

City, MO, to inform their practices for Impact-Based Decision Support Services (IDSS) and to improve the information and services it provides to members of the Weather Enterprise. Importantly, data collected will help assist NWS in developing new forecaster training modules, situational awareness information, and best practices for Impact-Based Decision Support with partners. This is a necessary step in improving risk communication among expert groups, which, in turn, benefits vulnerable populations who ultimately must act quickly and safely to adjudicate which risks pose the greatest threat to them as the threats evolve. Data collected from both populations will also be used for the practical utility of the government through semi-annual reports to NOAA to evaluate proposed metrics of success for completing the grant relative to progress to data. Conference presentations about findings will be made to the American Meteorological Society, National Weather Association, and related emergency manager conferences; webinars of best practices and situational awareness opportunities to partner or NWS offices; and insights about the challenges of communicating and preparing the public for compound hazards reported to peer reviewed publications in professional journals.

**Affected Public:** Business or other for-profit organizations; State, Local, or Tribal government; Federal government.

**Frequency:** One time.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Voluntary.

**Legal Authority:** 15 U.S.C. chapter 111, Weather Research and Forecasting Information.

This information collection request may be viewed at [www.reginfo.gov](http://www.reginfo.gov). Follow the instructions to view the Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function and entering the title of the collection.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

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

[FR Doc. 2022–21518 Filed 10–3–22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-KE-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XC414]

#### South Atlantic 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 South Atlantic Fishery Management Council will hold a meeting of the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) from October 25 to October 27, 2022, in Charleston, SC.

**DATES:** The SSC meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. EDT on October 25th and October 26th, and from 8:30 a.m. until 12 p.m. on October 27, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:**

**Meeting address:** The meeting will be held at the Town & Country Inn, 2008 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC 29407; phone: (843) 571–1000. The meeting will also be available via webinar as it occurs. Registration is required. Webinar registration information, an online public comment form, and briefing book materials will be available two weeks prior to the meetings at: <https://safmc.net/scientific-and-statistical-committee-meeting/>.

**Council address:** South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N Charleston, SC 29405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Judd Curtis, SAFMC; phone: (843) 302–8441; fax: (843) 769–4520; email: [judd.curtis@safmc.net](mailto:judd.curtis@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The SSC meeting agenda topics will include: SSC review and discussion of the NOAA Fisheries Southeast Fishery Science Center (SEFSC) interim analysis strategy, management strategy evaluation (MSE) model for the snapper grouper fishery, an update from the NOAA Fisheries National MSE Technical Workgroup, red snapper recruitment patterns in the South Atlantic, SEFSC project on minimizing discards in the snapper grouper fishery, Release Mortality Reduction Framework Amendment 35 to the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan, Spanish mackerel revised operational assessment review, greater amberjack estimation project update, review of terms of reference and Southeast Data Assessment and Review (SEDAR) schedule for golden tilefish and blue-line

tilefish, report on the National SSC meeting, Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) reports review, fishery management plan amendment updates, and other business as needed.

#### Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) 5 days prior to the meeting.

**Note:** The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: September 29, 2022.

**Rey Israel Marquez,**

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

[FR Doc. 2022–21515 Filed 10–3–22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XC430]

#### North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of web conference.

**SUMMARY:** The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Charter Halibut Management Committee will meet October 21, 2022.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Friday, October 21, 2022, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Alaska Time.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be a web conference. Join online through the link at <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2956>.

**Council address:** North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1007 W 3rd Ave., Anchorage, AK 99501–2252; telephone: (907) 271–2809. Instructions for attending the meeting via video conference are given under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**, below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sarah Marrinan, Council staff; phone: (907) 271–2809; email: [sarah.marrinan@noaa.gov](mailto:sarah.marrinan@noaa.gov). For technical support, please contact our admin Council staff, email: [npfmc.admin@noaa.gov](mailto:npfmc.admin@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## Agenda

Friday, October 21, 2022

The Charter Halibut Management Committee will meet to make recommendations on management measures to analyze for the 2023 season. First the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) will go over the final numbers for 2021 and preliminary harvest and effort numbers for 2022. Then the committee will discuss development of the 2023 management measures for analysis. The Committee will also discuss upcoming meetings and any other business. The agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2956> prior to the meeting, along with meeting materials.

## Connection Information

You can attend the meeting online using a computer, tablet, or smart phone; or by phone only. Connection information will be posted online at: <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2956>.

## Public Comment

Public comment letters will be accepted and should be submitted electronically to <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/2956>.

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

Dated: September 29, 2022.

## Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2022-21516 Filed 10-3-22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO-P-2022-0025]

### Request for Comments on USPTO Initiatives To Ensure the Robustness and Reliability of Patent Rights

**AGENCY:** United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO or Office) seeks initial public comments on proposed initiatives directed at bolstering the robustness and reliability of patents to incentivize and protect new and nonobvious inventions while facilitating the broader dissemination of public knowledge to promote innovation and competition. This

request for comments (RFC) addresses a variety of topics, including prior art searching, support for claimed subject matter, request for continued examination (RCE) practice, and restriction practice, and certain initiatives related to these topics that are outlined in the USPTO's July 6, 2022, letter to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This RFC also seeks comments on the questions set forth in a June 8, 2022, letter to the USPTO from six United States Senators. The USPTO is studying additional topics and initiatives to bolster the robustness and reliability of U.S. patents and will seek public comments on those separately.

**DATES:** Comment Deadline: Written comments must be received on or before January 3, 2023, to ensure consideration.

**ADDRESSES:** For reasons of government efficiency, comments must be submitted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). To submit comments via the portal, enter docket number PTO-P-2022-0025 on the homepage and click "search." The site will provide a search results page listing all documents associated with this docket. Find a reference to this RFC and click on the "Comment Now!" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments. Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in ADOBE® portable document format or MICROSOFT WORD® format. Because comments will be made available for public inspection, information that the submitter does not desire to make public, such as an address or phone number, should not be included in the comments.

Visit the Federal eRulemaking Portal ([www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov)) for additional instructions on providing comments via the portal. If electronic submission of comments is not feasible due to a lack of access to a computer and/or the internet, please contact the USPTO using the contact information below for special instructions regarding how to submit comments by mail or by hand delivery, based on the public's ability to obtain access to USPTO facilities at the time.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Linda Horner, Administrative Patent Judge, at 571-272-9797; June Cohan, Senior Legal Advisor, Office of Patent Legal Administration, Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Patents, at 571-272-7744; or Raul Tamayo, Senior Legal Advisor, Office of Patent Legal Administration, Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Patents, at 571-272-7728.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The USPTO is seeking public input and guidance on proposed initiatives directed at bolstering the robustness and reliability of patents. These initiatives are meant to ensure that the patent rights granted by the USPTO fulfill their intended purpose of furthering the common good, incentivizing innovation, and promoting economic prosperity.

### I. Background and the USPTO's July 6, 2022, Letter to the FDA

On July 9, 2021, President Biden issued an Executive Order (E.O.) on "Promoting Competition in the American Economy," 86 FR 36987 (July 14, 2021) ("Competition E.O."). To advance the Biden Administration's goals of promoting access to prescription pharmaceuticals for American families and increasing competition in the marketplace, section 5(p)(vi) of the E.O. directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) "to help ensure that the patent system, while incentivizing innovation, does not also unjustifiably delay generic drug and biosimilar competition beyond that reasonably contemplated by applicable law." In particular, section 5(p)(vi) of the E.O. directs the HHS Secretary, "through the Commissioner of Food and Drugs" and "not later than 45 days after the date of this order," to "write a letter to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office enumerating and describing any relevant concerns of the FDA."

In response to the Competition E.O., on September 10, 2021, the FDA sent a letter to the USPTO outlining ideas for further engagement with the USPTO. On July 6, 2022, the USPTO sent a responsive letter (USPTO Letter) discussing specific initiatives the USPTO was exploring to further promote robust and reliable patent rights across all technology areas and suggesting additional ways in which the USPTO could work with the FDA to ensure that our patent system properly and adequately protects innovation while not unnecessarily delaying generic and biosimilar competition, which provides more affordable versions of pharmaceuticals for Americans who need them. The Competition E.O. and the letters are available at [www.uspto.gov/initiatives/drug-pricing-initiatives](http://www.uspto.gov/initiatives/drug-pricing-initiatives).

The USPTO Letter explains that the United States is a global leader in the development of drugs and biologics due to its strong patent system. Robust and reliable patents are needed to incentivize and protect the immense research and development investment