

7700 Sand Point Way NE., Seattle, WA 98115. Please call (907) 271-2896.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252; telephone: (907) 271-2809.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diana Evans, Council staff; telephone: (907)-271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda

Monday, September 19 and Tuesday, September 20, 2016

The agenda will include a review of the Draft 2017 Observer Annual Deployment Plan, the lead level 2 discussion paper, the EM (Electronic Monitoring) analysis and 2017 EM Plan, other analytic project priorities, and scheduling and other issues. The Agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted at <http://www.npfmc.org/observer-program/>

Special Accommodations

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

Dated: August 30, 2016.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2016-21189 Filed 9-1-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XE817

Fisheries of the South Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The SEDAR Steering Committee will meet to discuss the SEDAR process and assessment schedule. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

DATES: The SEDAR Steering Committee will meet from 1 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20, until 4 p.m. on Wednesday, September 21, 2016.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: The Steering Committee meeting will be held at the Town and Country Inn, 2008 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC 29407; telephone: (843) 571-1000.

SEDAR address: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405; www.sedarweb.org.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Carmichael, Deputy Executive Director, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405; phone: (843) 571-4366 or toll free: (866) SAFMC-10; fax: (843) 769-4520; email: john.carmichael@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The items of discussion are as follows:

1. Review Assessment Projects Status Reports
2. Consider the Research Track Assessment Process and Changes in the SEDAR Standard Operating Procedures and Policies (SOPPs).
3. Review State-Sponsored Assessment Process: *Goliath Grouper* Benchmark Case Study
4. Address the SEDAR Assessment Schedule: Identify assessment capability, determine 2018 priorities and identify projects for 2019-20.
5. Review Data Best Practices Terms of References (TORs) and Charge statement.
6. Progress Report on the Stock Identification and Meristics workshop: Timing, TORs, and stocks list.
7. Update on the NOAA Fisheries Stock Assessment Prioritization Plan: Cooperator progress and SEDAR role.

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 intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the SAFMC

office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

Note: The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: August 30, 2016.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2016-21187 Filed 9-1-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XE853

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

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

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS has completed a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to consider the potential impacts of authorizing an exempted fishing permit (EFP) for longline vessels to fish within the U.S. West Coast exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: Written comments on the draft EA must be submitted by October 3, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the draft EA should be submitted to the Sustainable Fisheries Division, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802. Comments may also be submitted by email to RegionalAdministrator.WCRHMS@noaa.gov.

The EA is available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office: The Sustainable Fisheries Division, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802; or on NMFS' West Coast Region Web site: http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/migratory_species/highly_migratory_species_rules_req.html.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amber Rhodes (ph: 562-980-3231; email: Amber.Rhodes@noaa.gov) or Chris Fanning (ph: 562-980-4198; email: Chris.Fanning@noaa.gov), Long Beach, CA.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Draft EA was completed to consider potential impacts of issuing an EFP authorizing the applicants to fish with longline gear

in the U.S. West Coast EEZ, under specific terms and conditions. According to regulations, a NMFS Regional Administrator may authorize “for limited testing, public display, data collection, exploratory, health and safety, environmental cleanup, and/or hazard removal purposes, the target or incidental harvest of species managed under an FMP [fishery management plan] or fishery regulations that would otherwise be prohibited” (50 CFR 600.745(b)). Issuance of an EFP, which is the proposed action analyzed in this EA, would provide such authorization as fishing with longline gear in the U.S. West Coast EEZ is currently prohibited under the Fishery Management Plan for U.S. West Coast Highly Migratory Species Fisheries and Federal regulation at 550 CFR 660.712(a). The original application for the EFP was discussed during the March 2015 Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting and published on the Council’s Web site at: http://www.pcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/H3a_Att1_Dupuy_etal_MAR2015BB.pdf. A revised application for the EFP and the Council’s additional recommendations regarding EFP issuance were published in the **Federal Register** on May 22, 2015 (80 FR 29662).

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: August 30, 2016.

Emily H. Menashes,

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

[FR Doc. 2016–21196 Filed 9–1–16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Notice of Public Hearing and Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Management Plan for the Proposed Designation of the He’eia National Estuarine Research Reserve in Hawai’i

AGENCY: Office for Coastal Management (OCM), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice of Public Hearing and Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Management Plan for the proposed designation of the He’eia National Estuarine Research Reserve in Hawai’i.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Coastal Zone Management Act, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

(NOAA), Office for Coastal Management (OCM) is announcing a forty-five day public comment period and will hold a public hearing for the purpose of receiving comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Management Plan (DEIS/DMP) prepared for the proposed designation of the He’eia National Estuarine Research Reserve in Hawai’i. The DMP addresses research, monitoring, education, and stewardship/cultural resource needs for the proposed reserve, and the DEIS analyzes alternatives to the proposed action along with their potential environmental impacts. The National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS) is a federal-state partnership administered by NOAA. The system protects more than 1.3 million acres of estuarine habitat for long-term research, monitoring, education and stewardship throughout the coastal United States. Established by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, each reserve is managed by a lead state agency or university, with input from local partners. NOAA provides funding and national programmatic guidance.

DATES: NOAA is accepting public comments through 5:00 p.m. (HST), October 17, 2016. In addition, NOAA will also accept public comments, conveyed orally or through submitted written statements, during a public hearing held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on October 6, 2016, at He’eia State Park, 46–465 Kamehameha Highway, Kane’ohe, HI 96744. NOAA is soliciting the views of interested persons and organizations on the adequacy of the DEIS/DMP. All relevant comments received at the hearing and during the 45-day public comment period ending 5:00 p.m. (HST), October 17, 2016, will be considered in the preparation of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Final Management Plan (FMP).

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by any one of the following methods:

- **Electronic Submissions:** Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=NOAA-NOS-2016-0114, click the “Comment Now!” icon, complete the required fields and enter or attach your comments.

- **Mail:** Joelle Gore, Stewardship Division, Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, NOAA, 1305 East West Highway, N/ORM2, Room 10622 Silver Spring, MD 20910. **Instructions:** Comments sent by any other method, to any other

address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NOAA. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on www.regulations.gov without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jean Tanimoto, Coastal Management Specialist, Policy, Planning, and Communications Division, Office for Coastal Management at (808) 725–5253 or via email at jean.tanimoto@noaa.gov.

Electronic copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Management Plan may be found on the OCM Web site at <http://coast.noaa.gov/czm/compliance/> or may be obtained upon request from coastal.info@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The requirements of 40 CFR parts 1500–1508 (Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations to implement the National Environmental Policy Act) apply to the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements. Specifically, 40 CFR 1506.6 requires agencies to provide public notice of the availability of environmental documents. Likewise, the NERRS implementing regulations at 15 CFR 921.13(d) require NOAA to provide notice, in the **Federal Register**, of the DEIS availability and the public hearing. This notice is part of NOAA’s action to comply with these requirements.

Dated: August 23, 2016.

John R. King,

Deputy Director, Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2016–21059 Filed 9–1–16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Solicitation for Members of the NOAA Science Advisory Board

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation for members of the NOAA Science Advisory Board.