

groupings. Priority will be given to elected officials (first) and individuals representing organizations or tribes (second), with the remaining time allotted to individuals testifying on their own behalf. The testimony schedule will be published on the Department of Commerce Coastal Zone Management Act Web site (<http://www.ogc.doc.gov/czma.htm>) before the hearing.

Speakers from the general public will receive up to three minutes to present oral comments. Elected officials and individuals representing organizations or tribes will receive up to five minutes to speak. In order to accommodate the maximum number of speakers, time limits will be strictly enforced. If any member of the public, elected official, or organizational or tribal representative misses his or her assigned speaking slot, there will be no ability to make it up. Speakers will not be permitted to cede time to another speaker, and only one person may speak on behalf of an organization or tribe.

Written comments on issues relevant to the Secretary's decision in this appeal may be submitted to NOAA at the hearing by any person in attendance. In addition, written comments may be submitted by e-mail to [gcos.comments@noaa.gov](mailto:gcos.comments@noaa.gov) or by mail addressed to Thomas Street, NOAA Office of General Counsel for Ocean Services, 1305 East-West Highway, Room 6111, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Comments must be received by October 2, 2008.

NOAA officials administering the hearing will not entertain questions, and will not be making any substantive decisions at the hearing. This hearing is being held to obtain information on issues the Secretary will likely consider in deciding the TCA's appeal. A summary of relevant issues as well as additional background on the appeal appeared in the **Federal Register** notice of March 17, 2008, announcing the appeal, and may be found on the Internet at <http://www.ogc.doc.gov/czma.htm>. This Web site also includes additional information on the hearing, including conduct and decorum that is required, restrictions on the use of cameras and recording equipment and the display of signs and banners in the hearing room, the process by which testimony will be transcribed and made part of the record, and other rules and guidelines.

Questions concerning the hearing should be directed to Thomas Street, Attorney-Advisor, NOAA Office of the General Counsel, 301-713-2967, or Stephanie Campbell, Attorney-Advisor, NOAA Office of the General Counsel,

301-713-2967, or [gcos.inquiries@noaa.gov](mailto:gcos.inquiries@noaa.gov).

Dated: August 26, 2008.

**Joel La Bissonniere,**

*Assistant General Counsel for Ocean Services.*

[Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog No. 11.419 Coastal Zone Management Program Assistance.]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XJ87**

#### Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT); First Fall Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In preparation for the 2008 International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) meeting, the Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section of ICCAT is announcing the convening of the first of two fall meetings.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held September 15-16, 2008. There will be an open session on Monday, September 15, 2008, beginning from 9 a.m. through 1 p.m. The remainder of the meeting will be closed to the public. There will be no opportunity for oral public comments during the meeting. Written comments on issues being considered at the meeting will be made available to the Advisory Committee, and must be received no later than September 8, 2008 (see **ADDRESSES**).

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 8777 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Written comments should be sent to Terra Lederhouse at NOAA Fisheries, Office of International Affairs, Room 12641, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Written comments can also be provided via fax (301-713-2313) or email ([Terra.Lederhouse@noaa.gov](mailto:Terra.Lederhouse@noaa.gov)).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Terra Lederhouse, Office of International Affairs, 301-713-9090.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section of ICCAT will meet September 15-16,

2008, first in an open session to consider information on stock status of Atlantic highly migratory species, particularly bluefin tuna, yellowfin tuna, skipjack tuna, and sharks. There will be no opportunity for oral public comment during the open session. Written comments, however, may be submitted before the September open session by mail, fax or email and should be received by September 11, 2008 (see **ADDRESSES**).

After the open session, the Advisory Committee will meet in closed session to discuss sensitive information relating to upcoming international negotiations regarding the management of Atlantic highly migratory species. The Advisory Committee will also consider fleet capacity management and monitoring, control and surveillance issues.

#### Special Accommodations

The meeting locations are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Terra Lederhouse at (301) 713-9090 by at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 27, 2008.

**Christopher Rogers,**

*Acting Director, Office of International Affairs, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. E8-20278 Filed 8-29-08; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XJ88**

#### Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas; Second Fall Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In preparation for the 2008 ICCAT meeting, the Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) will convene its second and final fall meeting in October 2008.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held October 26-28, 2008. There will be an open session the afternoon of Sunday, October 26, 2008, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. The remainder of the meeting will be closed to the public. Oral comments can

be presented during the public comment session on October 26, 2008. Written comments on issues being considered at the meeting will be made available to the Advisory Committee, and must be received no later than October 17, 2008 (see **ADDRESSES**).

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 8777 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Written comments should be sent to Terra Lederhouse at NOAA Fisheries, Office of International Affairs, Room 12641, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Written comments can also be provided via fax (301-713-2313) or email ([Terra.Lederhouse@noaa.gov](mailto:Terra.Lederhouse@noaa.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Terra Lederhouse, (301) 713-9090.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section to ICCAT will meet in open session on October 26. The Advisory Committee will receive management and research related information on the stock status of highly migratory species, including the management recommendations of ICCAT's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics. There will be an opportunity for oral public comment during the October 26, 2008, open session. Written comments may also be submitted for the October open session by mail, fax or email. Written comments should be received by October 17, 2008 (see **ADDRESSES**).

During its second fall meeting, the Advisory Committee will also hold two executive sessions that are closed to the public. The first executive session will be held on October 27, 2008, and a second executive session will be held on October 28, 2008. The purpose of these sessions is to discuss sensitive information relating to upcoming international negotiations.

NMFS expects members of the public to conduct themselves appropriately at the open session of the meeting. At the beginning of the public comment session, an explanation of the ground rules will be provided (e.g., alcohol in the meeting room is prohibited, speakers will be called to give their comments in the order in which they registered to speak, each speaker will have an equal amount of time to speak, and speakers should not interrupt one another). The session will be structured so that all attending members of the public are able to comment, if they so choose, regardless of the degree of controversy of the subject(s). Those not respecting the ground rules will be asked to leave the meeting.

### Special Accommodations

The meeting location is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Terra Lederhouse at (301) 713-9090 at least five days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 27, 2008.

**Christopher Rogers,**

*Acting Director, Office of International Affairs, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XJ90**

#### Advisory Committee and Species Working Group Technical Advisor Appointments

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

**ACTION:** Nominations.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is soliciting nominations to the Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) as established by the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (ATCA). NMFS is also soliciting nominations for technical advisors to the Advisory Committee's species working groups.

**DATES:** Nominations must be received by October 15, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Nominations to the Advisory Committee or for technical advisors to a species working group should be sent to Dr. Rebecca Lent, Director, Office of International Affairs, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, Room 12659, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. A copy should also be sent to Terra Lederhouse, Office of International Affairs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Room 12641, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Nominations can also be provided via fax (301-713-2313) or email ([Rebecca.Lent@noaa.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Lent@noaa.gov) and [Terra.Lederhouse@noaa.gov](mailto:Terra.Lederhouse@noaa.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Terra Lederhouse, 301-713-9090.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 971b of ATCA (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*) requires that an advisory committee be established that shall be composed of:

(1) not less than five nor more than 20 individuals appointed by the U.S. Commissioners to ICCAT who shall select such individuals from the various groups concerned with the fisheries covered by the ICCAT Convention; and (2) the chairs (or their designees) of the New England, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf Fishery Management Councils. Each member of the Advisory Committee appointed under paragraph (1) shall serve for a term of two years and shall be eligible for reappointment. Members of the Advisory Committee may attend all public meetings of the ICCAT Commission, Council, or any Panel and any other meetings to which they are invited by the ICCAT Commission, Council, or any Panel. The Advisory Committee shall be invited to attend all nonexecutive meetings of the U.S. Commissioners to ICCAT and, at such meetings, shall be given the opportunity to examine and be heard on all proposed programs of investigation, reports, recommendations, and regulations of the ICCAT Commission. Members of the Advisory Committee shall receive no compensation for such services. The Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of State may pay the necessary travel expenses of members of the Advisory Committee.

There are currently 20 appointed Advisory Committee members. These members' terms expire on December 31, 2008. New appointments will be made as soon as possible, but will not take effect until January 1, 2009.

Section 971b-1 of ATCA specifies that the U.S. Commissioners may establish species working groups for the purpose of providing advice and recommendations to the U.S. Commissioners and to the Advisory Committee on matters relating to the conservation and management of any highly migratory species covered by the ICCAT Convention. Any species working group shall consist of no more than seven members of the Advisory Committee and no more than four scientific or technical advisors, as considered necessary by the Commissioners. Currently, there are four species working groups advising the Committee and the U.S. Commissioners: a Bluefin Tuna Working Group, a Swordfish and Sharks Working Group, a Billfish Working Group, and a BAYS (Bigeye, Albacore, Yellowfin, and Skipjack) Tunas Working Group. Technical Advisors to the species working groups serve at the pleasure of the U.S. Commissioners; therefore, the Commissioners can choose to alter appointments at any time.