

(Council) will convene its SSC Selection Committee in a closed session conference call on Wednesday, March 8, 2006 at 10 a.m. EST. The purpose of the meeting is to select members for an Ad Hoc Shrimp Effort Working Group for recommendation to the Council. The Committee recommendations will be presented to the Council at the March 20 – 23, 2006 Council meeting in Mobile, AL.

#### Special Accommodations

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

Dated: February 16, 2006.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. E6–2442 Filed 2–21–06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 021506D]

#### New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Research Steering Committee in March, 2006 to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 8, 2006, at 9:30 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Colonial Hotel, One Audubon Road, Wakefield, MA 01940; telephone: (781) 245–9300; fax: (781) 245–0842.

*Council address:* New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465–0492.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Committee will review several final cooperative research project reports and develop management advice for use by the Council. In addition, the committee will receive an update on Cooperative Research Partners Program's long-term projects, including industry-based survey and study fleet projects and discuss outreach issues such as communication of final report results.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

#### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, at (978) 465–0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

**Authority:**

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

Dated: February 15, 2006.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. E6–2434 Filed 2–21–06; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Science Advisory Board

**AGENCY:** Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Science Advisory Board (SAB) was established by a Decision Memorandum dated September 25, 1997, and is the only Federal Advisory Committee with responsibility to advise the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere on strategies for research, education, and application of science to operations and information services. SAB activities and advice provide necessary input to ensure that National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration (NOAA) science programs are of the highest quality and provide optimal support to resource management.

**Time and Date:** The meeting will be held Wednesday March 8, 2006, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday March 9, 2006, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. These times and the agenda topics described below are subject to change. Refer to the Web page <http://www.sab.noaa.gov/Meetings/meetings.html> for the most up-to-date meeting agenda.

**Place:** The meeting will be held both days at the Courtyard Marriott Hotel, 8506 Fenton Street, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910.

**Status:** The meeting will be open to public participation with a 30-minute public comment period on March 8 (check Web site to confirm time). The SAB expects that public statements presented at its meetings will not be repetitive of previously submitted verbal or written statements. In general, each individual or group making a verbal presentation will be limited to a total time of five (5) minutes. Written comments (at least 35 copies) should be received in the SAB Executive Director's Office by March 1, 2006 to provide sufficient time for SAB review. Written comments received by the SAB Executive Director after March 1 will be distributed to the SAB, but may not be reviewed prior to the meeting date. Seats will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Matters to be Considered:** The meeting will include the following topics: (1) Briefing on the Environmental Impact of Hurricane Katrina; (2) Update and discussion of the Preliminary Report of the Hurricane Intensity Research Working Group; (3) Update on the Review of NOAA Ecosystem Science and Research; (4) Report on the Status of Social Science in NOAA; (5) Briefing on Invasive Species Activities in NOAA; (6) Discussion of Stakeholder Input and NOAA's Annual Guidance Memorandum for Fiscal Years 2009–2013 and (7) Update on the NOAA Strategy for Environmental Literacy.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael Uhart, Executive Director, Science Advisory Board, NOAA, Rm. 11142, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. (Phone: 301–713–9121, Fax: 301–713–3515, E-mail: [Michael.Uhart@noaa.gov](mailto:Michael.Uhart@noaa.gov)); or visit the NOAA SAB Web site at <http://www.sab.noaa.gov>.