

The Committee will review overfishing definition options and analysis prepared by the Plan Development Team (PDT) for inclusion in Framework 2, and comments by the Scientific and Statistical Committee. The analysis will also show Fishing Year 2003 target Total Allowable Catch (TACs) for each of the options. Framework 2 will implement adjustments to the overfishing definitions that were made on a temporary basis under NMFS emergency rule in 2002, with modifications as appropriate based on PDT analysis. Framework 2 will also implement trip limit and days-at-sea adjustments for 2003 as needed to achieve the target TACs. Unless modified by Framework 2, the default measures eliminating the monkfish directed fishery will take effect upon expiration of the emergency rule in May, 2003 (pending an extension for 180 days by the Secretary of Commerce in November, 2001). The Committee will also provide guidance to the PDT in the development of management alternatives to achieve the targets for the 2003 fishing year.

Wednesday, October 9, 2002 at 9:30 a.m.—Whiting Oversight Committee Meeting.

Location: Holiday Inn, 31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA 02048; telephone: (508) 339-2200.

The committee will review development of Framework 37 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP), including progress on Draft Framework 37 document, background information, and available analyses. They will refine alternatives for inclusion in Framework 37. They will also provide guidance to the Whiting PDT regarding Framework 37. Also on the agenda is discussion of the timing of Framework 37 and other related issues.

Thursday, October 10, 2002 at 10 a.m.—Skate Advisory Panel Meeting.

Location: Holiday Inn, 31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA 02048; telephone: (508) 339-2200.

The panel will review the Draft Skate FMP and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and public hearing document. They will review public comments received on the Draft Skate FMP/EIS and public hearing document. They will also develop advisory panel comments and recommendations for Skate Committee and Council consideration regarding the Final Skate FMP management measures.

Wednesday, October 23, 2002 at 10 a.m. and Thursday, October 24, 2002 at 8:30 a.m.—Monkfish Oversight Committee Meeting.

Location: Hampton Inn and Suites Airport, 2100 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886; telephone: (401) 739-8888.

The Committee will review a draft Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) Report on the 2001 fishing year, and PDT analysis of options for overfishing definition reference points, target TACs and management measures to be considered in Framework 2. Measures under consideration include adjustments to the trip limits and days-at-sea allocations to achieve the target TACs and to account for changes to the multispecies fishery management program (affecting monkfish vessels) under the court-ordered remedy. The Committee will recommend preferred alternatives to the Councils, as appropriate, or any other measures needed to achieve the plan objectives in 2003. The Committee will discuss the status of Amendment 2 and develop a timetable for completion of required elements and analysis.

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

Special Accommodations

These meetings are 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: September 17, 2002.

Theophilus R. Brainerd,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 091702A]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Groundfish Fishery Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement Oversight Committee (Ad Hoc EIS Oversight Committee) will hold a working meeting, which is open to the public, on the draft Groundfish Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS).

DATES: The meeting will be held on October 7-8, 2002. The Ad Hoc EIS Oversight Committee working meeting will begin Monday, October 7, 2002 at 1 p.m. and may go into the evening until business for the day is completed. The meeting will reconvene from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, October 8.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held in the conference room at the Pacific Fishery Management Council office, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Christopher Dahl, NEPA Specialist, (503) 820-2280.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Ad Hoc EIS Oversight Committee meeting is to review the status of the PEIS and to develop comprehensive alternatives to the current groundfish management program. The committee met in May 2002 and developed an initial set of five program alternatives which were presented to the Council in June 2002. The Council delayed adoption of those recommendations due to preliminary information that major management changes might be necessary for the remainder of 2002 and 2003. The Council has now completed its deliberations on the 2003 harvest levels and management measures. The Ad Hoc EIS Oversight Committee will consider the Council's 2003 management recommendations, the May 2002 report, public comments, and other information and may choose to revise the proposed alternatives. The Ad Hoc EIS Oversight Committee will present its proposed alternatives to the Council at the October 28-November 1 meeting. The Council expects to adopt PEIS alternatives at that time.

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 identified 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

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Ms. Carolyn Porter at (503) 820-2280 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: September 17, 2002.

Theophilus R. Brainerd,

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

[FR Doc. 02-24014 Filed 9-20-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 091102A]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Coastal Pelagic Species Management Team (CPSMT) and Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Subpanel (CPSAS) will hold public meetings.

DATES: The CPSMT will meet on Tuesday, October 8, 2002, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The CPSAS will meet on Tuesday, October 8, 2002, from 1 p.m. until business for the day is completed.

ADDRESSES: Both meetings will be held in the large conference room at NMFS, 501 W Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802, telephone: (562) 980-4000.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan Waldeck, Pacific Fishery Management Council, (503) 820-2280.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the CPSMT meeting is to review the Pacific sardine biomass estimate and harvest guideline for 2003. The purpose of the CPSAS meeting is to review documents developed by the CPSMT, notably the Pacific sardine biomass estimate and recommended harvest guideline for 2003. Although nonemergency issues not contained in the CPSMT and CPSAS meeting agendas may come before the committees 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 document and any issues arising after publication of this document 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 CPSMT's or CPSAS's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Ms. Carolyn Porter at (503) 820-2280 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: September 12, 2002.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 02-24015 Filed 9-20-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Airborne Laser (ABL) Program

AGENCY: Missile Defense Agency (MDA), Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: MDA announces the availability of a draft supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Program Definition and Risk Reduction (PDRR) Phase of the Airborne Laser Program (April 1997) (FEIS) and Record of Decision (September 1997). This draft Supplemental EIS (SEIS) analyzes proposed ABL Program test activities at Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB), Holloman Air Force Base (HAFB), and White Sands Missile Range (WSMR), New Mexico; and Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB), Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB), and the adjacent Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWPNS) Sea Range, Point Mugu, California. The draft SEIS has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.*), and the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508).

The ABL is a laser weapon system installed on a Boeing 747-400F aircraft capable of operating for extended

periods of time. Up to two such aircraft would be developed. The ABL weapon system would include four lasers:

- Active Ranging System (ARS) Laser (a small carbon dioxide laser used to begin tracking a target),
- Track Illuminator Laser (TILL), (a solid state laser used to provide detailed tracking of a target),
- Beacon Illuminator Laser (BILL), (a solid state laser used to measure atmospheric distortion), and
- High-Energy Laser (HEL), (i.e., Chemical Oxygen-Iodine Laser (COIL), which is a chemical laser used to destroy a target).

An additional laser, a surrogate for the High-Energy Laser (SHEL), will be used during testing in place of the HEL. The SHEL is a low-power solid-state laser that would be used in both ground- and flight-testing. The ABL also would include an Infrared Search and Track sensor (IRST) (a passive infrared device used to identify heat sources). The 1997 PDRR ABL FEIS analyzed use of a COIL HEL on board an aircraft to destroy ballistic missiles on the boost phase. The Record of Decision (ROD) on the FEIS documented the Air Force's decision to proceed with PDRR phase ABL home base activities at EAFB, diagnostic test activities over WSMR, and expanded area test activities at VAFB and the NAWCWPNS Sea Range. Since completion of the FEIS, specific proposed test activities have been identified and additional information made available about the proposed testing that warrant preparation of a SEIS.

Comments

To obtain a copy of the supplement to the 1997 FEIS and Record of Decision, please write to: Mr. Charles J. Brown, Environmental Coordinator, Project Execution Division, Headquarters, Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence, 3207 Sidney Brooks Road, Building 532, Brooks AFB, TX 78235-5363 or a copy of it can also be accessed at "<http://www.hqafcee.brooks.af.mil/ec/EIS/ABL/D-SEIS.pdf>". Individuals or organizations may provide comment on the supplement by sending written comments to: Ms. Pamela Bain, Director, External Affairs, Missile Defense Agency, 7100 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-7100.

Dated: September 16, 2002.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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