

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting**

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

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Groundfish Committee to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: This meeting will be held on Thursday, June 4, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: The meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1 Thurber Street, Warwick, RI 02886; phone: (401) 734-9600; fax: (401) 734-9700.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The items of discussion on the agenda are:

The Committee plans to discuss, Framework Adjustment 55/Groundfish Specifications, this action would set specifications for all stocks in the Northeast Multispecies (Groundfish) Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Fishing Year 2016 through Fishing Year 2018. They will also review the At-Sea Monitoring Framework Adjustment. They will review work of the Groundfish Plan Development Team and develop potential modifications to at-sea monitoring requirements in the groundfish sector program. They will provide a brief update on Amendment 18 progress, (fleet diversity and accumulation limits). Additionally, the committee will receive an update on the Monkfish Framework 9/Northeast Multispecies Framework 54. This joint action would modify Northeast Multispecies regulations to allow the declaration of a Northeast Multispecies Day-At-Sea while at sea and the reduction in minimum standup gillnet mesh size in order to target dogfish. They will also discuss other business as necessary.

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

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: May 13, 2015.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****North Pacific 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 North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees will hold public meetings, June 1-9, 2015.

DATES: The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, June 3, continuing through Tuesday, June 9, 2015. The Scientific Statistical Committee (SSC) will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, June 1 and continue through Wednesday, June 3, 2015. The Council's Advisory Panel (AP) will begin at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, June 2, and continue through Saturday, June 6, 2015. All meetings are open to the public, except executive sessions. The Council's Legislative Committee will meet Tuesday, June 2 at the Westmark Hotel, 330 Seward Street, Founders Room, Sitka, AK 99835, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: All meetings except for the Legislative Committee meeting will be held at the Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive, Sitka, AK.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W.

4th Avenue, Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David Witherell, Council staff; telephone: (907) 271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Council Plenary Session: The agenda for the Council's plenary session will include the following issues. The Council may take appropriate action on any of the issues identified.

1. Executive Director's Report (including Draft National Standard 1 (NS1) comments/legislative updates, Fisheries Forum Information Network (FFIN))
NMFS Management Report
ADF&G Report
NOAA Enforcement Report
U.S. Coast Guard Report
U.S. FWS Report
Protected Species Report
2. *BSAI Crab:* Plan team report; Overfishing Levels/Acceptable Biological Catch (OFL/ABC) for 3 stocks
3. Final Action—Bering Sea Halibut Prohibited Species Catch (PSC)
4. Review Observer Program Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA)
5. Review Observer Program Annual Report
6. Review Observer Advisory Committee (OAC) report
7. Electronic Monitoring (EM) Workgroup report
8. Observer coverage on BSAI trawl catcher vessels (CVs): Discuss alternatives
9. Final Action on Observer coverage on small Catcher Processors (CPs)
10. Determine priorities—Research Priorities
11. Initial review—Adak crab offload (T)
12. Pacific cod modeling report (SSC only)
13. Staff Tasking

The SSC agenda will include the following issues:

1. BSAI Crab
2. Halibut PSC
3. Observer Issues
4. Review NS Guidelines
5. Research Priorities
6. Pacific cod modeling report
7. Adak crab offload

In addition to providing ongoing scientific advice for fishery management decisions, the SSC functions as the Council's primary peer review panel for scientific information as described by the Magnuson-Stevens Act section 302(g)(1)(e), and the National Standard 2 guidelines (78 FR 43066). The peer review process is also deemed to satisfy the requirements of the Information