

documents are lengthy and would likely not be familiar to many interested parties. Finally, NMFS does not anticipate that the comment period extension will delay its decision of whether to issue an IHA.

Background information concerning the proposed IHA can be found in the **Federal Register** notice and is not repeated here. For additional information about the IHA application and associated EA, please visit the website at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/permits/incidental.htm>

Dated: January 12, 2009.

James H. Lecky,

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XM73

National Marine Fisheries Service; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public workshop.

SUMMARY: NMFS will hold a workshop for participants that are required to submit an Economic Data Report for the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab Rationalization Program.

DATES: The workshop will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2009, from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Pacific Standard Time.

ADDRESSES: The workshop will be held at the Pacific Seafood Processors Association office, 1900 W. Emerson Place, 1205, Seattle, WA 98119.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Garber-Yonts; (206) 526-6301 or brian.garber-yonts@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) Crab Rationalization Program requires any owner or leaseholder of a vessel or processing plant that harvested or processed crab in certain BSAI fisheries to submit an Economic Data Report (EDR) for the previous calendar year. NMFS staff will hold a workshop with BSAI crab industry members to review current crab EDR data documentation and data quality findings. Workshop participants will also discuss the development of best practices guidelines for completing crab EDR forms and discuss possible revisions to

the current crab EDR forms. For further information on the Crab Rationalization Program, please visit the NMFS Alaska Region website at <http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov>.

Special Accommodations

This workshop is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for special accommodations should be directed to Brian Garber-Yonts (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) at least 5 working days before the workshop date.

Dated: January 13, 2009.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XM70

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 hold public meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held Monday, February 2 through Tuesday, February 10, 2009. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Renaissance Hotel, 515 Madison Street, Seattle, WA.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Witherell, Council staff, telephone: (907) 271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, February 4 continuing through Tuesday, February 10, 2009. The Council's Advisory Panel (AP) will begin at 8 a.m., Monday, February 2 and continue through Friday, February 6. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, February 2 and continue through Wednesday, February

4, 2009. The Ecosystem Committee will meet Tuesday, February 3, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. The Enforcement Committee will meet Tuesday, February 3, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the. The Comprehensive Data Collection Committee may also meet this week at the hotel, time TBA. All meetings are open to the public, except executive sessions.

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. Reports
Executive Director's Report
NMFS Management Report
NMFS Enforcement Report
Alaska Department of Fish & Game Report

U.S. Coast Guard Report
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Report
International Pacific Halibut Commission Report

Protected Species Report (update on schedule of Steller Sea Lion (SSL) draft Status Quo Biological Opinion (BiOp) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS); Bering Sea and Aleutian Island (BSAI) Pacific cod split.

2. American Fisheries Act (AFA)
Cooperative reports: Receive reports from BSAI Pollock cooperatives.

3. Arctic Fishery Management Plan (FMP): Final action to adopt FMP for the Arctic region.

4. Salmon Bycatch: Review Inter-Cooperative Agreement (ICA) incentive proposals and Bycatch Committee Report.

5. Amendment 80: Initial review of analysis for Amendment 80 Cooperative Formation.

6. BSAI Fixed Gear: Initial review of BSAI fixed gear parallel fisheries analysis.

7. Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Sideboards: Discussion paper on GOA Sideboards for AFA catcher vessels; Initial review of GOA Pacific cod sideboards for crab vessels.

8. BSAI Crab Issues: Initial review BSAI Crab Regional Delivery Relief; Receive Committee report; Receive proposed workplan and timeline for crab analysis/discussion papers for changes to the program, and action as necessary; Receive progress report on Crab Economic Data Report (EDR) surveys.

9. Marine Protection Act Nomination Process: Review NMFS letter and discuss next steps (T).

10. Halibut/Sablefish Issues: Review/Rescind previous action to remove inactive Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) shares; Review halibut catch sharing plan discussion papers (SSC only): (i)