

responsibilities as part of the U.S. implementation of the CWC, the Department of Defense (DOD) was assigned the responsibility to operate these two facilities. Although this assignment of responsibility to DOD under PDD-70 effectively precluded commercial production of "Schedule 1" chemicals for protective purposes in the United States, it did not establish any limitations on "Schedule 1" chemical activities that are not prohibited by the CWC. However, DOD does maintain strict controls on "Schedule 1" chemicals produced at its facilities in order to ensure accountability for such chemicals, as well as their proper use, consistent with the object and purpose of the Convention.

The provisions of the CWC that affect commercial activities involving "Schedule 1" chemicals are implemented in the CWCR (see 15 CFR 712) and in the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) (see 15 CFR 742.18 and 15 CFR 745), both of which are administered by the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS). Pursuant to CWC requirements, the CWCR restrict commercial production of "Schedule 1" chemicals to research, medical, or pharmaceutical purposes (the CWCR prohibit commercial production of "Schedule 1" chemicals for "protective purposes" because such production is effectively precluded per PDD-70, as described above—see 15 CFR 712.2(a)). The CWCR also contain other requirements and prohibitions that apply to "Schedule 1" chemicals and/or "Schedule 1" facilities. Specifically, the CWCR:

(1) Prohibit the import of "Schedule 1" chemicals from States not Party to the Convention (15 CFR 712.2(b));

(2) Require annual declarations by certain facilities engaged in the production of "Schedule 1" chemicals in excess of 100 grams aggregate per calendar year (*i.e.*, declared "Schedule 1" facilities) for purposes not prohibited by the Convention (15 CFR 712.5(a)(1) and (a)(2));

(3) Provide for government approval of "declared Schedule 1" facilities (15 CFR 712.5(f));

(4) Provide that "declared Schedule 1" facilities are subject to initial and routine inspection by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (15 CFR 712.5(e) and 716.1(b)(1));

(5) Require 200 days advance notification of establishment of new "Schedule 1" production facilities producing greater than 100 grams aggregate of "Schedule 1" chemicals per calendar year (15 CFR 712.4);

(6) Require advance notification and annual reporting of all imports and exports of "Schedule 1" chemicals to, or from, other States Parties to the Convention (15 CFR 712.6, 742.18(a)(1) and 745.1); and

(7) Prohibit the export of "Schedule 1" chemicals to States not Party to the Convention (15 CFR 742.18(a)(1) and (b)(1)(ii)).

For purposes of the CWCR (see 15 CFR 710.1), "production of a Schedule 1 chemical" means the formation of "Schedule 1" chemicals through chemical synthesis, as well as processing to extract and isolate "Schedule 1" chemicals produced biologically. Such production is understood, for CWCR declaration purposes, to include intermediates, by-products, or waste products that are produced and consumed within a defined chemical manufacturing sequence, where such intermediates, by-products, or waste products are chemically stable and therefore exist for a sufficient time to make isolation from the manufacturing stream possible, but where, under normal or design operating conditions, isolation does not occur.

#### Request for Comments

In order to assist in determining whether the legitimate commercial activities and interests of chemical, biotechnology, and pharmaceutical firms in the United States are significantly harmed by the limitations of the Convention on access to, and production of, "Schedule 1" chemicals as described in this notice, BIS is seeking public comments on any effects that implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, through the Chemical Weapons Convention Implementation Act and the Chemical Weapons Convention Regulations, has had on commercial activities involving "Schedule 1" chemicals during calendar year 2017. To allow BIS to properly evaluate the significance of any harm to commercial activities involving "Schedule 1" chemicals, public comments submitted in response to this notice of inquiry should include both a quantitative and qualitative assessment of the impact of the CWC on such activities.

#### Submission of Comments

All comments must be submitted to one of the addresses indicated in this notice. The Department requires that all comments be submitted in written form.

The Department encourages interested persons who wish to comment to do so at the earliest possible time. The period for submission of comments will close

on December 29, 2017. The Department will consider all comments received before the close of the comment period. Comments received after the end of the comment period may not be considered. The Department will not accept comments accompanied by a request that a part or all of the material be treated confidentially because of its business proprietary nature or for any other reason. The Department will return such comments and materials to the persons submitting the comments and will not consider them. All comments submitted in response to this notice will be a matter of public record and will be available for public inspection and copying.

The Office of Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, U.S. Department of Commerce, displays public comments on the BIS Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Web site at <http://www.bis.doc.gov/foia>. This office does not maintain a separate public inspection facility. If you have technical difficulties accessing this Web site, please call BIS's Office of Administration, at (202) 482-1093, for assistance.

Dated: November 22, 2017.

**Matthew S. Borman,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2017-25742 Filed 11-28-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-33-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### International Trade Administration

[C-570-057]

#### **Certain Tool Chests and Cabinets From the People's Republic of China: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination**

**AGENCY:** Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce (the Department) determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of certain tool chests and cabinets (tool chests) from the People's Republic of China (PRC). The period of investigation is January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016. For information on the estimated subsidy rates, *see* the "Final Determination" section of this notice.

**DATES:** Applicable November 29, 2017.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Hermes Pinilla or Thomas Schauer, AD/CVD Operations, Office I, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of

Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230; telephone (202) 482-3477 or (202) 482-0410, respectively.

**Background**

The Department published its affirmative *Preliminary Determination* on September 15, 2017.<sup>1</sup> A summary of the events that occurred since the publication of the *Preliminary Determination*, as well as a full discussion of the issues raised by parties for this final determination, may be found in the Issues and Decision Memorandum.<sup>2</sup> The Issues and Decision Memorandum is a public document and is on file electronically via Enforcement and Compliance’s Antidumping and Countervailing Duty (CVD) Centralized Electronic Service System (ACCESS). ACCESS is available to registered users at <http://access.trade.gov>, and is available to all parties in the Central Records Unit, Room B8024 of the main Department of Commerce building. In addition, a complete version of the Issues and Decision Memorandum can be accessed directly at <http://enforcement.trade.gov/frn/>. The signed Issues and Decision Memorandum and the electronic version are identical in content.

**Scope of the Investigation**

The products covered by this investigation are tool chests from the PRC. For a complete description of the scope of the investigation, see Appendix I to this notice.

**Scope Comments**

Since the *Preliminary Determination*, the Department received comments on the scope of this investigation from interested parties in this proceeding. See Issues and Decision Memorandum for further details. The scope in Appendix I reflects the final scope language.

**Analysis of Subsidy Programs and Comments Received**

The subsidy programs under investigation and the issues raised in the case and rebuttal briefs submitted by interested parties in this proceeding are discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum. A list of the issues raised by parties, and to which we responded in the Issues and Decision Memorandum, is attached to this notice at Appendix II.

**Verification**

As provided in section 782(i) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), in September 2017, the Department verified the subsidy information reported by the Government of China (GOC) and the respondents. We used standard verification procedures, including an examination of relevant accounting and production records, and original source documents provided by the GOC and the respondents.<sup>3</sup>

**Use of Adverse Facts Available**

In making this final determination, the Department relied, in part, on facts available. As discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum, because the GOC and companies that did not respond to our quantity-and-value questionnaire did not act to the best of their abilities in responding to the Department’s requests for information, we drew an adverse inference where appropriate in selecting from among the facts otherwise available, pursuant to section 776(a) and (b) of the Act.<sup>4</sup> For further information, see the section “Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Adverse Inferences” in the accompanying Issues and Decision Memorandum.

**Changes Since the Preliminary Determination**

Based on our analysis of the information requested and received

from the GOC and the company respondents since the *Preliminary Determination*, the results of verification, and the comments received from parties, we made certain changes to the subsidy rate calculations since the *Preliminary Determination*. For a discussion of these changes, see the Issues and Decision Memorandum.

**All-Others Rate**

In accordance with section 705(c)(1)(B)(i)(I) of the Act, we calculated a CVD rate for each individually-investigated producer/exporter of the subject merchandise. Consistent with section 705(c)(5)(A)(i) of the Act, we calculated an estimated “all-others” rate for exporters/producers not individually examined. Section 705(c)(5)(A)(i) of the Act provides that the “all-others” rate shall be an amount equal to the weighted-average of the countervailable subsidy rates established for individually investigated exporters/producers, excluding any rates that are zero or *de minimis* or any rates determined entirely under section 776 of the Act. Neither of the mandatory respondents’ rates in this final determination was zero or *de minimis* or based entirely on facts otherwise available. Accordingly, in order to ensure that business proprietary information is not disclosed, we calculated the all-others rate using a weighted average of the individual countervailable subsidy rates calculated for the examined respondents using each company’s publicly-ranged values for the merchandise under consideration.<sup>5</sup>

**Final Determination**

We determine the total estimated countervailable subsidy rates to be:<sup>6</sup>

Company	Subsidy rate (percent)
Jiangsu Tongrun Equipment Technology Co., Ltd .....	15.09
Zhongshan Geelong Manufacturing Co., Ltd .....	14.03
Allround Hardware Co., Ltd .....	95.96

<sup>1</sup> See *Certain Tool Chests and Cabinets from the People’s Republic of China: Preliminary Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination*, 82 FR 43331 (September 15, 2017) (*Preliminary Determination*) and accompanying Preliminary Decision Memorandum.

<sup>2</sup> See Memorandum, “Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Final Determination: Countervailing Duty Investigation of Certain Tool Chests and Cabinets from the People’s Republic of China,” dated concurrently with, and hereby adopted by, this notice (Issues and Decision Memorandum).

<sup>3</sup> See Memorandum to the File, “Verification of the Questionnaire Responses Submitted by Jiangsu Tongrun Equipment Technology Ltd.,” dated October 10, 2017; Memorandum to the File, “Verification Report: Zhongshan Geelong Manufacturing Co. Ltd.,” dated October 10, 2017; and Memorandum to the File, “Verification Report: the Government of the People’s Republic of China,” dated October 10, 2017.

<sup>4</sup> See Issues and Decision Memorandum at “USE OF FACTS OTHERWISE AVAILABLE AND ADVERSE INFERENCES” section.

<sup>5</sup> See Memorandum to the File, “Calculation of the All-Others Rate,” dated concurrently with this final determination.

<sup>6</sup> As discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum, the Department found the following companies to be cross-owned with Jiangsu Tongrun Equipment Technology Co., Ltd.: Changshu Jack Factory, Changshu Tongrun Taron Import and Export Co., Ltd., (also known as Changshu Tongrun Equipment Co., Ltd.), Changshu Tongrun Mechanical & Electrical Equipment Manufacture Co., Ltd., Changshu Taron Machinery Equipment Manufacturing Co., Ltd., and Changshu General Electrical Factory Co., Ltd.

Company	Subsidy rate (percent)
Beijing Kang Jie Kong International Cargo Agent Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Changshu Zhongcheng Tool Box Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Changzhou City Hongfei Metalwork Corporation .....	95.96
Changzhou Machan Steel Furniture Co., Ltd .....	14.39
China National Electronics Import and Export Ningbo Co .....	95.96
Foshan Lishida Metal Products Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Gem-Year Industrial Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Guangdong Hisense Home Appliances Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Guerjie Enterprise Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Haiyan Dingfeng Fasteners Ltd .....	95.96
Hangzhou Xiaoshan Import and Export Trading Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Hyxion Metal Industry .....	14.39
Jiaxing Pinyou Import & Export Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Jin Rong Hua Le Metal Manufactures Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Jinhua JG Tools Manufacturing Co .....	14.39
Jinhua Yahu Tools Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Keesung Manufacturing Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Kingstar Tools Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Liyang Flying Industry Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Meridian International Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Ningbo Better Design Industry Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Ningbo Hualei Tool Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Ningbo Jiufeng Electronic Tools .....	95.96
Ningbo Safewell International Holding Corp .....	14.39
Ningbo Xiunan International Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Pinghu Chenda Storage Office Equipment Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Pooke Technology Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Shanghai All-Fast International Trade Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Shanghai All-Hop Industry Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Shanghai Delta International Trading .....	95.96
Shanghai Fairlong International Trading Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Shanghai ITPC Hardware Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Shanghai Legsteel Metal Products Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Shanghai Tung Hsing Technology Inc .....	95.96
Shining Golden Yida Welding & Cutting Machinery Manufacture Ltd .....	95.96
Suzhou Aomeijia Metallic Products Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Suzhou Goldenline Machinery Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Suzhou Xindadi Hardware Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Taixing Hutchin Mfg. Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Tong Ming Enterprise (Jiaxing) Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Trantex Product (Zhong Shan) Co., Ltd .....	14.39
Wuyi Yunlin Steel Products Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Yangzhou Huayu Pipe Fitting Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Yangzhou Triple Harvest Power Tools Limited .....	14.39
Zhangjiagang Houfeng Machinery Co., Ltd .....	95.96
Zhejiang KC Mechanical & Electrical .....	95.96
Zhejiang Zhenglian Corp .....	95.96
Zhuhai Shichang Metals Ltd .....	95.96
All-Others .....	14.39

### Disclosure

We intend to disclose the calculations performed to interested parties within five days of the public announcement of this final determination in accordance with 19 CFR 351.224(b).

### Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation

In accordance with section 703(d) of the Act, we will instruct U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to continue to suspend liquidation of all appropriate entries of tool chests from the PRC, as described in Appendix I of this notice, which were entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after September 15, 2017, the date of the publication of the *Preliminary*

*Determination* in the **Federal Register**. Furthermore, we will instruct CBP to require a cash deposit for such entries of merchandise in the amounts indicated above, pursuant to section 705(c)(1)(B)(ii) of the Act.

### U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) Notification

In accordance with section 705(d) of the Act, we will notify the ITC of our final affirmative CVD determination. In addition, we are making available to the ITC all non-privileged and non-proprietary information relating to this investigation. We will allow the ITC access to all privileged and business proprietary information in our files, provided the ITC confirms that it will

not disclose such information, either publicly or under an administrative protective order (APO), without the written consent of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.

If the ITC determines that material injury, or threat of material injury, does not exist, this proceeding will be terminated and all cash deposits will be refunded. If the ITC determines that such injury does exist, we will issue a CVD order directing CBP to assess, upon further instruction by the Department, CVDs on all imports of the subject merchandise entered, or withdrawn from warehouse, for consumption on or after the effective date of the suspension of liquidation, as discussed above in the

“Continuation of Suspension of Liquidation” section.

### Notification Regarding Administrative Protective Orders (APOs)

In the event that the ITC issues a final negative injury determination, this notice will serve as the only reminder to parties subject to an APO of their responsibility concerning the destruction of proprietary information disclosed under APO in accordance with 19 CFR 351.305(a)(3). Timely written notification of the return/destruction of APO materials or conversion to judicial protective order is hereby requested. Failure to comply with the regulations and terms of an APO is a violation that is subject to sanction.

This determination is issued and published pursuant to sections 705(d) and 777(i) of the Act.

Dated: November 22, 2017.

#### Carole Showers,

*Executive Director, Office of Policy performing the duties of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.*

### Appendix I

#### Scope of the Investigation

The scope of this investigation covers certain metal tool chests and tool cabinets, with drawers, (tool chests and cabinets), from the People’s Republic of China (the PRC) and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Vietnam). The scope covers all metal tool chests and cabinets, including top chests, intermediate chests, tool cabinets and side cabinets, storage units, mobile work benches, and work stations and that have the following physical characteristics:

- (1) A body made of carbon, alloy, or stainless steel and/or other metals;
- (2) two or more drawers for storage in each individual unit;
- (3) a width (side to side) exceeding 15 inches for side cabinets and exceeding 21 inches for all other individual units but not exceeding 60 inches;
- (4) a body depth (front to back) exceeding 10 inches but not exceeding 24 inches; and
- (5) prepackaged for retail sale.

For purposes of this scope, the width parameter applies to each individual unit, *i.e.*, each individual top chest, intermediate top chest, tool cabinet, side cabinet, storage unit, mobile work bench, and work station.

Prepackaged for retail sale means the units may, for example, be packaged in a cardboard box, other type of container or packaging, and may bear a Universal Product Code, along with photographs, pictures, images, features, artwork, and/or product specifications. Subject tool chests and cabinets are covered whether imported in assembled or unassembled form. Subject merchandise includes tool chests and cabinets produced in the PRC or Vietnam but assembled, prepackaged for retail sale, or subject to other minor processing in a third country prior to importation into the United

States. Similarly, it would include tool chests and cabinets produced in the PRC or Vietnam that are assembled, prepackaged for retail sale, or subject to other minor processing after importation into the United States.

Subject tool chests and cabinets may also have doors and shelves in addition to drawers, may have handles (typically mounted on the sides), and may have a work surface on the top. Subject tool chests and cabinets may be uncoated (*e.g.*, stainless steel), painted, powder coated, galvanized, or otherwise coated for corrosion protection or aesthetic appearance.

Subject tool chests and cabinets may be packaged as individual units or in sets. When packaged in sets, they typically include a cabinet with one or more chests that stack on top of the cabinet. Tool cabinets act as a base tool storage unit and typically have rollers, casters, or wheels to permit them to be moved more easily when loaded with tools. Work stations and mobile work benches are tool cabinets with a work surface on the top that may be made of rubber, plastic, metal, wood, or other materials.

Top chests are designed to be used with a tool cabinet to form a tool storage unit. The top chests may be mounted on top of the base tool cabinet or onto an intermediate chest.

They are often packaged as a set with tool cabinets or intermediate chests, but may also be packaged separately. They may be packaged with mounting hardware (*e.g.*, bolts) and instructions for assembling them onto the base tool cabinet or onto an intermediate tool chest which rests on the base tool cabinet. Smaller top chests typically have handles on the sides, while the larger top chests typically lack handles. Intermediate tool chests are designed to fit on top of the floor standing tool cabinet and to be used underneath the top tool chest.

Although they may be packaged or used separately from the tool cabinet, intermediate chests are designed to be used in conjunction with tool cabinets. The intermediate chests typically do not have handles. The intermediate and top chests may have the capability of being bolted together.

Side cabinets are designed to be bolted or otherwise attached to the side of the base storage cabinet to expand the storage capacity of the base tool cabinet.

Subject tool chests and cabinets also may be packaged with a tool set included. Packaging a subject tool chest and cabinet with a tool set does not remove an otherwise covered subject tool chest and cabinet from the scope. When this occurs, the tools are not part of the subject merchandise.

All tool chests and cabinets that meet the above definition are included in the scope unless otherwise specifically excluded.

Excluded from the scope of the investigation are tool boxes, chests, and cabinets with bodies made of plastic, carbon fiber, wood, or other non-metallic substances.

Also excluded from the scope of the investigation are industrial grade steel tool chests and cabinets. The excluded industrial grade steel tool chests and cabinets are those:

- (1) Having a body that is over 60 inches in width; or
- (2) having each of the following physical characteristics:

(a) A body made of steel that is 0.047 inches or more in thickness;

(b) a body depth (front to back) exceeding 21 inches; and

(c) a unit weight that exceeds the maximum unit weight shown below for each width range:

Weight to width ratio tool chests		Weight to width ratio tool cabinets	
Inches	Maximum pounds	Inches	Maximum pounds
21> ≤25	90	21> ≤25	155
25> ≤28	115	25> ≤28	170
28> ≤30	120	28> ≤30	185
30> ≤32	130	30> ≤32	200
32> ≤34	140	32> ≤34	215
34> ≤36	150	34> ≤36	230
36> ≤38	160	36> ≤38	245
38> ≤40	170	38> ≤40	260
40> ≤42	180	40> ≤42	280
42> ≤44	190	42> ≤44	290
44> ≤46	200	44> ≤46	300
46> ≤48	210	46> ≤48	310
48> ≤50	220	48> ≤50	320
50> ≤52	230	50> ≤52	330
52> ≤54	240	52> ≤54	340
54> ≤56	250	54> ≤56	350
56> ≤58	260	56> ≤58	360
58> ≤60	270	58> ≤60	370

Also excluded from the scope of the investigation are service carts. The excluded service carts have all of the following characteristics:

- (1) Casters, wheels, or other similar devices which allow the service cart to be rolled from place to place;
- (2) an open top for storage, a flat top or flat lid on top of the unit that opens;
- (3) a space or gap between the casters, wheels, or other similar devices, and the bottom of the enclosed storage space (*e.g.*, drawers) of at least 10 inches; and
- (4) a total unit height, including casters, of less than 48 inches.

Also excluded from the scope of the investigation are non-mobile work benches. The excluded non-mobile work benches have all of the following characteristics:

- (1) A solid top working surface;
- (2) no drawers, one drawer, or two drawers in a side-by-side configuration; and
- (3) the unit is supported by legs and has no solid front, side, or back panels enclosing the body of the unit.

Also excluded from the scope of the investigation are metal filing cabinets that are configured to hold hanging file folders and are classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) at subheading 9403.10.0020.

Merchandise subject to the investigation is classified under HTSUS categories 9403.20.0021, 9403.20.0026, 9403.20.0030 and 7326.90.8688, but may also be classified under HTSUS category 7326.90.3500. While HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and Customs purposes, the written description of the scope of this investigation is dispositive.

### Appendix II

#### List of Topics Discussed in the Issues and Decision Memorandum

##### I. Summary

- II. Background
- III. Scope Comments
- IV. Scope of the Investigation
- V. Application of the Countervailing Duty Law to Imports from the PRC
- VI. Use of Facts Otherwise Available and Adverse Inferences
- VII. Subsidies Valuation
- VIII. Benchmarks and Interest Rates
- IX. Analysis of Programs
- X. Analysis of Comments
  - Comment 1: Whether to Countervail Steel Inputs Not Purchased in Coils
  - Comment 2: Whether Certain Steel Producers Are Authorities
  - Comment 3: Whether Steel Suppliers That Are Trading Companies Are Authorities
  - Comment 4: Whether the Provision of Steel Coils is Specific
  - Comment 5: Whether to Use Certain Sources as Benchmarks for Steel Inputs
  - Comment 6: What to Use as Benchmark for Certain of Geelong's Steel Purchases
  - Comment 7: Whether to Use a Certain Source as a Benchmark for Ocean Freight
  - Comment 8: Whether to Countervail Export Buyer's Credits
  - Comment 9: Whether to Apply Adverse Facts Available With Respect to the Government of China's Response Regarding Electricity
  - Comment 10: Whether the Department's Selection of Electricity Rates Was Proper
  - Comment 11: Whether to Countervail Certain Tongrun "Other Subsidies"
- XI. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2017-25768 Filed 11-28-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XF858

#### New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting via webinar.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council's *Scientific and Statistical Committee* will hold a webinar to review the 2017 Plan B Operational Assessment for Atlantic Halibut. Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

**DATES:** This webinar will be held on Monday, December 18, 2017, beginning at 1:30 p.m. Webinar registration URL information: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1474214582272609539>; Call in information: +1 (213) 929-4212, Attendee Access Code: 823-584-672.

**ADDRESSES:** Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Agenda

The Scientific and Statistical Committee will review the 2017 Plan B Operational Assessment for Atlantic Halibut, and the work provided by the SSC sub-panel review and the Groundfish Plan Development Team. Taking into account the Council's Risk Policy Statement, the SSC will recommend an OFL and an ABC for each fishing year 2018-2020 that will prevent overfishing, and achieve rebuilding if needed, consistent with the Council's ABC control rule for groundfish stocks. Other business will be discussed as needed.

Although non-emergency issues not contained on the agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject 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 the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency. The public also should be aware that the meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 U.S.C. 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

##### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, at 978-465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: November 24, 2017.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2017-25766 Filed 11-28-17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XF813

#### Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting (Webinar)

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting (webinar).

**SUMMARY:** The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Pacific Council) Ad hoc Ecosystem Workgroup (EWG) will hold a meeting via webinar to discuss the work associated with the Climate Change and Communities Initiative. The meeting is open to the public.

**DATES:** The webinar meeting will be held on Monday, December 18, 2017, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time) or until business for the day has been completed.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held via webinar. A public listening station is available at the Pacific Council office (address below). To attend the webinar (1) join the meeting by visiting this link <https://www.gotomeeting.com/webinar>, (2) enter the Webinar ID: 781-215-411, and (3) enter your name and email address (required). After logging in to the webinar, please (1) dial this TOLL number 1-631-992-3221 (not a toll-free number), (2) enter the attendee phone audio access code 562-890-447, and (3) then enter your audio phone pin (shown after joining the webinar). *Note:* We have disabled Mic/Speakers as an option and require all participants to use a telephone or cell phone to participate. Technical information and system requirements: PC-based attendees are required to use Windows® 7, Vista, or XP; Mac®-based attendees are required to use Mac OS® X 10.5 or newer; Mobile attendees are required to use iPhone®, iPad®, Android™ phone or Android tablet (See the <https://www.gotomeeting.com/webinar/ipad-iphone-android-webinar-apps>). You may send an email to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt at [Kris.Kleinschmidt@noaa.gov](mailto:Kris.Kleinschmidt@noaa.gov) or contact him at (503) 820-2280, extension 411 for technical assistance. A public listening station will also be available at the Pacific Council office.

**Council address:** Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220.