

information is important to fisheries managers because changes in recreational fishing regulations (e.g., bag limits, size limits, season lengths, etc.) affect anglers' harvest distributions. Anglers will be asked a series of questions designed to elicit their willingness to trade off lower/higher expected catch for reduced/increased catch variability, and whether those trade-offs depend on fishing mode, trip length, trip costs, and demographic characteristics. Responses to these questions will provide the data necessary to evaluate anglers' expected catch preferences for summer flounder and black sea bass. Additional data gathered will include questions that focus on anglers' recent recreational fishing experiences, such as how often they go fishing, species targeted, and primary mode of fishing. Ultimately, the data collected from the survey will allow fisheries managers to better evaluate the socio-economic effects of proposed changes in recreational fishing regulations for summer flounder and black sea bass.

A survey sample will be drawn from the National Saltwater Angler Registry, a database of licensed recreational anglers living in the U.S. The information comes primarily from state-based saltwater fishing license and registration programs. The survey will be conducted using both mail and email to contact anglers and invite them to take the survey online. Anglers not responding to the online survey may receive a paper survey in the mail. This survey is part of a series of planned surveys across the Atlantic and Gulf coasts to gather socio-economic data on saltwater recreational anglers' preferences for different fishery management options.

II. Method of Collection

The survey will be conducted using two modes: Paper via regular mail and electronically via internet.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–xxxx.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Regular (request for a new information collection).

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,000.

Estimated Time per Response: 15 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 500 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$0 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Sheleen Dumas,

Departmental Lead PRA Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XG830

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Herring Committee to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: This meeting will be held on Thursday, March 28, 2019 at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, Mansfield, MA 02048; telephone: (508) 339–2200.

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 primary purpose of this meeting is to make progress on the development of herring fishery specifications for fishing years 2020 and 2021. The committee will review and provide input on the Science and Statistical Committee (SSC) recommendation for overfishing limits (OFL) and acceptable biological catch (ABC) limits for fishing years 2020 and 2021. The committee will provide input on the purpose and need for this action and identify a range of alternatives to be included for consideration. The committee will receive an update and have opportunity for input on actions under consideration by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC). They will also give an update about the status of the Industry Funded Monitoring (IFM) Amendment. The committee will give an opportunity to provide input on the Council's five-year research priorities related to the herring resource and fishery. Other business will be discussed as necessary.

Although non-emergency issues not contained on this 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.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. This meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 U.S.C. 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request. 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: March 8, 2019.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

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