

concerns, and management needs to the sanctuary and NOAA.

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

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: January 3, 2005.

Daniel J. Basta,

Director, National Marine Sanctuary Program, National Ocean Services, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 05-747 Filed 1-12-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee; Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Ocean Service, NOAA, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the next meeting of the Marine Protected Areas Federal Advisory Committee (MPAFAC) in the Washington, DC metropolitan area.

DATES: The meeting will be held Tuesday, February 15, 2005 from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 16, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursday, February 17, 2005 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. These times and the agenda topics described below may be subject to change. Refer to the Web page listed below for the most up-to-date meeting agenda.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hilton Crystal City, 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lauren Wenzel, Designated Federal Officer, MPAFAC, National Marine Protected Areas Center, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910. (Phone: (301) 713-3100 x136, Fax: (301) 713-3110); e-mail: lauren.wenzel@noaa.gov; or visit the national MPA Center Web site at <https://www.mpa.gov>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The MPAFAC, composed of external, knowledgeable representatives of stakeholder groups, has been established by the Department of Commerce to provide advice to the Secretaries of Commerce and Interior on implementation of Section 4 of Executive Order 13158 on MPAs. The meeting will be open to public participation, with a one and a half hour time period set aside from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 15, 2004,

and one hour set aside from 8:10 a.m. to 9:10 a.m. on Thursday, February 17, 2004 for the Committee to receive verbal comments or questions from the public. In general, each individual or group making a verbal presentation will be limited to a total time of five (5) minutes. Copies of written statements should be submitted to the Designated Federal Official by Friday, February 11, 2004.

Matters to be Considered: On Tuesday, February 15, the Committee will hear from a speaker on Pacific State and territorial perspectives on the national system of marine protected areas, representatives of two regional fishery management councils, and representatives of tribal organizations. On Wednesday, February 16, the Committee will review and discuss the Committee's recommendations and will hear from speakers on marine protected areas science. On Thursday, February 17, the Committee will continue its consideration of recommendations, and discuss next steps to finalize them.

Dated: January 6, 2005.

Eldon Hout,

Director, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management.

[FR Doc. 05-746 Filed 1-12-05; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 122104D]

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Meeting; Correction

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting; correction.

SUMMARY: The Trawl Survey Advisory Panel, composed of representatives from the Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC), the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC), and several independent scientific researchers, will hold a public meeting.

DATES: January 26, 2005, from noon to 5 p.m. and January 27, 2005, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Brookshire Suites (Inner Harbor), 120 E. Lombard Street, Baltimore, MD, telephone 410-625-1300.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 300 S. New Street, Room 2115, Dover, DE 19904.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; 300 S. New Street, Room 2115, Dover, DE 19904, telephone 302-674-2331, ext. 19.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Correction

In the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council notice published in the **Federal Register** on December 28, 2004, at 69 FR 77730, the hotel address has been corrected as set out in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice. No other information has been changed.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Debbie Donnangelo at the Mid-Atlantic Council Office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least five days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: January 10, 2005.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

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

[FR Doc. E5-120 Filed 1-12-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 011005A]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a three-day Council meeting on February 1-3, 2005, to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 1, 2005, beginning at 9 a.m. and on Wednesday and Thursday, February 2 and 3, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Marriott Courtyard Hotel, 1000 Market Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801; telephone (603) 436-2121. Requests for special accommodations should be addressed to the New England Fishery

Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950; telephone (978) 465-0492.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Following introductions, the Council will receive reports from the Council Chairman and Executive Director, the NMFS Regional Administrator, Northeast Fisheries Science Center and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council liaisons, NOAA General Counsel and representatives of the U.S. Coast Guard, NMFS Enforcement and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. The Council will review the Skate Plan Development Team's annual report on the status of the Northeast skate complex, in the context of recent management actions. The Scallop Committee report will occur before the lunch break and will include consideration of a modification to the "broken trip" limit rules in the Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan. The Council will take final action on Framework Adjustment 17 to the FMP, which includes alternatives that would require some or all vessels with general category scallop permits to carry and operate vessel monitoring system equipment.

Wednesday, February 2, 2005

During the Wednesday morning session, the Council will receive a report from its Research Steering Committee concerning 2005 research priorities and recommendations on NOAA Fisheries experimental fishery permit process and related issues. A Groundfish Committee report will follow, to include a schedule for preparation of the next framework adjustment to the Northeast Multispecies FMP, as well as a list of issues to be addressed; consideration of initial action on a measure to remedy the disapproval of the participation of non-sector vessels in the Closed Area I Hook Gear Haddock Special Access Program; discussion of fishing vessel safety issues relative to the Multispecies FMP; and possible action on planning for the 2005 groundfish assessment updates and independent peer review. The status of the monkfish resource will be addressed at a Stock Assessment Public Review Workshop late in the afternoon on Wednesday.

Thursday, February 3, 2005

The morning session will begin with a summary of the January 5 Council

Executive Committee meeting. Subjects to be covered will include recommendations for a course of action on the recent groundfish/lobster gear conflict, a draft Council conservation and management strategy (including a policy for Special Access Programs), joint fishery management plans and a briefing on the New England Fleet Visioning Project. The Habitat Committee chairman will provide an update on the EFH Omnibus Amendment t2. Council staff will give a presentation on a pilot project to develop ecosystem approaches to fisheries management. Any other outstanding business will be addressed at the end of the day, following the Bycatch Committee Report. That committee will forward recommendations concerning potential actions to reduce the bycatch of the 2003 year class of haddock in various fisheries.

Although other non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subjects of formal action during this meeting. Council 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 that 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 (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: January 10, 2005.

Alan D. Risenhoover,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E5-121 Filed 1-12-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 010705C]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting and Hearing

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting/public hearing.

SUMMARY: The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will meet by conference call in January 2005. During the meeting the Council will consider revising the regulatory amendment under the Fishery Management Plan for Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific concerning measures to conserve sea turtles. The Council will also consider whether certain exemptions from the use of long-handled dehookers should be provided for particular small longliners when fishing north of the equator. More specific agenda topics are provided under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

DATES: The Council meeting will be held on January 26, 2005, beginning at 1 p.m. Hawaii-Aleutian standard time and concluding when all business items have concluded. The public hearing will be held during the Council meeting to give the public opportunity to comment.

ADDRESSES: The Council will meet via conference call. The public is invited to participate at the Council office: 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813; telephone: (808) 522-8220; fax: 808-522-8226.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: 808-522-8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

At its 123rd meeting, the Council took final action and recommended that the requirements summarized under Agenda Topics (below) be implemented by a regulatory amendment under the Fishery Management Plan for Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific containing additional measures to conserve sea turtles.

Agenda Topics

1. Operators and owners of longline vessels operating under general permits (vessels registered to general longline permits and those that in the future will be registered to American Samoa limited access longline permits) must annually attend a NMFS Protected Species Workshop - with consideration of mechanisms for remote attendance.

2. Longline vessels operating under general permits must carry and use dip nets, line clippers, and bolt cutters and follow resuscitation and release guidelines for accidentally caught turtles - with an exemption for small longliners (those with a freeboard of 3 feet (0.91 meters) or less) from the requirement to carry and use long-handled line clippers.