

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Sanctuary System Business Advisory Council (council). The meeting is open to the public, and an opportunity for oral and written comments will be provided.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 15, 2025 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. eastern standard time (EST), and an opportunity for public comment will be provided around 12:50 p.m. EST. Both times and agenda topics are subject to change.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held virtually using Google Meet. To participate, please use the weblink provided below. If you are unable to participate online, you can also connect to the public meeting using the phone number provided.

- Weblink: meet.google.com/uqs-gsxe-mtw
- Phone: (US) +1 219-321-0702 PIN: 875 524 484#

To provide an oral public comment during the virtual meeting, please sign up prior to or during the meeting by contacting Sage Riddick by phone (240-560-3365) or email (sage.riddick@noaa.gov). To provide written public comment, please send the comment to Sage Riddick prior to or during the meeting via email (sage.riddick@noaa.gov). Please note, the meeting will not be recorded. However, public comments, including any associated names, will be captured in the minutes of the meeting, will be maintained by ONMS as part of its administrative record, and may be subject to release pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act. 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 responsive or contain profanity, vulgarity, threats, or other inappropriate language will not be considered. By signing up to provide a public comment, you agree that these communications, including your name and comment, will be maintained as described here.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sage Riddick, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, 1305 East West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 (Phone: 240-560-3365; Email: sage.riddick@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: ONMS serves as the trustee for a network of underwater parks encompassing more than 629,000 square miles of marine and Great Lakes waters from Washington

State to the Florida Keys, and from Lake Huron to American Samoa. The network includes a system of 17 national marine sanctuaries and Papahānaumokuākea and Rose Atoll marine national monuments. National marine sanctuaries protect our Nation's most vital coastal and marine natural and cultural resources, and through active research, management, and public engagement, sustain healthy environments that are the foundation for thriving communities and stable economies.

One of the many ways ONMS ensures public participation in the designation and management of national marine sanctuaries is through the formation of advisory councils. The council provides advice and recommendations to the ONMS Director regarding the relationship of ONMS with the business community. Additional information on the council can be found at <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/bac/>.

Matters to be discussed: The meeting will include updates from ONMS leadership, member updates, and a celebration of the council. For a complete agenda, including times and topics, please visit <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/management/bac/meetings.html>.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1431 *et seq.*

John Armor,

Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2024-30690 Filed 12-30-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XE566]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Initiation of the 5-Year Review of the Island Grouper (*Mycteroperca fusca*)

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

ACTION: Notice; request for information.

SUMMARY: We, NMFS, announce the initiation of the 5-year review of the threatened island grouper (*Mycteroperca fusca*). The Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires us to conduct a review of listed species at least once every 5 years to determine whether a species should be removed from the list (*i.e.*, delisted), reclassified from an endangered species

to a threatened species (*i.e.*, downlisted), or reclassified from a threatened species to an endangered species (*i.e.*, uplisted). The determination must be based on the best scientific and commercial data available at the time of the review. Therefore, we request relevant information (*e.g.*, biology, threats, and conservation efforts) that has become available since our previous review of the species.

DATES: To allow us adequate time to conduct the 5-year review, we must receive your information no later than March 3, 2025. While we accept new information about any listed species at any time, information received after the date stated above may not be considered for the purposes of this review.

ADDRESSES: Submit your information electronically via the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and enter NOAA-NMFS-2024-0149 in the Search box. Click on the "Comment" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

Instructions: We may not consider comments or other information if sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the date stated above. All comments and information received are a part of the public record, and we will post the comments for public viewing on <https://www.regulations.gov>. All personal identifying information (*e.g.*, name, address, *etc.*) submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive or protected information. We will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Alison Verkade, NMFS Office of Protected Resources, (301) 427-8074, alison.verkade@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice announces our initiation of the island grouper (*Mycteroperca fusca*) 5-year review. Section 4(c)(2) of the ESA requires us to conduct a review of listed species at least once every 5 years to determine whether species should be removed from the list, changed in status from an endangered species to a threatened species, or changed in status from a threatened species to an endangered species (16 U.S.C. 1533(c)(2)). Section 4(a)(1) of the ESA requires us to determine whether any species is an endangered or threatened species because of any of the following factors: (A) the present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range; (B)

overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes; (C) disease or predation; (D) the inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or (E) other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence (16 U.S.C. 1533(a)(1)). Section 4(b)(1)(A) of the ESA requires us to make the determination based solely on the best scientific and commercial data available at the time of the review and after taking into account efforts to protect the species (16 U.S.C. 1533(b)(1)(A)). Regulations in 50 CFR 424.21 require that we publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing species currently under active review. Based on such reviews, we determine whether a species should be delisted or reclassified (50 CFR 424.21). Any such change (*i.e.*, delisting or reclassification) would require a separate rulemaking process.

We last performed a review of the island grouper in 2015 prior to its listing as a threatened species under the ESA (81 FR 72545, October 20, 2016). Background information on the species is available on the NMFS website at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/species/island-grouper/overview>.

Public Solicitation of Relevant Information

To ensure that the 5-year review is based on the best scientific and commercial data available, we are soliciting information from the public, governmental agencies, Tribes, the scientific community, industry, environmental organizations, and any other interested parties. We request information that has become available since the previous review was published in 2015. Categories of requested information include: (1) species biology including, but not limited to, abundance, population trends, demographics, distribution, and diversity; (2) habitat conditions including, but not limited to, amount, distribution, suitability, and important features for conservation; (3) degree, nature, and trends of threats to the species and its habitats, especially those factors described in section 4(a)(1) of the ESA and listed above; (4) conservation efforts that have been implemented to benefit the species, including monitoring data demonstrating the effectiveness of such efforts; and (5) other information, data, or corrections including, but not limited to, taxonomic or nomenclatural changes and improved analytical methods for evaluating extinction risk.

If you wish to provide information for the review, please submit your information and materials electronically

(see **ADDRESSES** section). We request that all information be accompanied by supporting documentation such as maps, bibliographic references, or reprints of pertinent publications.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: December 20, 2024.

Lisa Manning,

Acting Chief, Endangered Species Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–31175 Filed 12–30–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XE575]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council, NEFMC) will hold a three-day hybrid meeting with both in-person and remote participation to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 through Thursday, January 30, 2025, beginning at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday and 9 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place at The Venue at Portwalk Place, 22 Portwalk Place, Portsmouth, NH; telephone: (603) 422–6114; online at <https://www.thevenueatportwalkplace.com>. Join the webinar at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3666534172564880989>.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950; telephone (978) 465–0492; www.nefmc.org.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cate O’Keefe, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465–0492, ext. 113.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

After brief announcements, the Council will receive reports on recent activities from its Chair and Executive

Director, the Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) Regional Administrator, the Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC) Director, the NOAA Office of General Counsel, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council liaison, and representatives from the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), the U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA’s Office of Law Enforcement, and the Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). Next, the Council will receive a report from its Risk Policy Working Group on updates to the implementation strategy for the Council’s revised Risk Policy. The Habitat Committee report will follow. The Council will receive an overview of new essential fish habitat (EFH) designation methods and the EFH Review Report before providing direction on future actions. Next, the Council will: (1) approve updates to the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) section of the Council’s Operations Handbook; (2) adjourn the public portion of the meeting; and (3) enter into closed session to discuss SSC appointments.

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

The Council will begin the second day of its meeting with a survey update from the Northeast Fisheries Science Center on: (1) the 2024 survey season; (2) contingency planning for the *NOAA Ship Henry B. Bigelow*; (3) the shakedown cruise for the *NOAA Ship Pisces*; (4) Northeast Trawl Advisory Panel work on an industry-based trawl survey; and (5) other survey-related issues. The Northeast Fisheries Science Center also will provide a presentation on the peer-reviewed results of the 2024 Yellowtail Flounder Research Track Stock Assessment. The Council then will receive a NOAA Fisheries presentation on the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) Fishing Effort Survey follow-up study, which will be followed by a public listening session on NOAA Fisheries’ collaborative initiative to re-envision recreational fishing data collection partnership approaches.

Following the lunch break, the Council will hear from the Groundfish Committee and provide recommendations to GARFO on fishing year 2025 recreational measures for Western Gulf of Maine cod and Gulf of Maine haddock. It also will receive an overview of the 2025 groundfish work priorities, including Phase 2 cod transition planning. The Council then will engage in a special session on fisheries and habitat research in offshore