

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council's (Council) Herring Oversight Committee will meet to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2009, at 9:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Providence Airport Hotel, 1850 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886; telephone: (401) 824-0649.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The items of discussion in the committee's agenda are as follows:

1. Continue development of management measures and alternatives to be considered further in Amendment 4 to the Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan (FMP); develop Committee recommendations for Council consideration in February 2009; identify issues that may require further guidance from the Council;

2. Continue to discuss stakeholder proposals/ideas regarding a catch monitoring program for the Atlantic herring fishery; develop management alternatives related to catch monitoring, including but not limited to: specific monitoring and reporting requirements for herring vessels and processors, observer coverage and at-sea monitoring, shoreside/dockside monitoring and sampling, vessel monitoring system (VMS) requirements, as well as other measures that were suggested for consideration during the scoping process and/or in the stakeholder proposals;

3. Review and discuss available analysis of river herring bycatch in the Atlantic herring fishery; develop recommendations regarding management measures to be considered in Amendment 4;

4. Review information related to at-sea monitoring and reporting, which may include available observer data, analyses related to a sampling design for an observer program, and applications for electronic monitoring and reporting; develop recommendations as appropriate;

5. Review and discuss management measures to improve at-sea monitoring;

6. Address any other issues and develop recommendations related to Amendment 4 to the Herring FMP, possibly including annual catch limits (ACLs) and accountability measures (AMs), and criteria for midwater trawl access to groundfish closed areas.

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

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.

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

Dated: December 31, 2008.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E8-31439 Filed 1-5-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XM43

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of scoping meetings.

SUMMARY: The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a series of public hearings regarding its Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) and Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 1. The Council will also conduct scoping meetings regarding a Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit (ACL) Amendment, Amendment 18 to the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for the South Atlantic, and a Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 2. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

DATES: The series of 5 public hearings and scoping meetings will be held January 26, 2009 through February 5, 2009. All scoping meetings will be open from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. Council staff will be available for informal discussions and to answer questions. Members of the public will have an opportunity to go on record at any time during the meeting hours to record their comments on the public hearing topics and scoping issues for Council consideration. Local Council representatives will attend the meetings and take public comment. Written comments must be received in the South Atlantic Council's office by 5 p.m. on February 6, 2009. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Bob Mahood, Executive Director, South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405, or via email to: FEP2009Comments@safmc.net for the Fishery Ecosystem Plan; CEBA2009Comments@safmc.net for the Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 1; CompACLScoping@safmc.net for the Comprehensive ACL Amendment; SGAm18Scoping@safmc.net for Amendment 18 to the Snapper Grouper FMP; and CEBA2Scoping@safmc.net for the Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 2. Written comments must be received in the South Atlantic Council's office by 5 p.m. on February 6, 2009.

Copies of the scoping documents are available from Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer, South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405; telephone: (843) 571-4366 or toll free at (866) SAFMC-10. Copies will also be available online at www.safmc.net as they become available.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kim Iverson, South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405; telephone: (843) 571-4366; fax: (843) 769-4520; email address: kim.iverson@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Meeting Dates and Locations:

The scoping meetings will be held at the following locations:

1. January 26, 2009 - Hilton Garden Inn, 5265 International Blvd., North Charleston, SC 29418, telephone: (843) 308-9330;

2. January 27, 2009 - Bridge Pointe Hotel, 101 Howell Road, New Bern, NC 28582, telephone: (252) 636-3637;

3. February 3, 2009 - Key Largo Grande, 97000 South Overseas Highway, Key Largo, FL 33037, telephone: (305) 852-5553;

4. February 4, 2009 - Doubletree Hotel, 2080 N. Atlantic Avenue, Cocoa Beach, FL 32931, telephone: (321) 783-9222;

5. February 5, 2009 - Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum, 175 Bourne Avenue, Pooler, GA 31322, telephone: (912) 748-8888.

As part of the meeting schedule, a second round of public hearings will be held on the Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) and Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 1 (CE-BA). The Council held an earlier round of public hearings in May 2008. The Council is developing the FEP to act as a source document to provide a greater degree of guidance on incorporation of fishery, habitat, and ecosystem considerations into management actions. The CE-BA includes alternatives to amend the Coral FMP to establish deepwater coral Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPCs) and address information updates and spatial requirements of the Essential Fish Habitat final rule. In addition, the CE-BA includes alternatives to amend the Golden Crab FMP to establish allowable golden crab and deepwater shrimp fishing areas. Areas being considered for designation as HAPCs include: (a) Cape Lookout Lophelia Banks HAPC, (b) Cape Fear Lophelia Banks HAPC, (c) Blake Ridge Diapir, (d) the Stetson Reefs, Savannah and East Florida Lithohierms, and Miami Terrace HAPC, and (e) Portales Terrace HAPC.

The public scoping meetings will address overlapping fisheries issues for the South Atlantic region. Items under consideration for public scoping include a Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment to specify Annual Catch Limits (ACLs), Annual Catch Targets (ACTs), and Accountability Measures (AMs) for species within the Council's area of jurisdiction currently not undergoing overfishing. The amendment would also establish regulations to limit total mortality (landings and discards) to the Annual Catch Target. Measures to limit total mortality may include, but are not limited to: (a) commercial quotas and recreational allocations, (b) trip limits, (c) vessel limits, (d) size limits, (e) bag limits, (f) closed areas, (g) closed seasons, (h) permit endorsements, (i) fishing year changes, etc. The amendment also addresses spiny lobster fishery issues.

Amendment 18 to the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan is also included as part of public scoping. Actions proposed in Amendment 18 include but are not limited to: options to limit participation and effort in the golden tilefish and black sea bass fisheries, extension of the fishery management unit range and designation of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH), changes to the golden tilefish fishing year, consideration of regional/state management of the snowy grouper quota, consideration of regional/state management of the gag recreational allocation, improvements to data reporting, and modifications to the current Wreckfish ITQ (Individual Transferable Quota) Program.

The Council is also scoping items to include in Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 2. These include updating EFH and EFH Habitat Areas of Particular Concern as required by the Final Rule and modifications to the harvest of octocorals and Sargassum.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) 3 days prior to the start of each meeting.

Dated: December 30, 2008.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. E8-31262 Filed 1-5-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Notice of Intent (NOI) To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) To Analyze the Impacts of Grow the Army and Facilities Expansion at the Presidio of Monterey, CA

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Army intends to prepare an EIS for the proposed expansion of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center at the Presidio of Monterey. This EIS is being prepared to analyze the potential impacts of Grow the Army and the resulting increases of student, faculty, staff populations and the construction of additional facilities to accommodate the increased population. This proposed EIS is required to support the proposed development of new

facilities warranted under the new Proficiency Enhancement Program standards for foreign language training as mandated by the Department of Defense. The proposed action would include the construction of new facilities at both the Presidio and the Ord Military Community.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be forwarded to the Department of the Army, U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey, Directorate of Public Works, Master Plans (Attention: R. Guidi), PO Box 5004, Presidio of Monterey, California 93944-5004; e-mail at robert.g.guidi@us.army.mil; or fax at 831-242-7019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Mark Reese, Presidio of Monterey, Directorate of Public Works, Environmental Division at (831) 242-7925 (DSN 768-7925) or Mr. James Willison, Presidio of Monterey Director, Public Works (831) 242-7916 (DSN 768-7928).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed actions at the Presidio of Monterey and Ord Military Community would support the initiatives of Grow the Army and would have both direct and indirect impacts on the environment. The areas potentially affected would include the installation (Presidio of Monterey and Ord Military Community), the neighboring cities and surrounding communities, and Monterey County. The objective of this analysis is to provide a comprehensive EIS that functions as a planning tool and incorporates public comments and information into the decision-making process. Initial screening of the proposed action and alternatives for potentially significant environmental impacts suggests the following resource areas would have the greatest potential impacts and require more comprehensive analysis in this proposed EIS: Aesthetics, housing, land use, population, public services, endangered species and critical habitat, traffic circulation and water usage.

Alternatives: The proposed action and alternatives would include, but may not be limited to, the following development scenarios: (1) *No Action:* The existing facilities maintenance, improvement, and/or upgrades at the Presidio of Monterey would remain without new facilities to support the Grow Army initiatives. The Ord Military Community would continue to serve as a residential housing community for military personnel and their families; (2) *Alternative 1:* Improvements to the Presidio of Monterey—proposes that all primary and support facilities for the Defense Language Institute Foreign