

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****Evaluation of Alabama State Coastal Management Program; Notice of Public Meeting; Request for Comments**

AGENCY: Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and opportunity to comment.

SUMMARY: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office for Coastal Management, will hold an in-person public meeting to solicit input on the performance evaluation of the Alabama Coastal Management Program. NOAA also invites the public to submit written comments.

DATES: NOAA will hold an in-person public meeting on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at 6 p.m. NOAA will consider all relevant written comments received by Friday, July 28, 2023.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- *In-Person Public Meeting:* Provide oral comments during the in-person public meeting on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, at 6 p.m. at Blakeley Hall, 31115 Five Rivers Boulevard, Spanish Fort, AL 36527.

- *Email:* Send written comments to Michael Migliori, Evaluator, NOAA Office for Coastal Management, at Michael.Migliori@noaa.gov. Include "Comments on Performance Evaluation of the Alabama Coastal Management Program" in the subject line of the message.

NOAA will accept anonymous comments; however, the written comments NOAA receives are considered part of the public record, and the entirety of the comment, including the name of the commenter, email address, attachments, and other supporting materials, will be publicly accessible. Sensitive personally identifiable information, such as account numbers and Social Security numbers, should not be included with the comment. Comments that are not related to the performance evaluation of the Alabama Coastal Management Program or that contain profanity, vulgarity, threats, or other inappropriate language will not be considered.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Migliori, Evaluator, NOAA Office for Coastal Management, by email

at Michael.Migliori@noaa.gov or by phone at (443) 332-8936. Copies of the previous evaluation findings and Assessment and Strategies may be viewed and downloaded at <http://coast.noaa.gov/czm/evaluations/>. A copy of the evaluation notification letter and most recent progress report may be obtained upon request by contacting Michael Migliori.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 312 of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) requires NOAA to conduct periodic evaluations of federally approved coastal management programs. The evaluation process includes holding one or more public meetings, considering public comments, and consulting with interested Federal, State, and local agencies and members of the public. During the evaluation, NOAA will consider the extent to which the State of Alabama has met the national objectives, adhered to the management program approved by the Secretary of Commerce, and adhered to the terms of financial assistance under the CZMA. When the evaluation is complete, NOAA's Office for Coastal Management will place a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing the availability of the final evaluation findings.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1458.

John R. King,

Chief, Business Operations Division, Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648-XD007]

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Exempted Fishing Permits

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

ACTION: Notice of receipt of an application for exempted fishing permit; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the receipt of an application for an exempted fishing permit (EFP) from Dr. Max Lee, Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium (Mote), Center for Fisheries Electronic Monitoring, Sarasota, Florida. If granted, the EFP would allow the retention of a

limited number of undersized red grouper in Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) Federal waters by three federally permitted commercial reef fish bottom longline vessels. The results from this EFP are expected assist in Federal fishery management decisions.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before August 4, 2023.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on the application, identified by "NOAA-NMFS-2023-0076" by any of the following methods:

Electronic Submission: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and enter "NOAA-NMFS-2023-0076" in the Search box. Click on the "Comment" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

Mail: Submit written comments to Rich Malinowski, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

Instructions: Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on www.regulations.gov without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

Electronic copies of the EFP application may be obtained from the Southeast Regional Office website at https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/southeast/science-data/exempted-fishing-permit-mote-marine-lab-red-grouper-full-retention-study?check_logged_in=1.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rich Malinowski, 727-824-5305; email: rich.malinowski@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EFP is requested under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act; 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), and regulations at 50 CFR 600.745(b) concerning exempted fishing.

Federal regulations at 50 CFR 622.37(b)(2)(i) prohibit the possession, sale, or purchase red grouper less the commercial minimum size limit of 18 inches (45.7 cm), total length (TL). The EFP would allow the possession, sale, and purchase of a limited number of