

*The Gulf Council office (see ADDRESSES), and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) offices as follows:*

#### **St. Petersburg, FL**

263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701, Contact: Stephen Holiman, telephone: (727) 551-5719;

#### **Galveston, TX**

4700 Ave U, Conference room - Bldg 305, Galveston, TX 77551, Contact: Ronnie O'Toole, telephone: (409) 766-3500;

#### **Miami, FL**

75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, FL 33149, Contact: Sophia Howard, telephone: (305) 361-4259; and

#### **Panama City, FL**

3500 Delwood Beach Road, Panama City, FL 32408, Contact: Janice Hamm, telephone: (850) 234-6541.

The SEP will hold a conference call to discuss Reef Fish Amendment 30-B. Amendment 30B contains potential management measures to define overfishing and overfished thresholds and an optimum yield (OY) target for gag; end overfishing of gag; increase the total allowable catch (TAC) of the red grouper stock to its OY level; establish recreational and commercial allocations for gag and red grouper; establish accountability measures for gag to assure compliance with ending overfishing; adjust commercial grouper quotas and recreational grouper bag limits; closed seasons; and/or size limits; reduce discards and discard mortality of groupers; establish a new reef fish marine reserve and/or extend the duration of the existing Madison-Swanson and Steamboat Lumps marine reserves; and require that federally permitted reef fish vessels comply with the more restrictive of federal or state reef fish regulations when fishing in state waters.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agenda may come before the SEP 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 the meeting. Actions will be restricted to the issue 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 SEP's intent to take action to address the emergency.

#### **Special Accommodations**

The listening stations 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: March 5, 2008.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. E8-4613 Filed 3-7-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

##### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**RIN: 0648-XG15**

##### **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's (Council) Groundfish Oversight Committee will meet to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday, March 27, 2008, at 9 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, 88 Spring Street, Portland, ME 04101; telephone: (207) 775-2311.

*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. The Groundfish Oversight Committee will meet to continue development of Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan. The Committee will address a wide range of issues at this meeting. These will include additional development of effort controls for the commercial fishery, such as days-at-sea restrictions, trip limits, closed areas, gear modifications, or other input controls.

2. They will also further develop Annual Catch Limit and Accountability

Measure alternatives. Sector issues may also be discussed, such as how sectors participate in Special Access Programs and technical issues with respect to calculating each permit's potential sector contribution.

3. The Committee may also review specific measures text, and may consider other groundfish management issues as time permits. Recommendations developed by the Committee will be reported to the Council at a future meeting.

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: March 5, 2008.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. E8-4614 Filed 3-7-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

##### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**RIN: 0648-XG16**

##### **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) is scheduling a public meeting of its Skate Committee, in March, 2008, 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 Friday, March 28, 2008, at 10 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** This meeting will be held at the Four Points Sheraton, 407 Squire Road, Revere, MA 02151; telephone: (781) 284-7200; fax: (781) 289-3176.

*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 Committee will review Plan Development Team (PDT) recommendations for skate catch limits and/or targets for Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) review and discuss and recommend catch targets, taking into account biological and economic risk. The committee will also discuss and recommend methods for catch monitoring (by species, by fishery, by region, by season, etc.) and discuss and recommend accountability measures and their application. In addition, the committee will discuss and approve Amendment 3 measures recommended by the PDT to restrict skate fishing on Multispecies "B" days-at-sea.

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

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, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: March 5, 2008.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. E8-4615 Filed 3-7-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### Renewal of Department of Defense Federal Advisory Committees

**AGENCY:** DoD.

**ACTION:** Renewal of Federal Advisory Committee.

**SUMMARY:** Under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, (5 U.S.C. Appendix, as amended), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR 102-3.65, the Department of Defense gives notice that it is renewing the charter for the Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board (hereafter referred to as the Board).

The Board is a discretionary federal advisory committee established by the Secretary of Defense to provide the Department of Defense, the Secretary of Army, and the Chief of Engineers (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) independent advice and recommendations on environmental issues facing the Corps of Engineers. The Board, in accomplishing its mission: (a) Provides sound recommendations on specific policies, programs for the Chief of Engineers; (b) advise on topics as environmental benefit assessment and integrated water resources management.

The Board shall be composed of not more than 10 members, who are distinguished members of the natural (e.g., biological, ecological), social (e.g., anthropologist, community planner) and related sciences. Board members appointed by the Secretary of Defense, who are not federal officers or employees, shall serve as Special Government Employees under the authority of 5 U.S.C. 3109. Board members shall be appointed on an annual basis by the Secretary of Defense, and shall serve a term not to exceed four years. The Board membership shall select the Board's Chairperson from the total membership. Board members shall with the exception of travel and per diem for official travel, serve without compensation.

The Board shall be authorized to establish subcommittees, as necessary and consistent with its mission, and these subcommittees or working groups shall operate under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976, and other appropriate federal regulations.

Such subcommittees or workgroups shall not work independently of the chartered Board, and shall report all their recommendations and advice to

the Board for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees or workgroups have no authority to make decisions on behalf of the chartered Board nor can they report directly to the Department of Defense or any federal officers or employees who are not Board members.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Board shall meet at the call of the Board's Designated Federal Officer, in consultation with the Board's chairperson. The Designated Federal Officer, pursuant to DoD policy, shall be a full-time or permanent part-time DoD employee, and shall be appointed in accordance with established DoD policies and procedures. The Designated Federal Officer or duly appointed Alternate Designated Federal Officer shall attend all committee meetings and subcommittee meetings.

Pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.105(j) and 102-3.140, the public or interested organizations may submit written statements to the Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board membership about the Board's mission and functions. Written statements may be submitted at any time or in response to the stated agenda of planned meeting of the Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board.

All written statements shall be submitted to the Designated Federal Officer for the Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board, and this individual will ensure that the written statements are provided to the membership for their consideration. Contact information for the Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board's Designated Federal Officer can be obtained from the GSA's FACA Database—<https://www.fido.gov/facadatabase/public.asp>.

The Designated Federal Officer, pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.150, will announce planned meetings of the Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board. The Designated Federal Officer, at that time, may provide additional guidance on the submission of written statements that are in response to the stated agenda for the planned meeting in question.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Contact Jim Freeman, Deputy Committee Management Officer for the Department of Defense, 703-601-2554, extension 128.

Dated: March 4, 2008.

**L. M. Bynum,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. E8-4625 Filed 3-7-08; 8:45 am]

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