

This action has been determined to be not significant for purposes of E.O. 12866.

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Dated: April 4, 2002.

Louisa Koch,

Deputy Assistant Administrator, NOAA Research.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 040402A]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Scallop Advisory Panel and Plan Development Team (PDT) in April, 2002. Recommendations from the Committee will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, April 25, 2002, at 10:00 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Inn Providence Airport, 1850 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886; telephone: 401-738-4000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council 978-465-0492. Requests for special accommodations should be addressed to the New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Advisory Panel will meet with the PDT to review and discuss the Draft

Amendment 10 alternatives and impact analyses. The Advisory Panel meeting will begin by selecting a chair and vice-chair, followed by the joint meeting with the PDT. The Council will hold a follow-up meeting after a few weeks for the Advisory Panel to develop recommendations for preferred and non-preferred alternatives.

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 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 Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: April 4, 2002.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 040402B]

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 Recreational Advisory Panel, Monkfish Oversight and Groundfish Oversight Committees in April 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 April 26, 2002, and April 30,

2002. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council, 978-465-0492. Requests for special accommodations should be addressed to the New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Dates, Times, Locations, and Agendas

Friday, April 26, 2002, at 9:30 a.m.—Recreational Advisory Panel Meeting
Location: Holiday Inn, One Newbury Street, Route 1, Peabody, MA 01960; telephone: 978-535-4600.

This will be the first meeting of the Recreational Fishing Advisory Panel. After selecting a chair, panel members will review the role of Council advisors. They will then develop recommendations for the Council with respect to the general strategy and overall policy issues facing recreational (including party/charter) fishermen in fisheries managed by the New England Fishery Management Council. The Panel will also discuss the ongoing development of Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP), and may develop preliminary recommendations for recreational management measures. They will consider these suggested measures and will develop a recommendation that will be reviewed by the Council at a later date. After Council approval, the measures will be analyzed and included in a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement.

Monday, April 29, 2002, at 10 a.m. and Tuesday, April 30, 2002, at 8:30 a.m.—Monkfish Oversight Committee Meeting.

Location: Omni Newport News Hotel, 1000 Omni Boulevard, Newport News, VA 23606; telephone: 757-873-6664.

The Committee will continue to develop its recommendations to the New England and Mid-Atlantic Councils for management alternatives to be analyzed in the Amendment 2 Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. Alternatives designed to achieve the approved goals and objectives include, but are not limited to: permit qualification criteria for vessels fishing south of 38N; management program for a deepwater directed fishery in the southern fisheries