

for many fishermen to afford. There are also questions about the accurate representation of the information, since there is evidence that fishing behavior may be different on observed and unobserved trips. For these reasons, the Council may explore alternatives to at-sea observers, such as using cameras to monitor fishing activity, which is usually referred to as Electronic Monitoring, or EM. The Council also may consider changes to the way landings information is provided by both dealers and vessel operators and how it is assigned to stock areas. When developing this amendment, the Council will take into account other regional projects to improve catch monitoring, such as the Fishery Dependent Data Visioning project that NMFS is pursuing. In summary, the Council may consider changes to any part of the system used to collect and

report commercial catch information in the Northeast multispecies fishery.

At its September 2016 meeting, the Council identified that the purpose of this amendment will be to adjust the groundfish monitoring program to improve reliability and accountability. The Council's Groundfish Oversight Committee and the Council will identify the goal and objectives of the amendment following the scoping period and will then develop alternatives to achieve the goal and objectives. Following input from the Committee and the public, the Council will select a range of alternatives to improve the monitoring and reporting system.

#### Public Comment

All persons affected by or otherwise interested in Northeast multispecies management are invited to participate in commenting on the scope and

significance of issues to be analyzed by submitting written comments (see **ADDRESSES**) or by attending one of the six scoping meetings, including one webinar, for this amendment. Scoping consists of identifying the range of actions, alternatives, and possible impacts to be considered. At this time, the Council believes that it may consider changing any aspect of the existing groundfish monitoring and reporting system. After the scoping process is completed, the Council will begin development of Amendment 23 and will prepare an EIS to analyze the impacts of the range of alternatives for changing the monitoring and reporting system. The Council will hold public hearings to receive comments on the draft amendment and on the analysis of its impacts presented in the Draft EIS.

The Council will take and discuss scoping comments on this amendment at the following public meetings:

Date and time	Location
Rockland, ME, Friday, March 3, 2017, 9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m.	Samoset Resort, 220 Warrenton Street, Rockport, ME 04856.
Via Webinar, Tuesday, March 14, 2017, 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.	Webinar Hearing, Register to participate: <a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4567763108442151939">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4567763108442151939</a> Call in info: Toll: +1 (415) 930-5321 Access Code: 702-360-151.
Portsmouth, NH, Tuesday, March 21, 2017, 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.	Portsmouth Library, 175 Parrott Avenue, Portsmouth, NH 03801.
Gloucester, MA, Tuesday, March 21, 2017, 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.	NOAA Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930.
Plymouth, MA, Wednesday, March 22, 2017, 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.	Hilton Garden Inn, 4 Home Depot Drive, Plymouth, MA 02360.
Groton, CT, Thursday, March 23, 2017, 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.	Hilton Garden Inn, 224 Gold Star Highway, Groton, CT. 06340.

#### Special Accommodations

The meetings are accessible to people with physical disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Thomas A. Nies (see **ADDRESSES**) at least five days prior to this meeting date.

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

Dated: February 14, 2017.

**Karen H. Abrams,**

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

[FR Doc. 2017-03236 Filed 2-16-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

##### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XF152

##### Council Coordination Committee Meeting; Addendum

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

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting; additional information regarding agenda and webinar.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS will host a meeting of the Council Coordination Committee (CCC), consisting of the Regional Fishery Management Council chairs, vice chairs, and executive directors on February 28–March 1, 2017. The intent of this meeting is to discuss issues of relevance to the Councils and NMFS, including issues related to the implementation of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act. Agenda items include discussions on budget allocations for FY2017 and budget planning for FY2018; an update on current joint science initiatives, including Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management; the FY2017 legislative outlook; updates on planning for the CCC Scientific Coordination Committee meeting, NMFS bycatch reduction

strategy, the NMFS National Standard 1 guidance and implementation, Marine Recreational Information Program updates, stock assessment improvement plan; and other topics related to implementation of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act. All sessions are open to the public.

**DATES:** The meeting and webinar will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 2017, recess at 5:00 p.m. or when business is complete; and reconvene at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 1, 2017, and adjourn by 3:30 p.m. or when business is complete.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Ritz-Carlton, Pentagon City, 1250 South Hayes Street; Arlington, VA 22202; Telephone: (703) 415-5000. The meeting presentations will also be available via WebEx webinar/conference call.

On Tuesday, February 28, 2017, the conference call information is phone number 888-455-5378; Participant Code 8262839; and the webinar event

address is: <https://noaaevents3.webex.com/noaaevents3/onstage/g.php?MTID=e71293830f973912c143fa64ae763187d>; event password: NOAA.

On Wednesday, March 1, 2017, the conference call information is phone number 888-455-5378; Participant Code: 8262839; and the webinar event address is: <https://noaaevents3.webex.com/noaaevents3/onstage/g.php?MTID=eb8395a0a32359253a01f718217e7158d>; event password: NOAA.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Brian Fredieu: telephone 301-427-8505 or email at [Brian.Fredieu@noaa.gov](mailto:Brian.Fredieu@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The original notice published in the **Federal Register** on January 12, 2017 (82 FR 3725). This notice includes additional information regarding the agenda and webinar details. The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act established the CCC by amending Section 302 (16 U.S.C. 1852) of the MSA. The committee consists of the chairs, vice chairs, and executive directors of each of the eight Regional Fishery Management Councils authorized by the MSA or other Council members or staff. Updates to this meeting and additional information will be posted on <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/management/councils/ccc/ccc.htm> when available.

### Proposed Agenda

*Tuesday, February 28, 2017*

8:30 a.m.—Morning session begins

- Welcome/Introductions
- NMFS Update & FY17 Priorities
- Management and Budget update
- Legislative Outlook
- MSA Reauthorization & CCC Comments
- Council Member Conflict of Interest and Recusal National guidance update
- National Standard 1 Guidelines: Questions and Clarifications
- National Bycatch Reduction Strategy Update
- Marine National Monuments and Fishing Restrictions

5:15 p.m.—Adjourn for the day

*Thursday, March 1, 2017*

9 a.m.—Morning Session Begins

- NMFS Science Update
- EBFM Roadmap Implementation
- National Academics of Science MRIP Review and Recommendations
- MRIP Strategic Plan
- Report to CCC on 2016 FAO Meeting
- Update on the Scientific Coordination Committee meeting (SCS-6)
- Other business

3:30 p.m.—Adjourn for the day

The order in which the agenda items are addressed may change. The CCC

will meet as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Brian Fredieu at 301-427-8505 at least five working days prior to the meeting.

Dated: February 14, 2017.

**Emily H. Menashes,**

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

[FR Doc. 2017-03232 Filed 2-16-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XF233**

### 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 and hearings.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold its 125th Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) meeting; Joint Advisory Group Meeting consisting of the Council's Advisory Panel (AP), Non-Commercial Fisheries Advisory Committee (NCFAC), Fishing Industry Advisory Committee (FIAC), and Community Demonstration Projects Program Advisory Panel (CDPP-AP); and its 169th Council Meeting to take actions on fishery management issues in the Western Pacific Region.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held between March 7 and March 23. For specific dates, times and agendas, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**ADDRESSES:** The 125th SSC will be held at the Council office, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813; telephone: (808) 522-8220. The Joint Advisory Group Meeting will be held at the Ala Moana Hotel, 410 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, HI 96814; telephone: (808) 955-4811. The Program Planning Standing Committee, Hawaii Archipelago Standing Committee, Pelagic and International Standing Committee and Executive and Budget Standing Committee will be held at the Council office. The 169th Council meeting will also be held at the Ala Moana Hotel, as will a Fishers Forum will be held at the Ala Moana Hotel.

*Council address:* Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813, phone: (808) 522-8220.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The 125th SSC meeting will be held between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on March 7-9, 2017. The Joint Advisory Group Meeting of the AP, NCFAC, FIAC and CDPP-AP will be held between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on March 15 and March 16, 2017 and 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon on March 17. The Program Planning Standing Committee will be held on March 20, 2017 between 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. The Hawaii Archipelago Standing Committee will be held on March 20, 2017, between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. The Pelagic and International Standing Committee will be held on March 20, 2017 between 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. The Executive and Budget Standing Committee will be held on March 20, 2017 from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. The 169th Council meeting will be held between March 21, 2017 and March 23, 2017 between 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. On March 22, 2017, the Council will host a Fishers Forum between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. at the Ala Moana Hotel. In addition to the agenda items listed here, the Council and its advisory bodies will hear recommendations from Council advisors. An opportunity to submit public comment will be provided throughout the agendas. The order in which agenda items are addressed may change and will be announced in advance at the Council meeting. The meetings will run as late as necessary to complete scheduled business. Background documents will be available from, and written comments should be sent to, Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813, phone: (808) 522-8220 or fax: (808) 522-8226.

### Agenda for 124th SSC Meeting

*Tuesday, March 7, 2017, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

1. Introductions
2. Approval of Draft Agenda and Assignment of Rapporteurs
3. Status of the 124th SSC Meeting Recommendations
4. Report from the Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center Director
5. Program Planning
  - A. Analysis of the Fishery Ecosystem Plan Management Unit Species for Ecosystem Component Designation (Action Item)