

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

[I.D. 032204F]

North 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 North Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Steller Sea Lion Mitigation Committee (SSLMC) will meet in Seattle, WA.

DATES: The meeting will be held April 26, 2004, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC), 7600 Sand Point Way NE, National Marine Mammal Lab Conference Room, Seattle, WA. The meeting can also be accessed by conference line at (907) 789-6622.

Council address: North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Ave., Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bill Wilson, North Pacific Fishery Management Council; telephone: (907) 271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting agenda includes the following topics:

1. Introductions and opening remarks;
2. Council motion on Aleut Corporation Aleutian Islands pollock fishery;
3. Update on the Environmental Assessment/Regulatory Impact Review (EA/RIR) on Aleut Corporation pollock fishery;
4. Industry proposals for Steller Sea Lion (SSL) protection measure changes in the Aleutian Islands;
5. NMFS position on Aleutian Island protection measures;
6. Update on AFSC fishery interaction studies, Aleutian Island SSL counts, and other related research;
7. Discussion and recommendations from SSLMC to the Council;
8. Future activities of the SSLMC; and
9. Action items, closing remarks.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this committee 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

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Gail Bendixen, 907-271-2809, at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 26, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

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

[FR Doc. 04-7249 Filed 3-30-04; 8:45 am]

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

[I.D. 032204B]

Western 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 Western Pacific Fishery Management Council is hosting the Regional Fishery Management Council Chairs and Executive Directors Meeting on Tuesday, April 13, 2004, through Thursday April 15, 2004, in Hawaii. The purpose of the meeting is to enable NMFS and NOAA officials and others to exchange information with and obtain the individual views of the Council Chairs and Executive Directors. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific times, dates, and agenda items.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in Salon B at the Kaua'i Marriott Hotel, Kalapaki Beach, Lihue, Hawaii, 96766 Puna B and C meeting rooms; telephone: (808) 245 5050, <http://marriotthawaii.com/kauai.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Dates and Times**

There will be a non-public administrative session from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 13, 2004, the first general session will be from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on April 13, 2004. The second general

session will be from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on April 14, 2004; and the final general session be from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. on April 15, 2004.

The agenda during the General Session of the Regional Fishery Management Council Chairs and Executive Directors meeting will include the items listed here. The order in which agenda items are addressed may change. The Council will meet as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

Tuesday, April 13, 2004, 2 p.m.

A. Opening Remarks by Western Pacific Council and NOAA Fisheries

B. Regional Highlights

C. Report on Managing the Nation's Fisheries Conference - and proposed Sequel Conference in March 2005

D. National Fisheries Conference II - The Future of Fisheries: Commercial, Recreational & Aquaculture, October 18-21, 2004 (Tentative)

E. Remarks - The Honorable Wayne T Gilchrest, Chair House Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans.

F. MSA Reauthorization and other legislative initiatives.

1. Briefing from Congressional Staff
2. Review NOAA Fisheries position document, and proposed bill language (if available)

3. Review of Chairmen's positions on old and new issues

Wednesday, April 14, 2004, 8 a.m.

G. Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA): Proceedings for Council Chairs and Executive Directors (CCED) meetings

H. Budget Issues

1. Council Funding Necessities
2. 2004 Budget - NOAA Matrix Management Coral Reef & Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) (National Ocean Service) & Ecosystem (NMFS)
3. Availability of 2004 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Habitat and Ecosystem Funding for Councils
4. 2005 Budget Request
5. 2006 and Beyond
6. Council Grant Relationships with Regions and NOAA Office of Grants Management

I. Enforcement issues:

1. U.S. Coast Guard Report
2. NOAA Fisheries Office of Law Enforcement
3. NOAA Fisheries VMS Policy

J. National Constituent Meetings:
Continuing the Dialogue

K. Management Issues:

1. Marine Protected Areas
 - a. National MPA Federal Advisory Committee and MPA Center Activities
 - b. National Marine Sanctuary Program and Regional Fishery Management Council (RFMC) Mandates
 - c. Regional Councils
2. Ecosystem Based Management
 - a. Science
 - b. Policy
3. National Standard 1
4. Stock Assessments

Thursday, April 15, 2004, 8 a.m.

L. Management Issues (Continued)

5. Regulatory Streamlining - Multi-year versus Annual Actions, NEPA Umbrella, etc.
6. Essential Fish Habitat
7. Research
8. Fish Consumption and Health Issues
9. Litigation
10. Bycatch
 - a. Observer: Implications of National Policy upon Labour Standard Act
 - b. Technology and Gear (including Private Fish Aggregating Devices)
11. Latent Effort/Overcapacity
12. International Issues
13. Protected Resources

M. Summary of Meeting

N. Next Meeting

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before these groups 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

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, (808) 522-8220 (voice) or (808) 522-8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 26, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 04-7250 Filed 3-30-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 032204E]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold its Coral Reef Ecosystem Plan Team (CREPT) and Crustaceans Plan Team (CPT) meetings in Honolulu, HI.

DATES: The CREPT meeting will be held from April 20 through April 22, 2004. The CPT meeting will be held on April 23, 2004. All meetings will begin at 8:30 a.m. and are expected to end at 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Council Office Conference Room, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The CREPT will meet from April 20-22, 2004, at the Council Office Conference Room to discuss the following agenda items:

Tuesday, April 20, 2004

1. Introductions
2. Island Reports
3. Essential Fish Habitat and Habitat Areas of Particular Concern
 - a. Refinement of Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Designations
 - b. Review of Habitat Areas of Particular Concern
 - c. EFH Review for Annual Report
4. Report on Coral Reef Fish Stock Assessment Workshop and Review of Recommendations
5. National Ocean Service Northwest Hawaiian Islands (NOS NWHI) Sanctuary Designation Process
6. Archipelagic-based Fishery Ecosystem Plan

Wednesday and Thursday, April 21-22, 2004

7. Status of Coral Reef Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and Plan Implementation
8. Development of Annual Reports for Western Pacific Coral Reef Fisheries
 - a. Review of Trophic-level Species Assignment
 - b. Organization of Annual Report

9. Other Business

The CPT will meet April 23, 2004, at the Council Office Conference Room to discuss the following agenda items:

Tuesday, April 23, 2004

1. Introductions
2. Review of Last Meeting and Recommendations
3. MultiFAN-CL NWHI Lobster Population Model
4. 2004 Plans for NWHI Lobster Cruise and Charter
5. Main Hawaiian Islands (MHI) Lobster Stock Assessment
6. Crustaceans Annual Report
7. Crustaceans FMP Compliance Issue
8. Essential Fish Habitat and Habitat Areas of Particular Concern
9. NOS NWHI Sanctuary Designation Process
10. Archipelagic-based Fishery Ecosystem Plan
11. Other Business

The order in which agenda items are addressed may change. Public comment periods will be provided throughout the agenda.

The CREPT and CPT will meet as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before the CREPT and CPT for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Plan Team action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this document and any issue arising after publication of this document that requires 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

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, (808) 522-8220 (voice) or (808) 522-8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 26, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

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