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Dated: January 6, 2015.

Richard Cavanagh,
Acting Associate Director for Laboratory Programs.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XD707

North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC); Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: There will be a joint meeting of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) in Seattle, WA.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, February 5, 2015, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Renaissance Hotel, 515 Madison Street, South Room, Seattle, WA.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David Witherell, Council staff; telephone: (907) 271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Council/IPHC agenda:

1. Introductions/opening comments
2. Brief history of NPFMC/IPHC/NMFS interactions
3. Brief description of respective management authorities and applicable laws
4. Current data/information collection issues relative to stock assessment and management; Reconciling bycatch estimates for use in stock assessment and Catch Limit Fishing Mortality Rate (FCEY) determinations; Improving estimates of discard mortalities and discard mortality rates (DMRs(\)) in the directed halibut and other fisheries
5. Discussion of current management measures and issues of mutual interest; IPHC Total mortality accounting framework and Scientific Statistical Committee (SSC) review; Council BSAI halibut Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) reduction package and SSC review; Abundance-based PSC limits (background discussion being drafted by NPFMC/IPHC)
6. Identify areas of mutual interest in research and facilitation of management
7. Public comment
8. Council/IPHC discussion of all agenda items

The Agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted at <http://www.npfmc.org>. Background documents, reports, and analyses for review are posted on the Council Web site in advance of the meeting.

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 13, 2015.

Tracey L. Thompson,
Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XD716

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Pacific Council) Highly Migratory Species Management Team (HMSMT) will hold a meeting, which is open to the public.

DATES: The HMSMT will meet Wednesday, February 4 to Friday, February 6, 2015. This meeting will start at 8:30 a.m. and continue until business is concluded on each day.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the following location: Best Western Plus Inn by the Sea, Wind and Sea Room, 7830 Fay Avenue, La Jolla, CA 92037.

Council address: Pacific Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Kit Dahl, Pacific Council; telephone: (503) 820-2422.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The HMSMT will discuss assignments and develop reports for HMS topics to be taken up at Pacific Council meetings in 2015. Topics on the March 2015 Council agenda that the HMSMT will focus on include: (1) Developing a Drift Gillnet Management and Monitoring Plan purpose and need statement and contents; (2) analyzing the range of alternatives adopted by the Council in November 2014 for bycatch reduction and monitoring for the California drift gillnet fishery; and (3) reviewing and making recommendations on exempted fishing permit proposals. The HMSMT will also discuss the planned management strategy evaluation for North Pacific albacore tuna to be conducted by the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-Like Species in the North Pacific Ocean and potential Council advice to the U.S. delegation. Time-permitting, the HMSMT may discuss initial planning for topics on future Council meetings including the authorization of a shallow-set longline fishery outside the west coast Exclusive Economic Zone and creating a Federal limited entry permit for the California drift gillnet fishery.