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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This action serves as a notice that NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), has found that Atlantic herring is now overfished and Gulf of Maine thorny skate and Pacific sardine are still overfished. NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary, notifies the appropriate regional fishery management council (Council) whenever it determines that overfishing is occurring, a stock is in an overfished condition, or a stock is approaching an overfished condition.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Regina Spallone, (301) 427–8568.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 304(e)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), 16 U.S.C. 1854(e)(2), NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary, must notify Councils, and publish in the Federal Register, whenever it determines that a stock or stock complex is subject to overfishing, overfished, or approaching an overfished condition.

NMFS has determined that Atlantic herring is now overfished and Gulf of Maine thorny skate is still overfished. The Atlantic herring determination is based on the most recent assessment, completed in 2020, using data through 2019, which indicates that this stock is overfished because the spawning stock biomass is below the threshold. The thorny skate determination is based on the most recent stock status update, completed in 2020, using data through 2019, which indicates that this stock is still overfished because the 3-year average biomass index remains below the threshold. NMFS has notified the New England Fishery Management Council of the requirement to rebuild these stocks.

NMFS has determined that Pacific sardine is still overfished. This determination is based on the most recent assessment, completed in 2020, using data through 2019, which indicates that this stock is still overfished because the biomass remains below the threshold. NMFS has notified the Pacific Fishery Management Council of the requirement to rebuild this stock.

Jennifer M. Wallace,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XA543]

Determination of Overfishing or an Overfished Condition

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This action serves as a notice that NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), has found that Atlantic herring is now overfished, and Gulf of Maine thorny skate and Pacific sardine are both still overfished. NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary, notifies the appropriate regional fishery management council (Council) whenever it determines that overfishing is occurring, a stock is in an overfished condition, or a stock is approaching an overfished condition.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tracey L. Thompson,
Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 304(e)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), 16 U.S.C. 1854(e)(2), NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary, must notify Councils, and publish in the Federal Register, whenever it determines that a stock or stock complex is subject to overfishing, overfished, or approaching an overfished condition.

NMFS has determined that Atlantic herring is now overfished and Gulf of Maine thorny skate is still overfished. The Atlantic herring determination is based on the most recent assessment, completed in 2020, using data through 2019, which indicates that this stock is overfished because the spawning stock biomass is below the threshold. The thorny skate determination is based on the most recent stock status update, completed in 2020, using data through 2019, which indicates that this stock is still overfished because the 3-year average biomass index remains below the threshold. NMFS has notified the New England Fishery Management Council of the requirement to rebuild these stocks.

NMFS has determined that Pacific sardine is still overfished. This determination is based on the most recent assessment, completed in 2020, using data through 2019, which indicates that this stock is still overfished because the biomass remains below the threshold. NMFS has notified the Pacific Fishery Management Council of the requirement to rebuild this stock.

Jennifer M. Wallace,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XA618]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of the Pacific Pelagics Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) Plan Team (PT) to discuss fishery management issues and develop recommendations to the Council for future management of pelagic fisheries in the Western Pacific region.

DATES: For the dates, times and agenda, see SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held by web conference. Audio and visual portions of the web conference can be accessed at: https://wprfmc.webex.com/wprfmc/onstage/g.php?MTID=ebf52ef181a8490aa50b68d7d27030ca3d. Event number (if prompted): 133 176 7822. Event password (if prompted): PelagicPT112. Web conference access information will also be posted on the Council’s website at www.wpcouncil.org. For assistance with the web conference connection, contact the Council office at (808) 522–8220.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; telephone: (808) 522–8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Pelagic PT meeting will be held on November 19, 2020, and run each day from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Hawaii Standard Time (HST) (12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Samoa Standard Time (SST); 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on November 20, 2020, Chamorro Standard Time (ChST)). Public comment periods will be provided in the agenda. The order in which agenda items are addressed may change. The meeting will run as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

Agenda for the Pelagic Plan Team Meeting

Thursday, November 19, 2020, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. HST

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Oceanic Whitetip Working Group Report
   A. Monte Carlo Analyses of Mitigation Measures
   B. Post Release Mortality, Handling, and Trailing Gear
   C. Vessel Specific Impact Analyses
   D. EBFM Project Updates
   E. Working Group Report Summary
4. Possible North Pacific Striped Marlin Rebuilding Measure(s)
5. Stock Status Determination of Western and Central Pacific Silky Shark
6. Tori Line Options for Hawaii Longline Fisheries
7. Hawaii Deep-set Longline and American Samoa Longline Reasonable and Prudent Measure Development
8. Hawaii Non-longline Fishery Management