

§ 761.80 Manufacturing, processing and distribution in commerce exemptions.

* * * * *

(j) The Administrator grants the United States Defense Logistics Agency's July 21, 2005 petition for an exemption for 1 year to import 1,328,482 pounds of PCBs and PCB items stored or in use in Japan as identified in its petition, as amended, for disposal.

* * * * *

[FR Doc. E7-8182 Filed 4-27-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****50 CFR Part 622****[I.D. 042307F]****Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Scoping Hearings**

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

ACTION: Notification of scoping hearings.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene Public Hearings on Reef Fish Amendment 27/Shrimp Amendment 14.

DATES: The public hearings will held from May 14 - 24, 2007 at 13 locations throughout the Gulf of Mexico. For specific dates and times see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting addresses: The public hearings will be held in the following locations: Brownsville, Port Aransas, Palacios, and Galveston, TX, New Orleans, Chauvin, and Abbeville, LA, Destin, Tampa, and Ft. Myers, FL, Foley and Mobile, AL and Biloxi, MS. For specific dates and times see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, Florida 33607.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Richard Leard, Deputy Executive Director; telephone: 813-348-1630.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) has scheduled a series of public hearings to receive comments on Draft Amendment 27 to the Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan and Amendment 14 to the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan. This amendment contains potential management

measures to modify the rebuilding plan for red snapper in order to end overfishing and recover this overfished stock. These measures would further reduce the directed red snapper harvest as well as bycatch from both the directed fishery and the shrimp fishery.

The public hearings will begin at 6 pm and conclude at the end of public testimony or no later than 10 pm at each of the following locations:

Monday, May 14, 2007, Holiday Inn Brownsville, 3777 N. Expressway, Brownsville, TX 78520, 956-547-1500;

Tuesday, May 15, 2007, Four Points Sheraton New Orleans Airport, 6401 Veterans Memorial Blvd., Metairie, LA 70003, 504-885-5700;

Tuesday, May 15, 2007, Plantation Suites, 1909 Hwy 361, Port Aransas, TX 78373, 361-749-3866;

Wednesday, May 16, 2007, Chauvin Parish Recreation Center, 215 Angel St., Chauvin, LA 70345, 985-594-2020;

Wednesday, May 16, 2007, Palacios Rec Center, 2401 Perryman Ave, Palacios, TX 77465, 361-972-2387;

Thursday, May 17, 2007, LSU Agricultural Center, 1105 W. Port St., Abbeville, LA 70510, 337-898-4335;

Thursday, May 17, 2007, San Luis Resort, 5222 Seawall Boulevard, Galveston, Texas 77550, 409-744-1500;

Monday, May 21, 2007, Embassy Suites Hotel, 570 Scenic Gulf Drive, Destin, FL 32550, 850-337-7000;

Monday, May 21, 2007, Clarion Hotel, 12635 S. Cleveland Ave., Ft. Myers, FL 33907, 239-936-0931;

Tuesday, May 22, 2007, Quorum Hotel, 700 N. Westshore Blvd., Tampa, FL 33609, 813-289-8200;

Tuesday, May 22, 2007, Foley Community Center, 407 E. Laurel Ave., Foley, AL 36535, 251-943-1545;

Wednesday, May 23, 2007, Riverview Plaza Hotel, 64 S. Water St., Mobile, AL 36602, 251-438-4000;

Thursday, May 24, 2007, Donal Snyder Parks & Rec Center, 2520 Pass Road, Biloxi, MS 39531, 228-435-6281.

Copies of the Amendment can be obtained by calling the Council office at 813-348-1630. These hearings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Tina Trezza at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) at least five working days prior to the meeting.

Dated: April 24, 2007.

James P. Burgess,

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

[FR Doc. E7-8189 Filed 4-27-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****50 CFR Part 648****[I.D. 042307E]****Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Hearings**

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

ACTION: Notice of public hearings.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) will hold hearings to allow for public input on Amendment 9 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fishery (FMP).

DATES: Written comments will be accepted until May 27, 2007. All meetings begin at 7 a.m. For specific dates and locations of the hearings see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted through any of the following methods:

- Mail: Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Room 2115 Federal Building, 300 South New Street, Dover, Delaware 19904.
- FAX: 302-674-5399.
- E-mail: info@mafmc.org. Please indicate the subject as SMB 9 Comments.
- Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Room 2115 Federal Building, 300 South New Street, Dover, Delaware 19904, 302-674-2331, ext. 19.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

The purpose of the hearings is to receive public input on management actions under consideration in Amendment 9 to the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish FMP. The proposed management actions could:

- (1) Allow multi-year specifications for all four species managed through the FMP,
- (2) Extend or eliminate the moratorium on entry into the directed *Illex* squid fishery,
- (3) Revise the current overfishing definition for *Loligo* squid,
- (4) Designate EFH for *Loligo* eggs,

(5) Implement area closures to reduce damage to habitat from squid-mackerel-butterfish fisheries,

(6) Increase the minimum codend mesh size requirement in the *Loligo* fishery,

(7) Modify the exemption of the *Illex* fishery from the minimum codend mesh size requirement of the *Loligo* fishery,

(8) Modify the *Loligo* incidental catch limit in the *Illex* fishery during *Loligo* fishery closures,

(9) Establish a requirement for electronic daily reporting in the directed *Illex* fishery,

(10) Establish gear restricted areas that are seasonally closed to small-mesh gear.

Dates and Locations of the Hearings

Monday May 14, 2007: Hilton Garden Inn Providence Airport, One Thuber Street, Warwick, RI 02886.

Tuesday, May 15, 2007: Holiday Inn Express East End, 1707 Old Country Road, Riverhead, NY 11901.

Wednesday, May 16, 2007: The Grand Hotel, 1045 Beach Ave., Cape May, NJ 08204.

Thursday, May 17, 2007: Days Inn Norfolk Airport, 5708 Northampton Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA 23455.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to M. Jan Bryan at the Mid-Atlantic Council Office (302) 674-2331 extension 18 at least five days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: April 24, 2007.

James P. Burgess,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E7-8197 Filed 4-27-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[I.D. 041 307D]

RIN 0648-AU68

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Allocating Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Fishery Resources; American Fisheries Act Sideboards

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

ACTION: Notification of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) has submitted Amendment 80 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (FMP) to NMFS for review. If approved, Amendment 80 would allocate several Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) non-pollock trawl groundfish species among trawl fishing sectors, and facilitate the formation of harvesting cooperatives in the non-American Fisheries Act (AFA) trawl catcher/processor sector. Amendment 80 is necessary to increase resource conservation and improve economic efficiency for harvesters who participate in the BSAI groundfish fisheries. This proposed amendment also is necessary to implement recent changes to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) that modify the allocation of groundfish resources in the BSAI to the Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) Program, and statutory mandates that define who is eligible to harvest fish in the non-AFA catcher/processor sector for a defined list of non-pollock groundfish species in the BSAI. This action is intended to promote the goals and objectives of the MSA, the FMP, and other applicable laws. The amendment is available for public review and comment.

DATES: Comments on Amendment 80 must be received on or before June 29, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Sue Salvesson, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, Attn: Ellen Sebastian, Records Officer. Comments may be submitted by:

- Hand delivery: 709 West 9th Street, Room 420A, Juneau, AK;
- E-mail: 0648-

AU68NOA80@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line the following document identifier: Amendment 80 RIN 0648-AU68. E-mail comments, with or without attachments, are limited to 5 megabytes;

- Fax: 907-586-7557;
- Mail: P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668; or
- Webform at the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions at that site for submitting comments.

Copies of the Amendment 80 Environmental Assessment/Regulatory Impact Review/Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (EA/RIR/IRFA) prepared for this action are available from the NMFS Alaska Region website at www.fakr.noaa.gov or from the mailing and street addresses listed above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Glenn Merrill, 907-586-7228 or glenn.merrill@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The MSA requires that each regional fishery management council submit any FMP or FMP amendment it prepares to NMFS for review and approval, disapproval, or partial approval by the Secretary. The MSA also requires that NMFS, upon receiving an FMP amendment, immediately publish a notice in the **Federal Register** that the FMP or amendment is available for public review and comment. This requirement is satisfied by this notice of availability for Amendment 80.

Amendment 80 and Bycatch Reduction Efforts in the BSAI

Amendment 80 and its implementing regulations would continue initiatives by the Council and NMFS to reduce bycatch of fish species in the BSAI non-pollock trawl groundfish fisheries. Amendment 80 would reduce the amount of halibut and crab bycatch, known as prohibited species catch (PSC), that may be taken while non-AFA trawl catcher/processors are fishing for groundfish in the BSAI. These measures would consider efficiency in utilization of fishery resources, minimize costs, and further minimize bycatch to the extent practicable, thereby meeting the objectives of National Standards 5, 7, and 9 of the MSA.

Amendment 80 would facilitate this and other bycatch reductions through specific economic incentives provided by a limited access privilege program (LAPP). This LAPP would encourage improved retention and utilization of fishery resources by allocating specific amounts of certain species of non-pollock groundfish, and halibut and crab PSC, to non-AFA trawl catcher processors; and authorize the formation of cooperatives that would receive exclusive harvest privileges for a portion of these fishery resources.

One of the primary reasons for the relatively high discard rates of groundfish by non-AFA trawl catcher/processors is the nature of the fisheries in which those vessels participate. The non-AFA trawl catcher/processor sector primarily participates in non-pollock groundfish fisheries. The non-pollock groundfish fisheries are primarily comprised of groups of species that share similar habitat (e.g., flatfish fisheries such as rock sole, flathead sole, and yellowfin sole). Because these species occur together, they are typically harvested together. When a non-AFA trawl catcher/processor retrieves its net, very often multiple