform the public about the status of lionfish as an invasive species, efforts to control the spread of the population, and utilization of lionfish as a consumer food source.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before September 15, 2016.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on the application by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* 0648.XE036.Association.Lionfish.EFP@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line of the email comment the following document identifier: "Association Lionfish_EFP".
- *Mail:* Susan Gerhart, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

The application and related documents are available for review upon written request to any of the above addresses.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Gerhart, 727-824-5305; email: susan.gerhart@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EFP is requested under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), and regulations at 50 CFR 600.745(b) concerning exempted fishing.

Lionfish is an invasive species that occurs in both the Gulf and South Atlantic. The harvest of lionfish in the Federal waters of the Gulf and South Atlantic is not currently managed. The EFP request, however, involves the use of prohibited gear types. Federal regulations prohibit the use or possession of a fish trap in Federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic, except in certain fisheries with certain approved traps (50 CFR 622.2 and 622.9(c)). In Gulf Federal waters, crustacean traps are allowed for the