

Intergovernmental Review

Applications under this program are not subject to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

Limitation of Liability

Funding for the program listed in this notice is contingent upon the availability of Fiscal Year 2004 appropriations. NOAA issues this notice subject to the appropriations made available under the current continuing resolution, H.J. Res. 69, "Making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2004, and for other purposes," Public Law 108-84, as amended by H.J. Res. 75, Public Law 108-104, H.J. Res. 76, Public Law 108-107, and H.J. Res. 79, Public Law 108-135. NOAA, the Service, and MARAD anticipate making awards for the program listed in this notice provided that funding for the program is continued beyond January 31, 2004, the expiration of the current continuing resolution. In no event will NOAA, the Service, or MARAD be responsible for proposal preparation costs if this program fails to receive funding or is cancelled because of other agency priorities. Publication of this announcement does not oblige NOAA, the Service, or MARAD to award any specific project or to obligate any available funds.

Universal Identifier

Applicants should be aware that, for programs that have deadline dates on or after October 1, 2003, they will be required to provide a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number during the application process. See the June 27, 2003 (68 FR 38402) **Federal Register** notice for additional information. Organizations can receive a DUNS number at no cost by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS Number request line at 1-866-705-5711 or via the Internet (<http://www.dunandbradstreet.com>).

The Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements

The Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements contained in the **Federal Register** notice of October 1, 2001 (66 FR 49917), as amended by the **Federal Register** notice published on October 30, 2002 (67 FR 66109), are applicable to the awards made by NOAA.

Paperwork Reduction Act

Applications involve collection-of-information requirements subject to the

Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). The use of Standard Forms 424 and 424A, 424B, SF-LLL, and CD-346 has been approved by OMB under the respective control numbers 0348-0043, 0348-0044, 0348-0040, 0348-0046, and 0605-0001. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the PRA unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Executive Order 12866

This notice has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

Executive Order 13132 (Federalism)

It has been determined that this notice does not contain policies with Federalism implications as that term is defined in Executive Order 13132.

Administrative Procedure Act/Regulatory Flexibility Act

Prior notice and an opportunity for public comment are not required by the Administrative Procedure Act or any other law for rules concerning public property, loans, grants, benefits, and contracts (5 U.S.C. 553(a)(2)). Because notice and opportunity for comment are not required pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553 or any other law, the analytical requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*) are inapplicable. Therefore, a regulatory flexibility analysis has not been prepared.

Dated: January 12, 2004.

Louisa Koch,

Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 04-950 Filed 1-15-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-KA-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 011204B]

North Pacific 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 North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its

advisory committees will hold public meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held from February 2 through February 10, 2004. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

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

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council's Advisory Panel will begin at 8 a.m., Monday, February 2, and continue through Saturday, February 7, 2004. The Scientific and Statistical Committee will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, February 2, and continue through Wednesday, February 4, 2004.

The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, February 4 continuing through Tuesday February 10. All meetings are open to the public except executive sessions. The Enforcement Committee will meet Tuesday, February 3, at 4:30 pm in the Aleutian Room.

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

- (a) Executive Director's Report
- (b) NMFS Report
- (c) United States Coast Guard Report
- (d) Alaska Department Fish & Game Reports

(e) United States Fish & Wildlife Report

(f) International Pacific Halibut Commission Report

2. Gulf of Alaska Rationalization (GOA): (a) Receive Board of Fisheries Workgroup Report; (b) Review and refine alternatives and options; (c) Review GOA salmon/crab bycatch discussion paper.

3. Observer Program: (a) Program overview (Alaska Fishery Science Center); (b) Receive progress report on Program Restructuring Analysis.

4. Improved Retention/Improved Utilization (IR/IU): (a) Receive update on Amendment 79; (b) Review Progress report on Amendments 80a and 80b.

5. Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC): Receive report on proposals received.

6. Crab Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): Initial review and release for public comment.

7. Congressional legislative (T): Discuss and provide direction on

Aleutian Island pollock and GOA rockfish.

8. American Fisheries Act: Review 2003 co-op reports and 2004 co-op agreements.

9. Draft Programmatic Supplemental Impact Statement (DPSEIS): (a) Report on comments received on draft; (b) Report on Endangered Species Act Consultation; (c) Review Groundfish Fishery Management Plan.

10. Steller Sea Lion (SSL) mitigation adjustments in GOA: Review NMFS informal consultation.

11. Groundfish Management: (a) Review National Bycatch Strategy and Alaska Region Report; (b) Review Crab/Groundfish overfishing definitions and multispecies models (SSC); (c) Review Exempted Fishing Permits (EFP) request for rockfish fishery.

12. Scallop Management: (a) Review Stock Assessment Fishery Evaluation; (b) Discuss Fishery Management Plan update.

13. Staff Tasking: Review tasking and provide direction to staff.

14. Other Business.

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

1. C-1 Observer Program
2. C-4 HAPC
3. C-5 Crab EIS
4. C-8 DPSEIS
5. C-9 SSL Mitigations
6. D-1 Groundfish Management
7. D-2 Scallop Management

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

Enforcement Committee: The Enforcement Committee will meet during each meeting of the Council to discuss enforcement issues or concerns related to any subject on the Council agenda.

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, these issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during the meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda 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

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: January 12, 2004.

Peter H. Fricke,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 04-1011 Filed 1-15-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 011204D]

Pacific 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 Groundfish Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel for Pacific whiting will hold a work session, which is open to the public.

DATES: The Pacific whiting STAR Panel will meet February 2, 2004 through February 4, 2004. Each day, the meeting will begin at 8 a.m. and end at 5 p.m., or as necessary to complete business.

ADDRESSES: The Pacific whiting STAR Panel meeting will be held at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northwest Fisheries Science Center, Auditorium, 2725 Montlake Blvd. E, Seattle, WA 98112; telephone: (206) 860-3200.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Mike Burner, Groundfish Staff Officer: 503-820-2280.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the meeting is to review draft stock assessment documents and any other pertinent information, work with the Stock Assessment Team to make necessary revisions, and produce a STAR Panel report for use by the Council family and other interested persons.

Entry to the Northwest Fisheries Science Center requires identification with photograph (such as a student ID, state drivers license, etc.) A security guard will review the identification and issue a Visitor's Badge valid only for the date of the meeting. Since parking is at a premium at the Northwest Fisheries

Science Center, car pooling and mass transit are encouraged.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in STAR Panel agendas may come before the STAR Panel for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal Panel action during this meeting. STAR Panel 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 Panel's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Ms. Carolyn Porter at 503-820-2280 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: January 12, 2004.

Peter H. Fricke,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 04-1009 Filed 1-15-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 011204E]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Groundfish Management Team (GMT) will hold a working meeting to plan annual management measures, the biennial management cycle, and strategize 2004 Council initiatives. This meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The GMT working meeting will convene on Tuesday, February 3, 2004 at 8:30 a.m. and may go into the evening until business for the day is completed. The GMT meeting will reconvene from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, February 4 through Friday, February 6 until business for the day is completed.

ADDRESSES: The GMT working meeting will be held at the Pacific Fishery Management Council office, West Conference Room, 7700 NE Ambassador