

- Taking seals with unmanageable human interactions from the MHI to NWHI.
- Taking juvenile and older seals from the MHI to NWHI to examine their subsequent survival.
- Implementing a two-stage translocation program whereby weaned pups are taken from areas of lower survival to areas of higher survival (within the NWHI, within the MHI, or from the MHI to NWHI, but not from the NWHI to MHI), with the option of returning them to their natal location or nearest appropriate site at age 2 years and older. Note that seals originally born in the MHI and translocated to the NWHI may be returned to the MHI.
- Supplemental feeding of monk seals in NWHI locations where seals are released after being cared for in captivity (post-rehabilitation).
- Research to develop tools for modifying undesirable Hawaiian monk seal behavior related to interactions with humans and fishing gear in the MHI. If proven effective by research, these tools would be implemented.
- Chemical alteration of aggressive male monk seal behavior using a drug to reduce testosterone.

**Alternative 4: Enhanced Implementation:** The only difference between Alternative 4 and Alternative 3 (Preferred) is that Alternative 4 would also allow for two-stage translocation of weaned pups from the NWHI to the MHI and their subsequent return at age 2 or 3 years to the NWHI. The ability under Alternative 4 to conduct two-stage translocation from the NWHI to the MHI would allow for maximal flexibility to take advantage of the potential benefits of two-stage translocation, because weaned pups could be moved to wherever their survival chances are best. However, implementing two-stage translocations from the NWHI to the MHI would be infeasible at this time. NWHI pups, once brought to the MHI, could become involved in fishery and other human interactions, just as has occurred among some seals born in the MHI. Capacity and techniques for monitoring translocated seals, and intervening to prevent and mitigate such interactions, must be further developed before this action can be conducted without risking failure as measured both in terms of seal survival and public attitudes toward monk seal conservation. Thus, while Alternative 4 was the preferred alternative in the Draft PEIS, it is not the preferred alternative in the Final PEIS.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.* and 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: April 4, 2014.

**Samuel D. Rauch III,**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XD219**

#### Fisheries of the South Atlantic; South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council); Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) will hold meetings of its Information & Education Advisory Panel (AP) Meeting and Science Communication Workshop; Deepwater Shrimp AP; and Coral AP, in North Charleston, SC.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held from 8 a.m. on Monday, May 5, 2014 until 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 8, 2014.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4831 Tanger Outlet Blvd., North Charleston, SC 29418; telephone: (877) 227-6963 or (843) 744-4422; fax: (843) 744-4472.

*Council address:* South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer, SAFMC; telephone: (843) 571-4366 or toll free: (866) SAFMC-10; fax: (843) 769-4520; email: [kim.iverson@safmc.net](mailto:kim.iverson@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The items of discussion in the individual meeting agendas are as follows:

#### Information & Education AP Agenda & Science Communication Workshop, Monday, May 5, 2014, 8 a.m. Until 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 6, 2014

1. Receive an update on SAFMC outreach activities 2013-14.
2. Receive an overview and update on the Council's Snapper Grouper Visioning Project and port meetings.
3. Review the draft Oculina Evaluation Team Report.
4. Receive an update on the Marine Resources Education Program (MREP) for the Southeast region.

5. Elect a new Chairperson and Vice-Chair for the AP.

6. Discuss the principles of effective science communication as well as the creation of effective science communication products.

#### Deepwater Shrimp AP Agenda, Tuesday May 6, 2014, 1 p.m. Through 12 Noon Wednesday, May 7, 2014

1. Receive a status update on Coral Amendment 8, pertaining to Coral Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPCs) and transit through the Oculina Bank HAPC.
2. Review the draft Oculina Evaluation Team Report.
3. Provide input on potential changes to HAPCs (Coral Amendment 9).

#### Coral AP Agenda, Wednesday, May 7, 2014, 1 p.m. Through 4:30 p.m. Thursday, May 8, 2014

1. Receive a status update on Coral Amendment 8.
2. Receive a status update of the SAFMC's Cooperative Agreement proposal with NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program.
3. Review the draft Oculina Evaluation Team Report.
4. Provide input for potential changes to HAPCs (Coral Amendment 9).

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 these meetings. 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

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the council office (see **ADDRESSES**) 3 days prior to the meeting.

**Note:** The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: April 8, 2014.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

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