

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 8, 2009, notice was published in the *Federal Register* (74 FR 15940) that a request for a permit to conduct research on cetacean behavior, sound production, and responses to sound had been submitted by the above-named applicant. The requested permit has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The research methods include tagging marine mammals with an advanced digital sound recording tag that records the acoustic stimuli an animal hears and measures vocalization, behavior, and physiological parameters. Research also involves conducting sound playbacks in a carefully controlled manner and measuring animals' responses. The principal study species are beaked whales, especially Cuvier's beaked whale (*Ziphius cavirostris*), and large delphinids such as long-finned pilot whales (*Globicephala melas*), although other small cetacean species may also be studied. The locations for the field work are the Mediterranean Sea, waters off of the mid-Atlantic United States, and Cape Cod Bay. The permit is valid for five years from the date of issuance.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), a final determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Dated: July 20, 2009.

Tammy C. Adams,

Acting Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E9-17721 Filed 7-23-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN: 0648-XQ42

Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene public meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held August 11–13, 2009.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Perdido Beach Resort, 27200 Perdido Beach Blvd., Orange Beach, AL 36561.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Stephen Bortone, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348–1630.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Council

Thursday, August 13, 2009

8:30 a.m. - The Council meeting will begin with swearing in of the new council members, a review of the agenda and minutes.

8:50 a.m. - 12 p.m. - The Council will receive public testimony on exempted fishing permits (EFPs), if any; Final SAFMC Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 1; Final Action on Reef Fish Amendment 31, and the Council will hold an open public comment period regarding any fishery issue of concern. People wishing to speak before the Council should complete a public comment card prior to the comment period.

1:30 p.m. - 2 p.m. - The Council will receive a report on the Gulf of Mexico Alliance activities.

2 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - The Council will review and discuss reports from the committee meetings as follows: Reef Fish Management; Advisory Panel Selection; Scientific and Statistical Committee Selection; Budget/Personnel; Spiny Lobster Management; Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem; Highly Migratory Species; and Data Collection.

5:30 p.m. - 6 p.m. - The Council will review and potentially revise the proposed SEDAR schedule.

6 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. - Other Business items will follow.

6:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman will follow.

The Council will conclude its meeting at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Committees

Tuesday, August 11, 2009

9 a.m. - 11 a.m. - Orientation Session for New Council Members.

12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m. - CLOSED SESSION - The Advisory Panel Selection Committee will consider appointment of members to an Ad Hoc Limited Access Privilege Program.

2 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - CLOSED SESSION - The Scientific and Statistical

Committee Selection Committee will consider appointment of an economist to the SEP.

2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - The Reef Fish Management Committee will meet to discuss final action on Reef Fish Amendment 31/DEIS to address longline/turtle interactions.

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. - The Reef Fish Management Committee will meet to receive presentations on "Is There a Better Way to Manage US Shared Commercial and Recreational Fisheries?" and "Evolving Approaches to Managing Marine Recreational Fisheries". They will also discuss preliminary analysis of gag and red grouper management measures.

2 p.m. - 3 p.m. - The Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem Committee will discuss the Scoping Document for Generic ACL/AM Amendment; Final SAFMC Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 1, and receive a report on Catch Shares Task Force.

3 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - The Spiny Lobster Committee will discuss the Scoping Document for Spiny Lobster Amendment 9.

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. - The Budget/Personnel Committee will review the 5-year Budget Proposal.

4:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. - The Highly Migratory Species Committee will listen to a presentation on Amendment 3 to Consolidated Highly Migratory Species FMP.

5 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. - The Data Collection Committee will listen to a presentation on Louisiana For-Hire Logbook Program.

6 p.m. - 7 p.m. - There will be an informal open public question and answer session.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agendas may come before the Council and Committees for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions of the Council and Committees will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agendas 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 action to address the emergency. The established times for addressing items on the agenda may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the agenda items. In order to further allow for such adjustments and

completion of all items on the agenda, the meeting may be extended from, or completed prior to the date/time established in this notice.

Special Accommodations

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

Dated: July 21, 2009.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E9-17653 Filed 7-23-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN: 0648-XQ47

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 Scientific and Statistical Committee 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: This meeting will be held on Monday, August 10, 2009 at 1 p.m. and Tuesday, August 11, 2009 at 8:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 801 Greenwich Avenue, Warwick, RI 02886; telephone: (401) 732-6000; fax: (401) 739-5715.

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:

Monday, August 10, 2009

The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will review the Groundfish Plan Development Team calculations of Acceptable Biological Catch (ABCs) for groundfish stocks for

the years 2010-12 using the guidance previously provided by the SSC; finalize the ABC recommendations; discuss upcoming meetings including the Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management Workshop, the September 2009 Council meeting, the National SSC Workshop, SAW/SARC terms of reference and committee timelines.

Tuesday, August 11, 2009

The Committee will review the 2009 Herring TRAC Assessment results for the Atlantic herring complex and provide preliminary guidance to the Herring PDT regarding approaches to account for scientific uncertainty, specifying ABC and developing an ABC control rule; review quantitative analyses of uncertainty associated with the Overfishing Level and finalize a scallop ABC recommendation for fishing year 2010; review the 2008 Data Poor Working Group assessment results for red crab and provide preliminary guidance to the Red Crab Plan Development Team regarding approaches for accounting and scientific uncertainty, specifying ABC and developing an ABC control rule.

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: July 21, 2009.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E9-17657 Filed 7-23-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN: 0648-XQ45

North Pacific 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 North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Rural Community Outreach Committee will meet in Anchorage.

DATES: The meeting will be held on August 12, 2009, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, Room 1304, 1016 West 6th Avenue, Suite 304, Anchorage, AK.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nicole Kimball, NPFMC, telephone: (907) 271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Council's Rural Community Outreach Committee will discuss organizational issues; ways to improve general and project-specific outreach with rural and Alaska Native communities; and the committee's role in providing feedback on community impacts sections of analyses.

The Agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted at <http://www.noaa fisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/>.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Actions will be restricted to those issues specifically identified 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 Gail Bendixen, (907) 271-2809, at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.