

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****[I.D. 072000C]****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 joint public meeting of its Groundfish Oversight Committee and Groundfish Advisory Panel in August, 2000. Recommendations developed as a result of this meeting will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 15, 2000, at 10 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Radisson Warwick Hotel, 2081 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886; telephone: (401) 739-3000.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The committee and its advisors will conduct a joint meeting to continue development of management options for Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan. These groups will refine the alternative management approaches under consideration for Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan and will begin to develop definitive proposals. They will incorporate any guidance received from the full Council at its July Council meeting into their discussions. They also may review information on the current four year-round area closures, and develop preliminary options for changes to those areas.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject 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.

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 dates.

Dated: July 24, 2000.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Navy****Public Hearings for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS/OEIS) for the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWPNS) Point Mugu Sea Range**

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy (Navy) has prepared and filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the DEIS/OEIS for the NAWCWPNS Point Mugu Sea Range. Public hearings will be held to provide information and receive oral and written comments on the DEIS/OEIS. Federal, state, local agencies, and interested individuals are invited to be present or represented at the hearings.

DATES: Public hearings will be held on August 14-16, 2000 from 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. and August 21-22, 2000 from 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: August 14, 2000—Oxnard, California, Ventura Room, Oxnard performing Arts & Community Center, 800 Hobson Way; August 15, 2000—Camarillo, California, Orchid Room, 816 Camarillo Springs Road; August 16, 2000—Ventura, California, Holiday Inn, 450 East Harbor Boulevard; August 21, 2000—Santa Barbara, California, Fess Parker Doubletree Hotel, 633 East Cabrillo Boulevard; and August 22, 2000—Santa Monica, California, Community Room, Santa Monica Place (shopping mall), 395 Santa Monica Place.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Gina Smith, Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, Facsimile (805) 989-0143. Additional information concerning this notice, including hearing dates and locations, may be obtained by calling toll-free (888) 217-9045 or by accessing the Point Mugu Sea Range EIS/OEIS Home Page at the

following web address: <http://www.nawcwpns.navy.mil/~pmeis>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Navy has prepared and filed with the EPA the DEIS/OEIS for the NAWCWPNS Point Mugu Sea Range in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 USC Sections 4321-4345) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500 to 1508). The DEIS/OEIS also was prepared in accordance with the Executive Order 12114 (Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions).

A Notice of Intent for this EIS was published in the **Federal Register** on July 25, 1997 (62 FR 40061). Five public scoping meetings were held in Oxnard, California; Camarillo, California; Ventura, California; Santa Monica, California; and Santa Barbara, California, between August 21 and August 27, 1997.

The NAWCWPNS Point Mugu Sea Range currently supports test and evaluation of sea, land, and air weapons systems, fleet training exercises, small-scale amphibious warfare training, and special warfare training. The proposed action is to continue these test and training activities on the Sea Range. The proposed action would also accommodate Theater Missile Defense (TMD) test and training, an increase in the current level of both Fleet training exercises and special warfare training, and facilities modernization at NAS Point Mugu and San Nicolas Island. The TMD test and training would include four distinct types of events: (a) Boost phase intercept (up to three events per year); (b) upper tier (up to three events per year); (c) lower tier (up to three events per year); and (d) nearshore intercept events at San Nicolas Island (up to eight events per year). One additional Fleet training exercise per year would be accommodated at the Sea Range as well as two additional special warfare exercises per year. The facilities modernization at NAS Point Mugu would involve the use of two existing launch pads to serve as new launch locations. At San Nicolas Island, a missile launcher, a vertical launcher, a new range support building, and five multiple-purpose instrumentation sites would be constructed.

The DEIS/OEIS addresses the potential effects of the proposed action on geology and soils, air quality, noise, water quality, fish and sea turtles, marine mammals, terrestrial biology, cultural resources, land use, socioeconomics, hazardous and nonhazardous materials, and public safety.