

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Institute of Standards and Technology****Prospective Grant of Exclusive Patent License**

**AGENCY:** National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of Prospective Grant of Exclusive Patent License.

**SUMMARY:** This is a notice in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 209(c)(1) and 37 CFR 404.7(a)(1)(i) that the National Institute of Standards and Technology ("NIST"), U.S. Department of Commerce, is contemplating the grant of an exclusive license in the United States of America, its territories, possessions and commonwealths, to NIST's interest in the invention embodied in U.S. Patent Application No. 09/122,583, titled, "Designed Protein Pores As Components For Biosensors," filed July 24, 1998; NIST Docket No. 98-016, to the University of Massachusetts, 365 Plantation Street, Suite, 130, Worcester, MA 01605. The grant of the license would be for the field of Biological Applications.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** J. Terry Lynch, (301) 975-2691, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Office of Technology Partnerships, 100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2200, Gaithersburg, MD 20899.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The prospective exclusive license will be royalty sharing and will comply with the terms and conditions of 35 USC 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The prospective exclusive license may be granted unless, within thirty days from the date of this published Notice, NIST receives written evidence and argument which establish that the grant of the license would not be consistent with the requirements of 35 USC 209 and 37 CFR 404.7. The availability of the invention for licensing was published in the **Federal Register**, Vol. 65, No. 53 (March 17, 2000).

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/122,583 is jointly owned by the U.S. government, as represented by the Secretary of Commerce, Worcester Institute, and the University of Chicago. The present invention relates to a mutant staphylococcal alpha hemolysin polypeptide containing a heterologous analyte-binding amino acid which assembles into an analyte-responsive heteroheptameric pore assembly in the presence of a wild type staphylococcal alpha hemolysin polypeptide, digital biosensors, and methods of detecting, identifying and quantifying analytes.

Dated: March 5, 2002.

**Karen H. Brown,**

*Deputy Director.*

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**BILLING CODE 3510-13-P**

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

[I.D. 030602H]

**New England 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 New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Research Steering Committee, Monkfish Advisory Panel and Groundfish Oversight Committee in March, 2002 to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from these groups will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held between March 25 and 27, 2002. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held in Wakefield and Peabody, MA. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific locations.

*Council address:* New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; (978) 465-0492.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Meeting Dates and Agendas**

*Monday, March 25, 2002 at 9:30 a.m. and Tuesday, March 26, 2002 at 8:30 a.m.*—Research Steering Committee Meeting.

*Location:* Sheraton Colonial, One Audubon Road, Wakefield, MA 01880; telephone: (781) 245-9300.

The committee will coordinate previously funded projects, potential future projects and other funding initiatives to ensure that the Council's research priorities are met. This effort will include prioritizing the current initiatives previously identified as high priority cooperative research programs

industry-based surveys/study fleets, cod tagging and conservation engineering. They will also review and potentially revise the existing research priorities previously established by the Research Steering Committee and approved by the Council for use in future Requests for Proposals (RFPs). They will also develop a mechanism for project tracking, evaluation and incorporation of information into the management process. Also on the agenda is to review the ongoing initiatives to establish pilot programs for study fleets/industry-based surveys.

*Tuesday, March 26, 2002 at 9:00 a.m.*—Monkfish Advisory Panel Meeting. *Location:* Holiday Inn, One Newbury Street, Peabody, MA 01960; telephone: (978) 535-4600.

The Panel will review Amendment 2 goals and objectives adopted by the Councils, as well as management strategies being developed by the Oversight Committee. The Panel will advise the Committee on issues and alternatives pertaining to Amendment 2, including, but not limited to: how different fishery sectors have been affected by the current management plan; options for modifying how days-at-sea (DAS) are counted, particularly first or partial days of a trip; identifying times and areas of monkfish spawning that could be utilized as part of a management program; incidental catch limits for vessels not fishing on a monkfish DAS; and other specific matters identified by the Committee. The Panel will also develop its own recommendations to the Committee for management strategies to be considered in Amendment 2.

*Wednesday, March 27, 2002 at 9:30 a.m.*—Groundfish Oversight Committee Meeting.

*Location:* Holiday Inn, One Newbury Street, Peabody, MA 01960; telephone: (978) 535-4600.

The Groundfish Committee will continue development of Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP). At a meeting on February 27, 2002, the New England Council decided to develop groundfish management measures for five broad areas and one user group: inshore Gulf of Maine, offshore Gulf of Maine, eastern Georges Bank, western Georges Bank, Southern New England/Mid Atlantic, and recreational/charter/party. They will define the boundaries of the areas and develop specific objectives for each group (including specific objectives for the recreational/party/charter group). In addition, the committee will identify metrics that can be used to guarantee that objectives are met in each area/user group and will