

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This action allocates calendar year 2000 duty-exemptions for watch producers located in the Virgin Islands pursuant to Pub. L. 97-446, as amended by Pub. L. 103-465 ("the Act").

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Faye Robinson, (202) 482-3526.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Act, the Departments of the Interior and Commerce (the Departments) share responsibility for the allocation of duty exemptions among watch assembly firms in the United States insular possessions and the Northern Mariana Islands. In accordance with Section 303.3(a) of the regulations (15 CFR 303(a)), the total quantity of duty-free insular watches and watch movements for calendar year 2000 is 1,866,000 units for the Virgin Islands (65 FR 8048, February 17, 2000).

The criteria for the calculation of the calendar year 2000 duty-exemption allocations among insular producers are set forth in Section 303.14 of the regulations (15 CFR 303.14).

The Departments have verified and adjusted the data submitted on application form ITA-334P by Virgin Islands producers and inspected their current operations in accordance with Section 303.5 of the regulations (15 CFR 303.5).

In calendar year 1999 the Virgin Islands watch assembly firms shipped 627,703 watches and watch movements into the customs territory of the United States under the Act. The dollar amount of creditable corporate income taxes paid by Virgin Islands producers during calendar year 1999 plus the creditable wages paid by the industry during calendar year 1999 to residents of the territory was \$3,100,676.

There are no producers in Guam, American Samoa or the Northern Mariana Islands.

The calendar year 2000 Virgin Islands annual allocations, based on the data verified by the Departments, are as follows:

Name of firm	Annual allocation
Belair Quartz, Inc	500,000
Hampden Watch Co., Inc	200,000
Progress Watch Co., Inc	300,000
Unitime Industries, Inc	500,000
Tropex, Inc	300,000

The balance of the units allocated to the Virgin Islands is available for new entrants into the program or producers

who request a supplement to their allocation.

Robert S. LaRussa,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, Department of Commerce.

Ferdinand Aranza,

Director, Office of Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior.

[FR Doc. 00-4801 Filed 2-28-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 011100D]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements; American Fisheries Act Reporting Requirements

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

ACTION: Notice of effectiveness of data collection.

SUMMARY: NMFS is announcing that information collection requirements were approved.

DATES: Effective February 16, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kent Lind, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The information collection requirements contained in paragraphs 679.5(a)(4)(iv), 679.5(f)(3), 679.5(f)(4), 679.5(i)(1)(iii), 679.5(o), and 679.60(d), which were contained in the emergency interim rule to to implement major provisions of the American Fisheries Act (65 FR 4520, January 28, 2000), were approved by the Office of Management and Budget. These requirements are in effect as of February 16, 2000.

Dated: February 23, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 00-4693 Filed 2-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 022200G]

Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene a public meeting of the Law Enforcement Advisory Panel (LEAP).

DATES: This meeting will be held on March 15, 2000, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: This meeting will be held at the Perdido Beach Resort, 27200 Perdido Beach Boulevard, Orange Beach, AL 36561; telephone: 334-981-9811.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Leard, Senior Fishery Biologist, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The LEAP will convene to review the Draft Gulf of Mexico Law Enforcement Strategic and Operations Plan, 2000-2005 that has been develop jointly by the LEAP and the Law Enforcement Committee (LEC) of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. This document contains a set of goals and objectives that the LEAP/LEC would like to accomplish during this 5-year period. The LEAP will also review the law enforcement data collection, tracking and dissemination procedures by state and federal law enforcement agencies involved with marine fisheries enforcement in the Gulf. The LEAP will also hold a conference-call discussion with law enforcement personnel on the Atlantic coast in pursuit of establishing a National Conservation Crime Information System. Reports on the status of fishery management plans, amendments, and other regulatory actions, as well as state and Federal law enforcement activities will also be received.

The LEAP consists of principal law enforcement officers in each of the Gulf states as well as NMFS, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the NOAA General Counsel. A copy of the agenda and related materials can be obtained by calling the Council office at 813-228-2815.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agendas may come before the LEAP for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions of the LEAP will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda 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 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 Anne Alford at the Council (see ADDRESSES) by March 8, 2000.

Dated: February 23, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 00-4772 Filed 2-28-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 022200]

Mid-Atlantic 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 Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) and its Monkfish Working Group, Dogfish Working Group, Comprehensive Management Committee, Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Committee and Industry Advisory Panel, Squid-Mackerel-Butterfish Committee, Information and Education Committee, and Executive Committee will hold public meetings. **DATES:** The meetings will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2000 to Thursday, March 16, 2000. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Wyndham Garden Hotel, 173 Jennifer Road, Annapolis, MD; telephone: 410-266-3131.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 300 S. New Street, Dover, DE 19904, telephone: 302-674-2331.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: 302-674-2331, ext. 19.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Tuesday, March 14th, 10:00 a.m. until noon, the Monkfish Working Group will meet.*

From 1:00-3:00 p.m., the Dogfish Working Group will meet.

From 3:00-5:00 p.m., the Comprehensive Management Committee will meet.

Wednesday, March 15th, from 9:00-10:00 a.m., there will be a Stock Assessment Workshop Presentation
From 10:00 a.m. until noon, the Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Committee together with the Industry Advisory Panel will meet.

From 1:00-3:00 p.m., the Squid, Mackerel, and Butterfish Committee will meet

From 3:00-5:00 p.m., the Council will convene to review and discuss the fishery management process as presented by the Information and Education Committee.

Thursday, March 16th, from 8:00-9:00 a.m., the Executive Committee will meet.

The Council will convene for a U.S. Coast Guard Presentation from 9:00-9:30 a.m., and then receive reports and possible motions from various committees. It is anticipated that the Council will adjourn by early afternoon.

Agenda items for this meeting are: Discuss and recommend area adjustments through the amendment process to the Monkfish Fishery Management Plan; review 2000-2001 management measures for dogfish, i.e., quota, trip limits, sizes, and review treatment of discards from other fisheries; discuss research set aside amendment and summer flounder workshop(s) postponement; receive assessment information on Atlantic mackerel and surfclams; discuss 5-year quotas and new overfishing definition for surfclams; discuss mackerel limited entry, *Illex* real time management, overfishing definition for *Loligo*, area closures to protect *Loligo* egg masses, and consider distribution of *Loligo* squid quota into time periods.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before the Council for discussion, these 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 Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final actions to address such emergencies.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language

interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Joanna Davis at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: February 23, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 00-4771 Filed 2-28-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 022200F]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council's (NPFMC) Observer Committee will meet in Seattle, WA.

DATES: The meeting will be held on March 20-21, 2000. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 20, and continue through Tuesday, March 21.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Alaska Fisheries Science Center, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Building 4, Room 2079, Seattle, WA.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chris Oliver, NPFMC; telephone: 907-271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The committee's agenda includes the following issues:

1. Receive an update from NMFS on current issues and initiatives.
2. Discuss the following near-term issues:
 - (a) rollover of the existing observer program;
 - (b) hardware requirements and associated rulemaking;
 - (c) an omnibus regulatory amendment package covering observer housing, sharing of observers, changing the threshold to determine plant coverage requirements;
 - (d) clarification of the definition of a fishing day; and
 - (e) distribution of personal information on observers.
3. Identify and discuss observer availability and training requirements