

Special Accommodations

These meetings are 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 working days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: May 5, 2009.

William D. Chappell,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E9-10838 Filed 5-8-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN: 0648-XP09

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Hearings

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

ACTION: Notice of public hearings.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold five public hearings to solicit Public comments on Draft Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP).

DATES: Written public comments must be received on or before 5 p.m. EST, June 8, 2009. The meetings will be held in May and June, 2009. For specific dates and times, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: The Public document can be obtained by contacting the New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

Meeting addresses: The meetings will be held in Wakefield, MA, Portsmouth, NH, Portland, ME, New London, CT, and So. Kingstown, RI. For specific locations, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

Public comments: Mail to Patricia A. Kurkul, Regional Administrator, NMFS, Northeast Regional Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope "DEIS for Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP". Comments may also be sent via fax to (978) 281-9207 or submitted via e-mail to multisamendment16@noaa.gov with "DIES for Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP" in the subject line.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The agendas for the following six hearings are as follows: New England Fishery Management Council staff will brief the public on the herring amendments and the contents of the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) prior to opening the hearing for public comments and the schedules are as follows:

Public Hearings: Locations, Schedules, and Agendas

1. *Tuesday, May 26, 2009, from 5:30-9 p.m.;* Sheraton Colonial, One Audubon Road, Wakefield, MA 01880; telephone: (781) 245-9300.

2. *Wednesday, May 27, 2009, from 6-9 p.m.;* Sheraton Harborside, 250 Market Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801; telephone: (603) 431-2300.

3. *Thursday, May 28, 2009, from 5-8 p.m.;* Holiday Inn By the Bay, 88 Spring Street, Portland, ME 04101; telephone: (207) 775-2311.

4. *Monday, June 1, 2009, from 1-3:30 p.m.;* Radisson, 35 Governor Winthrop Blvd., New London, CT 06320; telephone: (860) 443-7000.

5. *Monday, June 1, 2009 from 6-9 p.m.;* Holiday Inn, 3009 Tower Hill Road, So. Kingstown, RI 02674; telephone: (401) 789-1051.

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

Dated: May 5, 2009.

William D. Chappell,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E9-10837 Filed 5-8-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN: 0648-XP08

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Hearings

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

ACTION: Notice of public hearings.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene public hearings on Reef Fish Amendment 31.

DATES: The public hearings will be held on May 26, 2009 through June 8, 2009 at six locations throughout the Gulf of Mexico. For specific dates, times and subjects, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: The public hearings will be held in the following locations: Madeira Beach, Marathon and Panama City, FL, Biloxi, MS, LaMarque, TX, Galliano, LA. For specific locations, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Carrie Simmons, Fishery Biologist; Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) has scheduled six public hearings on Amendment 31 to the Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) that addresses bycatch of hardshell sea turtles in the Gulf of Mexico bottom longline reef fish fishery. The Council operates under mandates to minimize bycatch to the extent practicable and to protect endangered and threatened species. National Standard 9 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), requires that conservation and management measures shall, to the extent practicable, (A) minimize bycatch and (B) to the extent bycatch cannot be avoided, minimize the morality of such bycatch. The bycatch reduction and monitoring requirements in the Magnuson-Stevens Act apply to a broad range of living marine species, including sea turtles.

Observer data from the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) indicated a high level of bycatch in the bottom longline component of the fishery, which exceed the anticipated take in the 2005 Biological Opinion. In September 2008, NMFS released an observer report that examined sea turtle takes by the bottom longline reef fish fishery from July 2006 through 2007. In April 2009 an updated report from the SEFSC was published with information collected in 2008 based on revised effort and observer data.

The Council is considering a range of actions and alternatives outlined in Public Hearing draft of Amendment 31 to the Reef Fish FMP to mitigate

hardshell sea turtle interactions with bottom longline gear. The Council selected Preferred Actions and Alternatives at their April 2009 Council meeting. The public is encouraged to attend and provide suggestions and input, which will be relayed back to the Council before final action. The Council is holding six public hearings at the following locations throughout the Gulf coast.

These public hearings will begin at 6 p.m. and conclude at the end of public testimony or no later than 9 p.m. at the following location:

• *Tuesday, May 26, 2009*, Travelodge, 5201 Gulf Freeway, LaMarque, TX 77568, telephone: (409) 986-9777;

• *Wednesday, May 27, 2009*, Hilton Garden Inn, 1101 US Highway 231, Panama City, FL 32405, telephone: (850) 392-1093;

• *Wednesday, May 27, 2009*, South Lafourche Levee District, 17904 Hwy 3235, Galliano, LA 70354, telephone: (985) 632-7554;

• *Thursday, May 28, 2009*, Wingate Inn, 12009 Indian River Road, Biloxi, MS 39540, telephone: (228) 396-0036;

• *Monday, June 8, 2009*, Banana Bay Resort, 4590 Overseas Highway, Marathon, FL 33050, telephone: (305) 743-3500.

This public hearing will begin at 6:30 p.m. and conclude at the end of public testimony or no later than 9:30 p.m. at the following location:

• *Thursday, June 4, 2009*, City of Madeira Beach, 300 Municipal Drive, Madeira Beach, FL 33708, telephone: (727) 391-9951.

Copies of the Amendment can be obtained by calling the Council office at (813) 348-1630.

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

Dated: May 5, 2009.

William D. Chappell,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E9-10836 Filed 5-8-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN: 0648-XP11

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 Monkfish Committee on May 27, 2009, 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 Wednesday, May 27, 2009, at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Radisson Hotel Providence Airport, 2081 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886; telephone: (401) 739-3000; fax: (401) 732-9309.

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 Monkfish Committee will develop recommendations to the New England and Mid-Atlantic Councils for measures to be considered in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Amendment 5, including, but not limited to: biological and management reference points; specifications of catch target and management measures to achieve the targets (DAS, trip limits and other measures); modifications, additions or deletions to the management measures currently in the plan; and, if time allows, catch share programs (ITQs and/or sectors). The Advisory Panel will be meeting on June 2 and the Committee will meet again on June 3 to finalize their recommendations which will be considered by the Mid-Atlantic Council at their June 9-11 meeting and by the New England Council at their June 23-25 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 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.

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

Dated: May 5, 2009.

William D. Chappell,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E9-10839 Filed 5-8-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN: 0648-XP14

Pacific 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 Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Habitat Committee (HC) will hold a meeting that is open to the public.

DATES: The HC meeting will be held Friday, June 5, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. until business for the day is completed.

ADDRESSES: The HC meeting will be held at the RiverPlace Hotel, Eliot/Marquam Room, 1510 SW Harbor Way, Portland, OR 97201; telephone: (503) 228-3233.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Jennifer Gilden, Habitat Coordinator; telephone: (503) 820-2280.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the HC meeting is to discuss habitat-related issues relevant to upcoming Council meetings.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens