

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Carmichael, SEDAR Coordinator, SEDAR/SAFMC, One Southpark Circle, Suite 306, Charleston, S.C., 29407; phone (843) 571-4366 or toll free (866) SAFMC-10; FAX (843) 769-4520.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The South Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils; in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission; implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks. The SEDAR Steering Committee provides oversight of the SEDAR process, establishes assessment priorities, and provides coordination between assessment efforts and management activities. The SEDAR Steering Committee meets twice annually.

During this meeting the Steering Committee will consider benchmark assessments during 2007-2011 and update assessments in 2007 and 2008. The Committee will receive the report of the king mackerel mixing subcommittee and the evaluation of research and monitoring needs for scheduled assessments. The Committee will review the update process, consider the time allotted to complete benchmark assessments, evaluate options for securing review panel chairs, evaluate review panel products, and clarify assessment presentation procedures.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council office at the address listed above at least 5 business days prior to the meeting.

Dated: July 11, 2006.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E6-11159 Filed 7-13-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071106D]

Fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico; Southeastern Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Gulf of Mexico Red Grouper

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

ACTION: Notice of SEDAR Data, Assessment, and Review Workshops for Gulf of Mexico red grouper.

SUMMARY: The SEDAR assessment of the Gulf of Mexico stock of red grouper will be developed through a series of three workshops: a Data Workshop, an Assessment Workshop, and a Review Workshop. This is the twelfth SEDAR. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

DATES: The Data Workshop will take place July 24-28, 2006; the Assessment Workshop will take place October 16-20, 2006; the Review Workshop will take place January 29-February 2, 2007. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

ADDRESSES: The Data Workshop will be held at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront, 333 First Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701. Phone (727) 894-5000. The Assessment Workshop will be held at the Doubletree Coconut Grove, 2649 South Bayshore Drive, Miami, FL 33133. Phone (305) 858-2500. The Review Workshop will be held at the Doubletree Atlanta Buckhead, 3342 Peachtree Road NE, Atlanta GA 30326. Phone (404) 231-1234.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Atran, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC), 2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa FL 33607. Phone: (813) 348-1630. John Carmichael, SEDAR Coordinator, One Southpark Circle # 306, Charleston, SC 29414. (843) 571-4366.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions have implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR includes three workshops: 1) Data Workshop, 2) Stock Assessment Workshop and 3) Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a data report which compiles and evaluates potential

datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The product of the Stock Assessment Workshop is a stock assessment report which describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The assessment is independently peer reviewed at the Review Workshop. The products of the Review Workshop are a Consensus Summary documenting Panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data, and an Advisory Report summarizing stock status and recommending management criteria. Participants for SEDAR Workshops, appointed by the regional Fishery Management Councils, the SERO, and the SEFSC, include data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and NGO's; International experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies. SEDAR workshops are open to the public.

SEDAR 12 Workshop Schedule

July 24-28, 2006; SEDAR 12 Data Workshop

July 24, 2006: 1 p.m.-8 p.m.; July 25-27, 2006: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; July 28, 2006: 8 a.m.-1 p.m. An assessment data set and associated documentation will be developed during the Data Workshop. Participants will evaluate all available data and select appropriate sources for providing information on life history characteristics, catch statistics, discard estimates, length and age composition, and fishery dependent and fishery independent measures of stock abundance.

October 16-20, 2006. SEDAR 12 Assessment Workshop

October 16, 2006: 1 p.m.-8 p.m.; October 17-19, 2006: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.; October 20, 2006: 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Using datasets provided by the Data Workshop, participants will develop population models to evaluate stock status, estimate population benchmarks and Sustainable Fisheries Act criteria, and project future conditions. Participants will recommend the most appropriate methods and configurations for determining stock status and estimating population parameters. Participants will prepare a workshop report, compare and contrast various assessment approaches, and determine

whether the assessments are adequate for submission to the review panel.

January 29–February 2, 2007. SEDAR 12 Review Workshop

January 29, 2007: 1 p.m.–8 p.m.;
January 30–February 1, 2007: 8 a.m.–8 p.m.; February 2, 2007: 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

The Review Workshop is an independent peer review of the assessment developed during the Data and Assessment Workshops. Workshop Panelist appointed by the Center for Independent Experts (CIE) will review the assessment and document their comments and recommendations in a Consensus Summary. The Panel will summarize recommended population parameter estimates in an Advisory Report.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 business days prior to each workshop.

Dated: July 11, 2006.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E6–11160 Filed 7–13–06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 051605B]

Endangered Species; Permit No. 1486

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit modification.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Harold M. Brundage has been issued a modification to scientific research Permit No. 1486.

ADDRESSES: The modification and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713–2289; fax (301)427–2521; and Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930–2298; phone (978)281–9328; fax (978)281–9394.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shane Guan or Tammy Adams, (301)713–2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On September 23, 2004, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 56998) that an modification of Permit No. 1486, issued on December 29, 2004 (69 FR 77998), had been requested by Mr. Brundage. The requested modification has been issued under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222–226).

Issuance of this modification, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such modification (1) Was applied for in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of such endangered or threatened species, and (3) is consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA.

Dated: July 10, 2006.

P. Michael Payne,

Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E6–11133 Filed 7–13–06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 070506C]

Vessel Monitoring Systems; Approved Mobile Transmitting Unit for Vessels Issued Permits to Operate in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument

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

ACTION: Notice of approved vessel monitoring system.

SUMMARY: This document provides notice of vessel monitoring systems (VMS) approved by NOAA for use by vessels issued permits to operate in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument and sets forth relevant features of the VMS.

ADDRESSES: To obtain copies of the list of NOAA-approved VMS mobile transmitting units and NOAA-approved VMS communications service providers, or information regarding the status of VMS systems being evaluated by NOAA

for approval, write to NOAA Fisheries Office for Law Enforcement (OLE), 8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 415, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

To submit a completed and signed checklist, mail or fax it to NOAA Fisheries Office for Law Enforcement, 8484 Georgia Ave, Suite 415, Silver Spring, MD 20910, fax 301–427–0049. For more addresses regarding approved VMS, see the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section, under the heading “VMS Provider Address”.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For current listing information contact Mark Oswell, Outreach Specialist, phone 301–427–2300, fax 301–427–2055. For questions regarding VMS installation, and status of evaluations, contact Jonathan Pinkerton, National VMS Program Manager, phone 301–427–2300; fax 301–427–0049. The public may acquire this notice, installation/activation checklists, and relevant updates by calling the VMS support center, phone 888–219–9228, fax 301–427–0049.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. VMS Mobile Transceiver Unit

Thrane & Thrane Sailor 3026D Gold VMS

The Thrane & Thrane Sailor 3026D Gold VMS (TT–3026D) has been found to meet the minimum technical requirements for vessels issued permits to operate in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument. The address for the Thrane & Thrane distributor contact is provided in this notice under the heading VMS Provider Address.

The TT–3026D Gold VMS features an integrated GPS/Inmarsat-C unit and a marine grade monitor with keyboard and integrated mouse. The unit is factory pre-configured for NMFS VMS operations (non-Global Maritime Distress & Safety System (non-GMDSS)). Satellite commissioning services are provided by Thrane & Thrane personnel.

Automatic GPS position reporting starts after transceiver installation and power activation onboard the vessel. The unit is an integrated transceiver/antenna/GPS design using a floating 10 to 32 VDC power supply. The unit is configured for automatic reduced position transmissions when the vessel is stationary (i.e., in port). It allows for port stays without power drain or power shut down. The unit restarts normal position transmission automatically when the vessel goes to sea.

The TT–3026D provides operation down to +/-15 degree angles. The unit has the capability of two-way