

at the earliest possible time in the EIS process as stipulated by Council on Environmental Quality regulations. The Preferred Alternative will identify a proposed plan for funding and operation of Mitchell Act hatchery programs after considering funding availability, consistency with the ESA, potential impacts on environmental resources, and broader objectives for harvest and/or conservation.

ESA listed species under NMFS jurisdiction that may potentially be affected by the proposed action include: Lower Columbia River Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*); Upper Willamette River Chinook Salmon (*O. tshawytscha*); Upper Columbia River Spring-Run Chinook Salmon (*O. tshawytscha*); Snake River Spring/Summer-Run Chinook Salmon (*O. tshawytscha*); Snake River Fall-Run Chinook Salmon (*O. tshawytscha*); Snake River Sockeye Salmon (*O. nerka*); Columbia River Chum Salmon (*O. keta*); Lower Columbia River Steelhead (*O. mykiss*); Upper Willamette River Steelhead (*O. mykiss*); Middle Columbia River Steelhead (*O. mykiss*); Upper Columbia River Steelhead (*O. mykiss*); and, Snake River Basin Steelhead (*O. mykiss*). ESA listed species regulated by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service that may potentially be affected by the proposed action include bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) and bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*).

Comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties to ensure that the EIS considers the full range of related issues and alternatives to the proposed action. NMFS requests that comments be as specific as possible. In particular, NMFS requests information regarding: other possible alternatives; the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts that implementation of the proposed plan could have on endangered and threatened species and their communities and habitats; potential adaptive management and/or monitoring provisions; funding issues; baseline environmental conditions in counties that may be affected; other plans or projects that might be relevant to this proposed project; and potential methods to minimize and mitigate for impacts.

Written comments concerning the proposed action and its environmental review should be directed to NMFS as described above (see **ADDRESSES**). All comments and materials received, including names and addresses, will be made available to the public upon request.

The environmental review of this project will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of NEPA, as

amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), National Environmental Policy Act Regulations (40 CFR 1500 1508), NOAA Administrative Order 216–6, and other appropriate Federal laws and regulations.

Dated: August 30, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

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

[FR Doc. 04–20157 Filed 9–2–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 083004C]

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico; Amendment 24

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

ACTION: Notice announcing the preparation of an environmental assessment.

SUMMARY: NMFS, in cooperation with the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council), is preparing an environmental assessment (EA) for proposed Amendment 24 to the Fishery Management Plan for Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico (Reef Fish FMP). A notice published February 13, 2004, indicated that Amendment 24 would be supported by a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS). This notice is intended to inform the public of the change in the environmental review document supporting Amendment 24.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rick Leard, phone: 813–228–2815 ext. 228, fax: 813–225–7015, e-mail:

Rick.Leard@gulfcouncil.org; or Phil Steele, phone: 727–570–5305, fax: 727–570–5583, e-mail: *phil.steele@noaa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS, in cooperation with the Council, is preparing an EA for proposed Amendment 24 to the Reef Fish FMP. The EA will examine alternatives related to the commercial vessel reef fish permit moratorium, which is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2005. Specifically, Amendment 24 includes alternatives that would: allow the moratorium to expire, extend the existing moratorium for a designated

time frame, or extend the existing moratorium indefinitely.

On February 13, 2004, NMFS and the Council published a Notice of Intent in the **Federal Register** to prepare a DSEIS in association with Amendment 24 (69 FR 7187). However, the preliminary environmental review of Amendment 24 indicated that it would not likely have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Consequently, NMFS and the Council are preparing an EA, rather than proceeding directly with the development of a SEIS. This notice is intended to inform the public of this change.

If the EA results in a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), the EA and FONSI will be the final environmental documents required by the National Environmental Policy Act. If the EA reveals that significant environmental impacts may be reasonably expected to result from the proposed actions, NMFS and the Council will develop a DSEIS to further evaluate those impacts.

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

Dated: August 30, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

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

[FR Doc. 04–20158 Filed 9–2–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 082304C]

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 Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC) Socioeconomic Subcommittee, SSC Biological Assessment Subcommittee, the SSC, and a joint meeting of the SSC and the SSC Selection Committee. The Council will also hold a joint meeting of its Ecosystem-Based Management Committee and Habitat Committee, a joint meeting of its Shrimp Advisory Panel and Committee, Shrimp Committee, Snapper Grouper Committee, Standard Operation, Policy, and Procedure (SOPPs) Committee, Law Enforcement Committee, Mackerel Committee, and a joint Executive/

Finance Committee meeting. In addition, there will be a meeting of the full Council.

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

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at Pawleys Plantation, 70 Tanglewood Drive, Pawleys Island, SC 29585; telephone: (1-800) 367-9959 or (843) 237-6100, fax: 843/237-6069.

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; email: kim.iverson@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Dates

1. *SSC Socioeconomic Subcommittee and SSC Biological Assessment Subcommittee: September 19, 2004 (Concurrent Sessions)*

Socioeconomic Subcommittee Meeting, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

The SSC Socioeconomic Subcommittee will meet to discuss the Deepwater (Snowy Grouper and Golden tilefish) Assessment, review and comment on the Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR) stock assessment process, and review and comment on data for ecosystem-based management.

Biological Assessment Subcommittee, 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

The SSC Biological Assessment Subcommittee will meet to discuss the Deepwater (Snowy Grouper and Golden tilefish) Assessment, review and comment on the SEDAR stock assessment process, and discuss the results of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's SSC review of the Mackerel Assessment.

2. *Scientific and Statistical Committee Meeting: September 20, 2004, 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.*

The SSC will meet to review the Subcommittee reports and develop recommendations on the Deepwater Assessment, SEDAR stock assessment process and data for ecosystem-based management. The SSC will also provide input regarding the Ecosystem-Based Management or Fishery Ecosystem Plan, Amendment 6 to the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan (FMP), and Amendment 13B to the Snapper Grouper FMP.

3. *Joint SSC Selection Committee and SSC Meeting: September 20, 2004, 3 p.m. – 5 p.m.*

The Committees will develop recommendations for expanding the role of the SSC.

4. *Joint Ecosystem-Based Management and Habitat Committee Meeting: September 21, 2004, 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon*

The Ecosystem-Based Management and Habitat Committees will meet jointly to review the draft Action Plan for Ecosystem-Based Management, receive a report on workshops, and develop directions to staff. There will also be an opportunity for public input on ecosystem-based management.

5. *Joint Shrimp Advisory Panel and Committee Meeting: September 21, 2004, 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.*

The Shrimp Advisory Panel (AP) will meet jointly with the Committee to review public comments received for Amendment 6 to the Shrimp FMP and the AP will develop recommendations for the Committee to consider. The AP will also provide input on ecosystem considerations in the Shrimp FMP and receive a presentation on the NOAA Fisheries Shrimp Business Plan.

6. *Shrimp Committee Meeting: September 22, 2004, 8:30 a.m. – 12 noon*

The Shrimp Committee will meet to develop Committee recommendations for Shrimp Amendment 6.

7. *Snapper Grouper Committee Meeting: September 22, 2004, 1:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. and September 23, 2004, 8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.*

The Snapper Grouper Committee will meet to discuss the structure and timing of Amendment 13B to the Snapper Grouper FMP and stock status determination criteria contained in the draft document. The Committee will also review preliminary analysis of management regarding size limits, bag limits, and other management measures.

8. *SOPPs Committee Meeting: September 23, 2004, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.*

The SOPPs Committee will review the Council's Standard Operating, Policy and Procedures and modify as appropriate.

9. *Law Enforcement Committee Meeting: September 23, 2004, 11 a.m. – 12 noon*

The Law Enforcement Committee will receive a report on Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) and review the Oculina Bank Experimental Closed Area evaluation plan.

10. *Mackerel Committee Meeting: September 23, 2004, 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.*

The Mackerel Committee will review Amendment 15 to the Coastal Migratory Pelagics FMP and approve it for public hearing. The Committee will also discuss the results of the Gulf of Mexico

Fishery Management Council's SSC review of the Mackerel Stock Assessment.

11. *Joint Executive Committee and Finance Committee Meeting: September 23, 2004, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.*

The Committees will meet jointly to review the current Calendar Year (CY) 2004 budget, the status of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2005 budget, and receive a briefing on the national councils/NOAA Fisheries budget planning for FY 2007–2011. The Committees will develop timeline recommendations for CY 2005–2009 FMP/Amendment/Framework development and approve the grant budget for that time period. The Committees will also develop comments for proposed changes to National Standard 1.

12. *Council Session: September 24, 2004, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.*

From 8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m., the Council will call the meeting order, make introductions and roll call, and adopt the meeting agenda.

From 8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m., the Council will elect its Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

From 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m., the Council will receive a report from the Shrimp Committee and approve Amendment 6 to the Shrimp FMP for submission to the Secretary of Commerce. Note: A public comment period for Amendment 6 to the Shrimp FMP will be held at 9:15 a.m.

From 10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., the Council will hear a report from the Snapper Grouper Committee and take action as appropriate.

From 10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m., the Council will hear a joint Executive/Finance Committee report and approve the CY 2005–09 FMP/Amendment/Framework timelines and grant budget, and National Standard 1 comments.

From 10:45 a.m. – 11 a.m., the Council will hear a report from the Mackerel Committee and approve Amendment 15 for public hearing.

From 11 a.m. – 11:15 a.m., the Council will hear a SOPPs Committee report and approve the SOPPs for submission to the Secretary of Commerce.

From 11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., the Council will hear a report from the joint meeting of the Ecosystem-Based Management Committee and Habitat Committee.

From 11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m., the Council will hear a report from the SSC Selection Committee.

From 11:45 a.m. – 12 noon, the Council will hear a report from the Law Enforcement Committee.

From 1 p.m. – 1:30 p.m., the Council will receive a briefing on litigation and

other legal issues affecting the Council (CLOSED SESSION).

From 1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m., the Council will hear a report from the Information and Education Committee.

From 1:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m., the Council will receive a report on NOAA Fisheries' Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey.

From 2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m., the Council will hear status reports from NOAA Fisheries.

From 2:45 p.m. – 3 p.m., the Council will hear agency and liaison reports, discuss other business and upcoming meetings.

Documents regarding these issues are available from the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**).

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subjects of formal Council action during this meeting. Council 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 Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Except for advertised (scheduled) public hearings and public comment, the times and sequence specified on this agenda are subject to change.

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 Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) by September 17, 2004.

Dated: August 31, 2004.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 04–20159 Filed 9–2–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. 2004–C–042]

Public Advisory Committees

AGENCY: Patent and Trademark Office.

ACTION: Notice and request for nominations; extension for submission of nominations.

SUMMARY: On August 2, 2004, the United States Patent and Trademark Office issued a "Notice and Request for Nominations," for its Patent and

Trademark Public Advisory Committees. This Notice was published in the **Federal Register** at 69 FR 46136. The Notice requested nominations for three (3) members to each Public Advisory Committee for terms that begin November 27, 2004. The Notice further advised that nominations must be postmarked or electronically transmitted on or before September 3, 2004. This notice extends the submission deadline to September 17, 2004.

DATES: Nominations must be postmarked or electronically transmitted on or before September 17, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Persons wishing to submit nominations should send the nominee's resumé to Chief of Staff, Office of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313–1450; by electronic mail to:

PPACnominations@uspto.gov for the Patent Public Advisory Committee or *TPACnominations@uspto.gov* for the Trademark Patent Public Advisory Committee; by facsimile transmission marked to the Chief of Staff's attention at (703) 305–8664; or by mail marked to the Chief of Staff's attention and addressed to the Office of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313–1450.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chief of Staff by facsimile transmission marked to her attention at (703) 305–8664, or by mail marked to her attention and addressed to the Office of the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313–1450.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background concerning the nominations may be found at 69 FR 46136.

Procedures for Submitting Nominations

Submit resúms for nomination for the Patent Public Advisory Committee and the Trademark Public Advisory Committee to: Chief of Staff to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, utilizing the addresses provided above.

Dated: August 30, 2004.

Stephen M. Pinkos,

Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 04–20110 Filed 9–2–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–16–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program, Scientific Advisory Board

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463), announcement is made of the following Committee meeting.

DATES: October 13, 2004 from 8 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. and October 14, 2004 from 8 a.m. to 4:10 p.m.

ADDRESSES: SERDP Program Office, 901 North Stuart Street, Suite 804, Arlington, VA 22203.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Veronica Rice, SERDP Program Office, 901 North Stuart Street, Suite 303, Arlington, VA or by telephone at (703) 696–2119.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Matters To Be Considered

Research and Development proposals and continuing projects requesting Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program funds in excess of \$1M will be reviewed.

This meeting is open to the public. Any interested person may attend, appear before, or file statements with the Scientific Advisory Board at the time and in the manner permitted by the Board.

Dated: August 30, 2004.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 04–20113 Filed 9–2–04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–08–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Revised Non-Foreign Overseas Per Diem Rates

AGENCY: Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee, DoD.