

Department of Commerce, either by fax on 202-482-0980 or by mail to U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Mail Stop 3868, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Aaron Kleiner, Office of the Middle East, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 2029-B, Washington, DC 20230. Phone: 202-482-2680.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The U.S. Department of Commerce and the Iraqi Ministry of Trade established the Dialogue as a bilateral forum to facilitate private sector business growth in Iraq and to strengthen trade and investment ties between the United States and Iraq. During Secretary of Commerce Carlos M. Gutierrez's visit to Iraq in July 2006, he joined Iraqi Minister of Trade Dr. Abd-al-Falah al-Sudani in signing the Joint Statement on Commercial Cooperation, which formally provided for the establishment of the Dialogue. In their next meeting in September 2006, the Secretary and the Minister approved and signed the Terms of Reference for the Dialogue.

The U.S. Secretary of Commerce and the Iraqi Minister of Trade will co-chair the Dialogue. The Dialogue will consist of a U.S. Section and an Iraqi Section. Each Section will consist of approximately 10 members from the private sector, representing the views and interests of the private sector business community. Each Party will appoint the members to its respective Section. The Sections will provide advice and counsel to the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Iraqi Ministry of Trade that reflect private sector views, needs, and concerns regarding private sector business development in Iraq and enhanced bilateral commercial ties that could form the basis for expanded trade between the United States and Iraq. The Dialogue will exchange information and encourage bilateral discussions that address the following areas:

- Factors that affect the growth of private sector business in Iraq, including disincentives to trade and investment and regulatory obstacles to job creation and investment growth;
- Initiatives that the Government of Iraq might take, such as enacting, amending, enforcing, or repealing laws and regulations, to promote private sector business growth in Iraq;
- Promotion of business opportunities in both Iraq and the United States, and identification of opportunities for U.S. and Iraqi firms to work together; and
- Attracting U.S. businesses to opportunities in Iraq and serving as a

catalyst for Iraqi private sector growth.

The U.S. Section of the Dialogue will consist of approximately 10 members from the private sector. The members will represent a cross-section of American business with an emphasis, to the extent possible, on agribusiness and food processing, financial services, construction and housing, information technology, and manufacturing industries. Members will serve in a representative capacity representing the views and interests of their particular industries. Members are not special government employees, and will receive no compensation for their participation in Dialogue activities. Only appointed members may participate in official Dialogue meetings; substitutes and alternates will not be designated. Section members serve for three-year terms, but may be reappointed. U.S. Section members serve at the discretion of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The U.S. Department of Commerce is currently seeking candidates for membership on the U.S. Section of the Dialogue. Candidates will be evaluated based on: their interest in the Iraqi market; export/investment experience; contribution to diversity based on size of company, geographic location, and sector; and ability to initiate and be responsible for activities in which the Business Dialogue will be active.

In order to be eligible for membership in the U.S. section, potential candidates shall be:

- A U.S. citizen residing in the United States, or able to travel to the United States or other location to attend official Business Dialogue meetings;
- The President or CEO (or comparable level of responsibility) of a private sector company; if the company is very large, the head of a sizeable operating unit of that company; or the head of a non-profit entity, such as a trade or industry association, who possesses unique technical expertise, an outstanding reputation, and the ability to provide counsel with respect to private sector business development in Iraq; and
- Not a registered foreign agent under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended.

Members will be selected on the basis of who best will carry out the objectives of the Business Dialogue as stated in the Terms of Reference establishing the Dialogue. Recommendations for appointment will be made to the Secretary of Commerce. All candidates will be notified of whether they have been selected.

To be considered for membership, please submit the following information as instructed in the **ADDRESSES** and **DATES** captions above: Name(s) and title(s) of the individual(s) requesting consideration; name and address of company or non-profit entity to be represented; size of the company or non-profit entity; description of relevant product, service, or technical expertise; size of company's export trade, investment, and/or international program experience; nature of operations or interest in Iraq; and a brief statement of why the candidate should be considered, including information about the candidate's ability to initiate and be responsible for activities in which the Business Dialogue will be active.

Dated: October 24, 2006.

Susan Hamrock,

Director, Iraq Investment and Reconstruction Task Force.

[FR Doc. E6-18077 Filed 10-27-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 102306F]

Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene public meetings.

DATES: The meetings will be held November 13–17, 2006.

ADDRESSES: These meeting will be held at the San Luis Resort, 5222 Seawall Blvd., Galveston, TX 77550.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne E. Swingle, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Council

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

8:30 a.m.

The Council will begin to review the agenda, minutes, and appointment of members to management committees.

9:15 a.m.–9:30 a.m.—Public Testimony on Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs), if any.

9:30 a.m.–10 a.m.—A summary of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Recreational Data Workshop will be discussed.

10 a.m.–10:30 a.m.—A presentation will be made on the Flower Garden Banks Sanctuary Proposed Management Program.

The Council will then review and discuss reports from the previous two day's committee meetings as follows:

10:30 a.m.–11 a.m.—Joint Reef Fish/Shrimp Management;

11 a.m.–12 noon—Mackerel Management;

1:30 p.m.–1:45 p.m.—Shrimp Management;

1:45 p.m.–2 p.m.—Joint Reef Fish/Mackerel/Red Drum Management;

2 p.m.–2:30 p.m.—Red Drum Management;

2:30 p.m.–2:45 p.m.—Administrative Policy;

2:45 p.m.–3 p.m.—Habitat Protection; and

3 p.m.–3:15 p.m.—Budget/Personnel.

3:15 p.m.–5:15 p.m.—The Council will hold an Open Public Comment Period regarding any fishery issue or concern. People wishing to speak before the Council should complete a public comment card prior to the comment period.

Thursday, November 16, 2006

8:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m.—The Council will convene in Closed Session to discuss budget, personnel, and panel member selections.

The Council will then resume in an open session and continue to review the following committee reports:

9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.—Reef Fish Management; and

10:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m.—Law Enforcement.

10:45 a.m.–12 noon—The Council will conclude its meeting by receiving reports from the Gulf states, NMFS, Fish and Wildlife Service, and others; as well as discussion of other business items.

Committees

Monday, November 13, 2006

9 a.m.–11:30 a.m.—Conduct an Orientation Session for new Council members.

1 p.m.–4:30 p.m.—The Reef Fish Management Committee will meet to review the Socioeconomic Panel's (SEP) recommendation on Reef Fish Amendment 28 (Grouper Allocation). The Committee will receive updates on Reef Fish Amendment 29 (Grouper Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ)), Reef

Fish Amendment 26 (Red Snapper IFQ), and the red snapper IFQ outreach workshops. The Committee will review scoping options for an amendment to potentially modify regulations for gag, greater amberjack, gray triggerfish, and vermilion snapper. The Southeast Fishery Science Center (SEFSC) and the Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR) recommendations for goliath grouper will be presented to the Committee, and a discussion will be held regarding the pending vessel monitoring system (VMS) requirements for commercial reef fish vessels. Finally, the committee will address implementing the outreach program on turtle/sawfish conservation under Reef Fish Amendment 18A.

4:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m.—The Joint Reef Fish/Shrimp Management Committee will meet to receive an update on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Interim Rule for red snapper/shrimp, and the status of the Interim Rule. They will also review the Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC) recommendations on the reliability of the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistical Survey (MRFSS).

Tuesday, November 14, 2006

8:30 a.m.–9:30 a.m.—The Reef Fish Management Committee will reconvene to finish discussions from the previous day.

9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.—The Habitat Protection Committee will meet to discuss recommendations made by the Texas Habitat Protection Advisory Panel (AP) and the Mississippi/Louisiana Habitat AP.

10:30 a.m.–11:30 p.m.—The Shrimp Management Committee will meet to receive a report of the Ad Hoc Shrimp Effort Working Group. The committee will also discuss scheduling meetings of the Ad Hoc Shrimp Effort Management AP.

11:30 a.m.–12 noon—The Administrative Policy Committee will meet to discuss the SSC's recommendations on the SEDAR process as well as revisions to the SSC's Operations.

1:30 p.m.–2:30 p.m.—The Mackerel Management Committee will meet to review recommendations from the Joint South Atlantic/Gulf Mackerel Management Committees on king mackerel. The Committee will also discuss revising the framework procedure for the Coastal Migratory Pelagic (CMP) Fishery Management Plan (FMP).

2:30 p.m.–3 p.m.—The Law Enforcement Committee will meet to review and approve the Law Enforcement Advisory Panel's (LEAP)

2007 Operations Plan. The Committee will also receive a presentation on key enforcement cases.

3 p.m.–4 p.m.—The Red Drum Management Committee will review the SEDAR recommendations for assessment and review Gulf states' and the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission's assessment actions.

4 p.m.–5 p.m.—The Joint Reef Fish/Mackerel/Red Drum Committees will receive an update on work completed by the contractors on the Aquaculture Amendment. The Committee will discuss initiation of work by the Interdisciplinary Planning Team (IPT) in 2007.

5 p.m.–5:30 p.m.—The Budget/Personnel Committee will meet to review the Council's operating budget for 2007. A portion of the committee session will be closed to the public to discuss personnel actions.

The committee reports will be presented to the Council for consideration on Wednesday November 15, and on Thursday, November 16, 2006.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agendas may come before the Council and Committees for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions of the Council and Committees will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agendas 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. The established times for addressing items on the agenda may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the agenda items. In order to further allow for such adjustments and completion of all items on the agenda, the meeting may be extended from, or completed prior to the date established in this notice.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Tina Trezza at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 working days prior to the meeting.

Dated: October 25, 2006.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. E6-18092 Filed 10-27-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 102306E]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a three-day Council meeting on November 14–16, 2006, to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 14, 2006, beginning at 9 a.m., and Wednesday and Thursday, November 15 and 16, 2006, beginning at 8:30 a.m. each day.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Tavern on the Harbor, 30 Western Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930; telephone: (978) 283-4200.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Tuesday, November 14, 2006

Following introductions, the Council will hear a series of brief reports from the Council Chairman and Executive Director, the NOAA Northeast Regional Administrator, Northeast Fisheries Science Center and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council liaisons, NOAA General Counsel and representatives of the U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA Enforcement, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the Northeast Multispecies Capacity Reduction Committee. During this morning session, the Council also will receive a report its Habitat Committee. The committee chairman may ask the Council to approve an additional habitat area of particular concern alternative for inclusion in the Essential Fish Habitat

Omnibus Amendment under development. This will be followed by two presentations on ecosystem-based fisheries management. The morning session will conclude with discussion and approval of Council management actions for 2007.

Wednesday, November 15, 2006

During the morning session, the Council will consider final action on Framework 4 to the Monkfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP). Framework 4 includes alternatives for target total allowable catch (TAC) alternatives and associated trip limits and days-at-sea alternatives in both monkfish management areas for the final three years of the monkfish rebuilding program, starting May 1, 2007. Framework Adjustment 4 also contains other alternatives, including eliminating the directed fishery; backstop provisions to ensure that management measures achieve the target TACs on an ongoing basis; modification or elimination of the days-at-sea (DAS) carryover provision; and modification of the boundary of the North Carolina/Virginia area monkfish fishery. The Council will also review a Monkfish Committee recommendation on monkfish incidental catch limits in the scallop closed area access program. This agenda item will be followed by a brief open period during which the public may address other fisheries related business that is not on the Council agenda. The Council will then receive a presentation from the Northeast Fisheries Science Center about a survey to be distributed to fisheries permit holders concerning vessel costs. The Scallop Committee Report will address several items: (1) a presentation from the Scallop Plan Development Team on the updated scallop biomass in the Elephant Trunk Access Area; (2) consideration of an action to allow industry-funded observers in the scallop fishery; and (3) consideration of an action on scallop management measures for fishing years 2008 and 2009. At the end of the day, the Council plans to approve herring research priorities to apply to fishing years 2008 and 2009, as recommended by the Council's Herring Plan Development Team.

Thursday, November 16, 2006

The Council's Research Steering Committee Chairman will report on the committee's recommendations concerning the use of information provided in several cooperative research final reports. This will be followed by a discussion of other issues related to cooperative research such as the future use of study fleets, directions for cod

research and the Northeast Region's Guidelines for Exempted Fishing Permits. The Small Mesh Multispecies Committee will then ask for approval of measures to be used in the development of alternatives for consideration in the new Small Mesh Multispecies amendment. Among other issues, measures will focus on limited entry, hard Total Allowable Catches, protections for juvenile whiting and dedicated access privileges. Following a presentation on observed changes in growth rates and weights at age for a number of groundfish species, the Groundfish Committee will provide a report to the Council. Its chairman will report on the recent groundfish workshop and recommend standards and principles that must be met by any management system that may be considered in the 2009 Northeast Multispecies FMP. At the end of the day the Council will consider and could approve the recommendations of the Transboundary Management Guidance Committee for fishing year 2007 Total Allowable Catches for yellowtail flounder and cod caught in the U.S./Canada area.

Although other non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subjects of formal 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 that 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: October 25, 2006.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

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