

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,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2020-04596 Filed 3-5-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XX031]

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits

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

ACTION: Notice; request for comments; reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: At the request of the public, NMFS is reopening the comment period for an Exempted Fishing Permit application. The Exempted Fishing Permit would allow commercial fishing vessels to use dredge fishing gear with a forward facing camera within the Great South Channel Habitat Management Area to characterize habitat substrate types where dredge fishing occurs, and conduct compensation fishing that would support research conducted by the Coonamessett Farm Foundation. Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed Exempted Fishing Permits.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before March 23, 2020.

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

- *Email:* nmfs.gar.efp@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line "CFF Great South Channel HMA Clam EFP."
- *Mail:* Michael Pentony, Regional Administrator, NMFS, Greater Atlantic

Regional Fisheries Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope "Comments on CFF Great South Channel HMA EFP."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura Hansen, Fishery Management Specialist, 978-281-9225.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 27, 2020, we published a notice soliciting public comment on an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) application (85 FR 4638) and received requests from the public to extend the comment period. At the request of the public, we are reopening the comment period for 15 days. A full description of the requested exemptions and research plan are available in the original notice and are not repeated here.

In an effort to address some of the New England Fishery Management Council's research priorities for the Great South Channel Habitat Management Area (GSC HMA), Coonamessett Farm Foundation (CFF) developed a multi-phase research project that would attempt to:

1. Characterize substrate types where surfclam and mussel fishing occurs within the GSC HMA;
2. Track spatiotemporal habitat change and benthic macrofauna distribution in an active fishing ground; and
3. Determine spatiotemporal occurrence of Atlantic cod and other species within the HMA that are subjected or adjacent to commercial clam and mussel dredging activities.

CFF submitted a complete application for an EFP on November 8, 2019, to enable research in support of the objective 1, above. The exemptions would authorize participating vessels to fish with dredge gear in portions of the GSC HMA in order to characterize substrate types where surfclam and mussel fishing occurs, and to enable compensation fishing, which would fund research associated with objectives 2 and 3.

We received 27 comments on the original notification and discussed the EFP request at the January 2020 New England Fishery Management Council meeting. Based on that discussion and comments received, we are reopening the comment period for an additional 15 days.

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

Dated: March 3, 2020.

Karyl K. Brewster-Geisz,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2020-04616 Filed 3-5-20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XA068]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees will meet in Anchorage, AK.

DATES: The meetings will be held March 30, 2020 through April 6, 2020. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, 500 W 3rd Ave., Anchorage, AK 99501.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1007 West Third, Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252; telephone (907) 271-2809.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diana Evans, Council staff; telephone: (907) 271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. in the Aleutian Room on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 continuing through Monday, April 6, 2020. The Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will begin at 8 a.m. in the King Salmon/Iliamna Room on Monday, March 30, 2020 and continue through Wednesday, April 1, 2020. The Council's Advisory Panel (AP) will begin at 8 a.m. in the Dillingham/Katmai Room on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 and continue through Friday, April 3, 2020. The IFQ Committee will meet on Monday, March 30, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (room TBD). The Cook Inlet Salmon Committee will meet on Monday, March 30, 2020 from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (room TBD). The Ecosystem Committee will meet on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (room TBD).

Agenda

Monday, March 30, 2020 Through Monday, April 6, 2020

Council Plenary Session: The agenda for the Council's plenary session will include the following issues. The Council may take appropriate action on any of the issues identified.

- (1) Executive Director's Report
- (2) NMFS Management Report

- (3) NOAA GC Report
- (4) ADF&G Report
- (5) USCG Report
- (6) USFWS Report
- (7) IPHC Report
- (8) NIOSH Report
- (9) St Matthew BKC Rebuilding Plan—Final Action
- (10) Scallop SAFE Report—ABC/OFL specifications, Scallop Plan Team Report
- (11) BSAI Pacific Cod Pot CP analysis—Initial Review
- (12) Cook Inlet Salmon FMP Amendment—Preliminary Review, CISC Report
- (13) Sculpin/Squid Product Types—Final Action
- (14) EFH: (a) Non-fishing consultations; (b) 5-year review workplan
- (15) Cooperative Reports (AFA, A80, CGOA Rockfish, BSAI Crab)
- (16) Salmon Bycatch: (a) 2018 Chinook/Chum Genetics for BS and GOA, IPA Reports
- (17) GOA Sablefish Pots 3-year Review—Report
- (18) Sablefish alternative apportionments for stock assessment—Report
- (19) IFQ Access—Expanded Discussion Paper
- (20) IFQ Committee—Report
- (21) Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan—Plan Team, Climate Change Taskforce Reports
- (22) Research Priorities—Review
- (23) Staff Tasking

The Advisory Panel will address Council agenda items (9) through (14) and items (16) through (23).

The SSC agenda will include the following issues:

- (1) Scallop SAFE Report—ABC/OFL specifications, Scallop Plan Team Report
- (2) BSAI Pacific Cod Pot CP analysis—Initial Review
- (3) Cook Inlet Salmon FMP Amendment—Preliminary Review
- (4) EFH 5-year review workplan
- (5) Salmon Bycatch: (a) 2018 Chinook/Chum Genetics for BS and GOA
- (6) GOA Sablefish Pots 3-year Review—Report
- (7) Sablefish alternative apportionments for stock assessment
- (8) Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan—Plan Team, Climate Change Taskforce Reports
- (9) Research Priorities—Review
- (10) Marine Mammal Conservation Status—Review

In addition to providing ongoing scientific advice for fishery management decisions, the SSC functions as the Council's primary peer review panel for scientific information, as described by

the Magnuson-Stevens Act section 302(g)(1)(e), and the National Standard 2 guidelines (78 FR 43066). The peer review process is also deemed to satisfy the requirements of the Information Quality Act, including the OMB Peer Review Bulletin guidelines.

The IFQ Committee will review a discussion paper on a potential access program for halibut and sablefish IFQ, provide feedback on a Three-Year Review of the Gulf of Alaska pot longline fishery for IFQ sablefish, receive a NMFS report on IFQ cost recovery fees, and receive an update on analyses of potential methodologies to modify the apportionment of sablefish ABC across management areas, and other business. The Cook Inlet Salmon Committee will finalize recommendations for the Council on the preliminary Cook Inlet Salmon FMP amendment, and discuss other business. The Ecosystem Committee will discuss northern fur seal co-management, an update on the Bering Sea Fishery Ecosystem Plan, 2019 Essential Fish Habitat consultations, Council involvement in non-fishing EFH consultations, and proposed approach for the 2022 EFH review and revision, and other business. The Agendas are subject to change, and the latest versions will be available at <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/1363>.

Public Comment

Public comment letters will be accepted and should be submitted either electronically at: <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/1363> or through the mail: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1007 West Third, Suite 400, Anchorage, AK 99501–2252. Deadline for comments is March 27, 2020, at 12 p.m.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Shannon Gleason at (907) 271–2809 at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: March 3, 2020.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2020–04645 Filed 3–5–20; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XA067]

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 4-day meeting to consider actions affecting the Gulf of Mexico fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The meeting will convene Monday, March 30 through Thursday, April 2, 2020; 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: The meeting will take place at The Lodge at Gulf State Park, 21196 East Beach Boulevard, Gulf Shores, AL 36542; telephone: (251) 540–4000.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 4107 W Spruce Street, Suite 200, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone: (813) 348–1630.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Carrie Simmons, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348–1630.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda

Monday, March 30, 2020; 8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

The meeting will begin in a CLOSED SESSION of the FULL COUNCIL to select members to the Coastal Migratory Pelagics and Red Drum Advisory Panels; and, selection of the 2019 Law Enforcement Officer/Team of the Year.

The meeting will open to the general public mid-morning with the Gulf SEDAR Committee reviewing the Gulf of Mexico (GOM) SEDAR Schedule and discussing interim analyses on Timing and Use for Management. Ecosystem Committee will give a summary report from the Ecosystem Technical Committee meeting and an update on the Fishery Ecosystem Management Plan. Following lunch, Sustainable Fisheries Committee will have a presentation on Marine Mammal Depredation; review Public Hearing Draft Amendment *Reef Fish 48/Red Drum 5*: Status Determination Criteria and Optimum Yield for Reef Fish and Red Drum and Framework Action for Modification of Fishing Access in Eastern GOM Marine Protected Areas.