

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, these issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during the meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda 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

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Gail Bendixen at 907-271-2809 at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: May 14, 2003.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 03-12740 Filed 5-20-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 051403D]

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 (Gulf Council) and South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (South Atlantic Council) in cooperation with the Florida Marine Research Institute (FMRI) of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC) and the Southeast Fisheries Science Center of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) will convene a yellowtail snapper Stock Assessment Workshop as part of the 2003 Southeast Data Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process. The workshop will be held from Monday June 9, 2003 through Friday, June 13, 2003.

DATES: The workshop will be held from Monday June 9, 2003 through Friday, June 13, 2003.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Florida Marine Research Institute, 100 Eighth Avenue, Southeast, St. Petersburg, FL 33701-5095; telephone: 727-896-8626.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Phil Steele, NMFS Southeast Regional Office, 9721 North Executive Center Drive, St. Petersburg, FL 33702; telephone: 727-570-5305.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Stock Assessment Workshop will focus on the single yellowtail snapper stock off the U.S. mainland that falls within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Gulf Council, South Atlantic Council, and FFWCC. Yellowtail snapper in the Caribbean appear to be a different population based on preliminary genetic analyses, and will not be included in this assessment.

The Stock Assessment Workshop is the second step in the three-part SEDAR process. The first step was the Data Review Workshop (held March 3-7, 2003) and involved the assembly and review of available fishery data, life history information, analytical techniques and models for the stock assessment. The second step is the Stock Assessment Workshop, where data sets from the Data Review Workshop are used with population dynamics modeling techniques to determine the status of stocks. The third step of SEDAR is the Stock Assessment Review Workshop (to be scheduled in July, 2003), where the stock assessment is reviewed by an independent peer review panel.

The Stock Assessment Workshop will convene a select group of scientists, industry representatives, and other knowledgeable persons to review the available data and the yellowtail snapper stock assessment presented by FFWCC biologists. The workshop participants will prepare a written Workshop report that provides an overview of the analyses, general findings, and recommendations of the workshop. As part of the Stock Assessment Workshop, the Gulf Council will convene a meeting of its Reef Fish Stock Assessment Panel (RFSAP). The RFSAP is composed of biologists who are trained in the specialized field of population dynamics. Based on its review of the yellowtail snapper stock assessment, the RFSAP may recommend whether to declare the stocks overfished and/or undergoing overfishing, and may recommend a range of acceptable biological catch (ABC) for 2004. The

RFSAP may also recommend management measures to achieve the ABC. The RFSAP may also make recommendations pertaining to its role in future SEDAR meetings.

The RFSAP will hold its own session in conjunction with the Stock Assessment Workshop to review the following issues: (1) role of the RFSAP in the SEDAR process; (2) review of alternatives for revision of the rebuilding plan for Gulf red snapper, and; (3) new information on Goliath grouper if that data is available.

Both the Stock Assessment Workshop report and the conclusions of the RFSAP will be reviewed by the Stock Assessment Review Workshop, the Council's Standing and Special Reef Fish Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), (which will be convened as part of the Stock Assessment Review Workshop), the Socioeconomic Panel (SEP), and the Reef Fish Advisory Panel (AP). The reports and recommendations of these groups will then be presented to the Gulf Council, which may set year a 2004 total allowable catch (TAC) as well as other management measures for the Gulf of Mexico exclusive economic zone component of the yellowtail snapper stock.

A copy of the agenda for the RFSAP portion of the meeting can be obtained by calling 813-228-2815.

Although other issues not on the agenda may come before the RFSAP for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Actions of the RFSAP will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed as available by this notice.

The RFSAP meeting is open to the public and is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) by June 30, 2003.

Dated: May 15, 2003.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 03-12741 Filed 5-20-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****[I.D. 051203D]****Permits; Foreign Fishing**

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

ACTION: Notice of receipt of foreign fishing application.

SUMMARY: NMFS publishes for public review and comment a summary of an application submitted by the Government of the Russian Federation requesting authorization to conduct fishing operations in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) in 2003 under provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act).

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted to NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, International Fisheries Division, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910; and/or to the Regional Fishery Management Councils listed here:

Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01905, Phone (978) 465-0492, Fax (978) 465-3116;

Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Federal Building, Room 2115, 300 South New Street, Dover, DE 19904, Phone (302) 674-2331, Fax (302) 674-4136.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert A. Dickinson, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, (301) 713-2276.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding with the Secretary of State, NMFS publishes, for public review and comment, summaries of applications received by the Secretary of State requesting permits for foreign fishing vessels to fish in the U.S. EEZ under provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*).

This notice concerns the receipt of an application from the Government of the Russian Federation requesting authorization to conduct joint venture (JV) operations in 2003 in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean for Atlantic mackerel and Atlantic herring. The factory ship DAURIYA is identified as the Russian vessel that would receive Atlantic mackerel and Atlantic herring from U.S. vessels in JV operations.

Dated: May 14, 2003.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 03-12739 Filed 5-20-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Patent and Trademark Office**

Grant of Interim Extension of the Term of U.S. Patent No. 4,567,264; Ranolazine

AGENCY: Patent and Trademark Office.

ACTION: Notice of interim patent term extension.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office has issued a certificate under 35 U.S.C. 156(d)(5) for a one-year interim extension of the term of U.S. Patent No. 4,567,264.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Karin Ferriter by telephone at (703)306-3159; by mail marked to her attention and addressed to Mail Stop Patent Ext., Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; by fax marked to her attention at (703)872-9411, or by e-mail to Karin.Ferriter@uspto.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 156 of title 35, United States Code, generally provides that the term of a patent may be extended for a period of up to five years if the patent claims a product, or a method of making or using a product, that has been subject to certain defined regulatory review, and that the patent may be extended for interim periods of up to a year if the regulatory review is anticipated to extend beyond the expiration date of the patent.

On March 5, 2003, patent owner Roche Palo Alto LLC, timely filed an application under 35 U.S.C. 156(d)(5) for an interim extension of the term of U.S. Patent No. 4,567,264. The patent claims the active ingredient ranolazine (Ranexa™). The application indicates that a New Drug Application for the human drug product ranolazine has been filed and is currently undergoing regulatory review before the Food and Drug Administration for permission to market or use the product commercially.

Review of the application indicates that, except for permission to market or use the product commercially, the subject patent would be eligible for an extension of the patent term under 35 U.S.C. 156. Since it is apparent that the regulatory review period will continue beyond the original expiration date of the patent (May 18, 2003), the term of

the patent is extended under 35 U.S.C. 156(d)(5) for a term of one year, *i.e.*, until May 18, 2004.

Dated: May 9, 2003.

James E. Rogan,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 03-12729 Filed 5-20-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Procedures for Considering Requests from the Public for Textile and Apparel Safeguard Actions on Imports from China

May 19, 2003.

AGENCY: The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (The Committee).

ACTION: Notice of Procedures

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the procedures the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (the Committee) will follow in considering requests from the public for textile and apparel safeguard actions as provided for in the Report of the Working Party on the Accession of China to the World Trade Organization (the Accession Agreement). The Committee hereby notifies interested parties of the procedures it will follow in considering requests.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 21, 2003.

ADDRESS: Request must be submitted to: the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements, Room H3100, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230. Ten copies of any such request must be provided.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William Dulka, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4058.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

BACKGROUND:

The Accession Agreement textile and apparel safeguard allows the United States and other World Trade Organization Member countries that believe imports of Chinese origin textile and apparel products are, due to market disruption, threatening to impede the orderly development of trade in these