

(4) Providing a new commitment to monitor landslides.

Riparian

The next greatest number of issues were related to riparian management. Changes included the following:

(1) Improving 8 out of 9 commitments with more specific language.
 (2) Adding more fish habitat protection for intermittent streams.
 (3) Extending perennial stream measures to intermittent streams that flow through unstable features on the landscape.

(4) Adding measures to mitigate for impacts of stream side roads.

(5) Incorporating a limitation on clearcutting in Interface Caution Areas Roads.

The following changes were related to road management issues:

(1) Improving 5 out of 8 commitments with more specific language.

(2) Identifying specific watersheds for high priority treatment, and for Road Sediment Delivery Analyses.

(3) Incorporating a requirement to avoid building new roads on steep slopes.

(4) Developing a new, site-specific commitment to address landslide risk at Papoose Creek in the Lochsa River Planning Area basin.

Administration and Implementation

A few issues were related to administration and implementation of the NFHCP. The greatest of these was a concern whether the Services would have sufficient resources to participate in the adaptive management process once the Permit is issued. The following changes resulted from these issues:

(1) Improving 2 out of 6 commitments with more specific language to help ensure a self-implementing conservation plan.

(2) Developing a specific protocol for third party audits.

Financed by Plum Creek, this will provide objective oversight to verify compliance while streamlining the Services' involvement.

Additionally, although not resulting from any input received during the public comment process, there were a number of land parcels added or removed from HCP coverage because of Plum Creek land sales, purchases, and other environmental considerations that are reflected in the final EIS. The most significant change was the sale of more than half the lands in Idaho.

The final EIS analyzes the environmental impacts of the HCP submitted by Plum Creek and three

alternatives to the HCP, including the "no action" alternative. The final EIS is intended to accomplish the following:

(1) Inform the public of the final proposed action and alternatives; (2) address public comments received during the comment period; (3) disclose the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental effects of the final proposed action and each of the alternatives; and (4) indicate any irreversible commitment of resources that would result from implementation of the final proposed action.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508).

Additional Addresses

The FEIS will be available at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Snake River Basin Office website at <http://www.fws.gov/r1srbo/SRBO/PlumCk.htm>. Or, a hard copy or a copy on CD-ROM may be obtained by contacting Mr. Ted Koch, U.S.

Fish and Wildlife Service, 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Boise, Idaho 83709, (208) 378-5293.

Dated: September 12, 2000.

Anne Badgley,

Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 1, Portland, Oregon.

Dated: September 14, 2000.

Wanda Cain

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 091800A]

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 will convene a public meeting of its Groundfish Oversight Committee.

DATES: The meeting will be held October 10-11, 2000, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Colonial Hotel, One Audubon Road, Wakefield, MA 01880; telephone (781) 245-9300.

Council Address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, 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: The Groundfish Oversight Committee will continue its development of management alternatives for Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan. The Committee will finalize its recommendations for rebuilding plans for overfished stocks, measures to address capacity in the groundfish fishery, and options for closed areas and refine its proposals for the status quo, area management, and sector allocation alternatives. Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council 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 Fishery Conservation and Management 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 (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: September 18, 2000.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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