

Dated: November 18, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 111704C]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Meetings of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and its advisory committees.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees will hold public meetings December 6 through December 14, 2004 at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, Anchorage, AK.

DATES: The Council's Advisory Panel will begin at 8 a.m., Monday, December 6 and continue through Saturday December 11, 2004. The Scientific and Statistical Committee will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, December 6, 2004, and continue through Wednesday, December 8, 2004. The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, December 8 and continuing through Tuesday December 14. All meetings are open to the public except executive sessions. The Enforcement Committee will meet Tuesday, December 7 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, 500 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage, AK.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Council staff, telephone: 907-271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Council Plenary Session:* The agenda for the Council's plenary session will include the following issues. The Council may take appropriate action on any of the issues identified.

1. Reports

Executive Director's Report
National Marine Fisheries Service Management Report
Enforcement Report
Coast Guard Report

Alaska Department of Fish & Game Report (and review of proposals to Board of Fisheries)

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Report Protected Species Report (Review MMPA listing proposed rule

2. Crab Rationalization: Review proposed rule and comment.

3. Gulf of Alaska Groundfish (GOA) Rationalization: Receive report from Community Committee, refine alternatives and options for analysis.

4. GOA Rockfish Demonstration Project: Review available information and take action as necessary.

5. Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) and Habitat Area Particular Concern (HAPC): Review Alternative 5B options analysis; and finalize alternatives. Review HAPC Process, and consider revisions as necessary. Update on proposed Dixon Entrance HAPC area, action as necessary.

6. Improved Retention/Improved Utilization (IR/IU): Finalize alternatives and options, and revise problem statement for Amendment 80.

7. Observer Program: Preliminary review of analysis of program restructuring.

8. Halibut/Sablefish Individual Fishing Quotas (IFQs) Program: Report from IFQ implementation Team and consider initiating amendments. Final Action on 4C/4D amendment. Final action on omnibus regulatory amendments.

9. Halibut Subsistence: Final action on omnibus regulatory amendment.

10. Pacific Cod Allocation: Review background paper and develop problem statement and alternatives.

11. Groundfish Management: Aleutian Island Special Management Area, review preliminary discussion paper. Bering Sea Aleutian Island Salmon Bycatch, develop problem statement and alternatives. Review rockfish management discussion paper (T). Receive report from Non-Target Species Committee. Final groundfish specifications for Gulf of Alaska. Final groundfish specifications for Bering Sea Aleutian Islands. Final action on FMP updates.

12. Staff Tasking: Review tasking and Committee and initiate action as appropriate.

13. Other Business.

Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC): The SSC agenda will include the following issues:

1. EFH and HAPC

2. Groundfish Management

3. Observer Program

Advisory Panel: The Advisory Panel will address the same agenda issues as the Council.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come

before these groups for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action 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 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

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Gail Bendixen at 907-271-2809 at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: November 18, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 111704B]

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public workshop.

SUMMARY: The Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process for the Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper and Spiny Lobster consists of a series of three workshops: a data workshop, an assessment workshop, and a review workshop. As part of this series, a Data Workshop is being held. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

DATES: The SEDAR 8 Data Workshop for yellowtail snapper and spiny lobster will take place December 6-10, 2004. The workshop will be held December 6, 2004, 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.; December 7-9, 2004, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and December 10, 2004, 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

ADDRESSES: The Data Workshop will be held at the Frenchman's Reef and Morningstar Resort, 5 Estate Bakkeroe, St. Thomas, VI 00801; telephone: (340) 776-8500.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Carmichael, SEDAR Coordinator, SEDAR/SAFMC, One Southpark Circle,

Suite 306, Charleston, SC 29407; telephone: (843) 571-4366 or toll free (866) SAFMC-10; fax: 843/769-4520.

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 SEDAR process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR typically includes three workshops: (1) Data Workshop, (2) Assessment Workshop, and (3) Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop and the 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 report is independently peer reviewed at the Review Workshop. The products of the Review Workshop are a Consensus Summary Report, which reports Panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data, and an Advisory Report, which summarizes the status of the stock. Participants for SEDAR workshops are appointed by the Regional Fishery Management Councils. Participants include data collectors, database managers, stock assessment scientists, biologists, fisheries researchers, fishermen, environmentalists, Council members, international experts, and staff of Regional Councils, Interstate Commissions, and state and Federal agencies.

The Data Workshop gathers stock information, synthesizes available data sets, and compiles recommendations concerning the best available data. Workshop Panelists assemble the best available data and document their opinions on various biological and data collection issues. Panelists are responsible for drafting section I of the SEDAR Stock Assessment Report.

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 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 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

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 (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 business days prior to the workshop.

Dated: November 18, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 111704A]

South Atlantic 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 South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold meetings of its Shrimp Committee, Mackerel Committee, Protected Resources Committee, Dolphin Wahoo Committee and Snapper Grouper Committee. The Council will also hold a joint meeting of its Ecosystem-Based Management Committee and Habitat Committee, a joint Executive/Finance Committees meeting, and closed sessions of its Personnel Committee and Advisory Panel (AP) Selection Committee. In addition, there will be a public hearing addressing Action 5 in Amendment 6 to the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan (FMP) (Federal permits) and a meeting of the full Council.

DATES: The meeting will be held in December 2004. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at Sheraton Atlantic Beach, 2717 Fort Macon Road, Atlantic Beach, NC 28512; telephone: (1-800) 624-8875 or (252) 240-1155, fax: (252) 240-1452.

Copies of documents are available from Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer, South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, One Southpark Circle, Suite 306, Charleston, SC 29407-4699.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer;

telephone: 843-571-4366 or toll free at 866/SAFMC-10; fax: 843-769-4520; e-mail: kim.iverson@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Dates

1. *Joint Ecosystem-Based Management and Habitat Committee Meeting: December 6, 2004, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.*

During the joint meeting, the Committees will review the status of the Council's Draft Action Plan for Ecosystem-Based Management and receive an update on workshops conducted thus far relevant to the Action Plan. The Committees will also receive a briefing on the results of the joint meeting of the Council's Habitat AP and Coral AP and provide staff with direction for continued work regarding Ecosystem-Based Management.

Note: A public hearing for Action 5 (federal shrimp permits) in Amendment 6 to the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan (FMP) will be held December 6, 2004 beginning at 6 p.m.

2. *Personnel Committee Meeting: December 7, 2004, 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m. (CLOSED SESSION)*

The Committee will receive a report from the Executive Director regarding staff issues.

3. *Joint Executive Committee and Finance Committee Meeting: December 7, 2004, 10 a.m. until 12 noon*

The Committees will receive an update on the Calendar Year (CY) 2004 budget, the status of the Fiscal Year 2005 Congressional budget, Approve the CY 2005 activities schedule and the 2005 CY budget, and receive a report on the status of the CY 2005-09 grant budget.

4. *Shrimp Committee Meeting: December 7, 2004, 1:30 p.m. 2:30 p.m.*

The Shrimp Committee will review the public comments received regarding Action 5 to Amendment 6 to the Shrimp FMP. Action 5 in the amendment addresses alternatives for federal shrimp vessel permit requirements in the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone (EEZ). After reviewing comments, the Committee will develop recommendations for full Council to consider.

5. *Mackerel Committee Meeting: December 7, 2004, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.*

The Mackerel Committee will review public comments regarding Amendment 15 to the FMP for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources (mackerel) in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic. Amendment 15 addresses the current permit moratorium for king mackerel and proposed changes to the fishing year for both king and Spanish mackerel in the South Atlantic. The Committee will review Final Amendment 15 and