

8:30 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, January 28 and 29.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Harborside Hotel, 250 Market Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801; telephone: (603) 431-2300; fax: (603) 431-7805. For online information see [www.sheratonportsmouth.com/](http://www.sheratonportsmouth.com/).

**Council Address:** New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Tuesday, January 27, 2015**

The Council meeting will begin with introductions and brief reports from the NEFMC Chairman and Executive Director (to include a review and approval of an updated version of the Council's Statement of Organization, Practices, and Procedures), the NOAA Fisheries Regional Administrator, the Northeast Fisheries Science Center and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council liaisons, NOAA General Counsel and NOAA Law Enforcement, and representatives of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), U.S. Coast Guard and the Northeast Regional Ocean Council. A brief closed session will follow during which the Council will approve Scientific and Statistical Committee appointments for 2015-17. The Council will then provide an opportunity for the public to provide brief comments on items that are relevant to Council business but otherwise not listed on the published agenda.

During the afternoon session, the Council expects to discuss and determine an appropriate level of Council participation with ASFMC during the development of management measures for the Jonah Crab fishery in the EEZ. The Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program staff (ACCS) will provide an overview of its integrated data collection and distribution systems that are conducted in partnership with NOAA Fisheries, including dealer data collection and vessel trip reporting. During the a discussion of measures that will address recreational groundfish fishery activities, the Council will discuss recommendations for proactive accountability measures for Gulf of Maine haddock and Gulf of Maine cod for fishing year 2015. The day will close with a report, the Performance of the Northeast Multispecies Groundfish Fishery, May 2013-April 2014 to be

presented by Northeast Fisheries Science Center staff.

**Wednesday, January 28, 2015**

The NEFMC Herring Committee will ask the Council to cover several issues that will continue until after the lunch break. They are as follows: (1) An update on the industry-based river herring bycatch avoidance program; (2) an update on the River Herring Technical Expert Working Group process, its timeline, and products; (3) a review of the NEFMC staff discussion document that addresses considerations related to adding river herring and shad as stocks in the Atlantic herring fishery; and (4) consideration and possible approval of related Herring Committee recommendations. The recommendations address cooperative research priorities for any research set-aside that may be allocated in 2016-18 during the Atlantic herring fishery specifications process; and approval of a scoping document for an amendment to the Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan that will address control rules for the Atlantic herring fishery to account for herring's role as forage in the ecosystem. During the remainder of the afternoon the Council's Observer Policy Committee will request that the Council review and approve a Draft Environmental Assessment for an omnibus amendment that could establish provisions for industry-funded monitoring (IFM) across all federally-managed fisheries in the Northeast. Related recommendations provided by the both the Observer Policy and Herring Committees will be considered. It is also expected that the Council will select preferred alternatives as well as options proposed to address observer coverage requirements for Atlantic herring vessels.

**Thursday, January 29, 2015**

During the final day of the meeting the Council will focus on three reports. During the first, there will be an overview of the 2014 independent evaluation of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center's processes and modeling approaches used to develop stock assessments. This will be followed by a briefing on NOAA Fisheries Draft Climate Science Strategy. The last will be an update on the annual state of the Northeast Continental Shelf ecosystem.

Although other non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subjects of formal action during this meeting. Council 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 that 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 Thomas A. Nies (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: January 6, 2015.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2015-00147 Filed 1-8-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**RIN 0648-XD699**

**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 (Council) will hold public meetings in American Samoa and Hawaii regarding the Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plans and American Samoa fishery management issues.

**DATES:** American Samoa Advisory Body Fishery Ecosystem Plan Review Meeting: Wednesday January 28, 2015 from 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Public Meeting on Large Pelagic Vessel Prohibited Area Thursday January 29, 2015 from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; American Samoa Regional Ecosystem Advisory Committee Fishery Ecosystem Plan Review Meeting: Friday January 30, 2015 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Hawaii Council Advisory Body Fishery Ecosystem Plan Review Meeting: Wednesday February 4, 2015 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Hawaii Regional Ecosystem Advisory Committee Fishery Ecosystem Plan Review Meeting: Thursday February 5, 2015 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific locations of meetings.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The locations of the meetings are as follows:

- American Samoa Council Advisory Body Fishery Ecosystem Plan Review Meeting: Sadies by the Sea Conference Room, Utulei;

- Public Meeting on Large Pelagic Vessel Prohibited Area: Sadies by the Sea Conference Room, Utulei;

- American Samoa Regional Ecosystem Advisory Committee Fishery Ecosystem Plan Review Meeting: Governor H. Rex Lee Auditorium, Utulei;

- Hawaii Council Advisory Body Fishery Ecosystem Plan Review Meeting: Council Office, 1164 Bishop St., Honolulu, HI;

- Hawaii Council Regional Ecosystem Advisory Committee Fishery Ecosystem Plan Review Meeting: Council Office, 1164 Bishop St., Honolulu, HI.

#### **January 28, 2015 American Samoa Council Advisory Body FEP Meeting**

*Agenda:*

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Overview of the Council and its Fisheries
  - A. Authority and Responsibilities
  - B. Council Structure, Programs, and Fisheries
  - C. Five Year Program Plan
3. Review of Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plans
  - A. Background
  - B. Purpose
  - C. Intended Outcomes
  - D. Major Process Elements
    - i. Mandates
    - ii. FEP Objectives
    - iii. Decision-making Process
    - iv. Data
4. Other Relevant Topics
5. Discussion and Recommendations

#### **January 29, 2015 Public Meeting on Large Pelagic Vessel Prohibited Area**

*Agenda:*

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Brief Overview of the Council
3. Temporary exemption to fish with the current large vessel prohibited area
  - A. Background and History
  - B. Management Option under Consideration
4. Other Relevant Topics
5. Public Comment

#### **January 30, 2015 American Samoa REAC FEP Meeting**

*Agenda:* See January 28 American Samoa Council Advisory Body FEP Meeting agenda.

#### **February 4, 2015 Hawaii Council Advisory Body FEP Meeting**

*Agenda:*

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Overview of the Council and its Fisheries
  - A. Authority and Responsibilities
  - B. Council Structure, Programs, and Fisheries
  - C. Five Year Program Plan
3. Review of Council's Fishery Ecosystem Plans
  - A. Background
  - B. Purpose
  - C. Intended Outcomes
  - D. Major Process Elements
    - i. Mandates
    - ii. FEP Objectives
    - iii. Decision-making Process
    - iv. Data
4. Other Relevant Topics
5. Discussion and Recommendations

#### **February 5, 2015 Hawaii REAC FEP Meeting**

*Agenda:* See February 4 Hawaii Council Advisory Body FEP Meeting agenda.

#### **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.

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

Dated: January 6, 2015.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2015-00149 Filed 1-8-15; 8:45 am]

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## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

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

**RIN 0648-XD697**

#### **South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council); Public Meetings**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public hearing and scoping meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) will hold a series of public hearings pertaining to Amendment 35 to the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for the South Atlantic and a scoping meeting for Amendment 26 to the Coastal Migratory Pelagic FMP for the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held January 13, 2015 through February 4, 2015. A public hearing for Snapper Grouper Amendment 35 will be held in Key West, FL on January 13, 2015 beginning at 5:30 p.m.; a public hearing for Snapper Grouper Amendment 35 and a scoping meeting for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Amendment 26 will be held in Cocoa Beach on January 21, 2015 from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m., and a public hearing for Snapper Grouper Amendment 35 will be held in Georgetown, SC on January 27, 2015 from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. In addition, a public scoping meeting for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Amendment 26 will be held via webinar on February 4, 2015 beginning at 6 p.m.

#### **ADDRESSES:**

*Meeting Addresses:*

1. January 13, 2015: Marriott Key West Beachside, 3841 N. Roosevelt Blvd., Key West, FL 33040; phone: (305) 296-8100.

2. January 21, 2015: Hilton Cocoa Beach Oceanfront, 1550 N. Atlantic Ave., Cocoa Beach, FL 32931; phone: (321) 799-0003.

3. January 27, 2015: Kimbel Lodge at Hobcaw Barony, 22 Hobcaw Road, Georgetown, SC 29442; phone: (843) 904-9024.

4. February 4, 2015: Scoping via Webinar at 6 p.m.—registration for the Webinar is required. Information regarding registration will be posted on the Council's Web site at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net).

*Council Address:* South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer, SAFMC; phone: (843) 571-4366 or toll free (866) SAFMC-10; fax: (843) 769-4520; email: [kim.iverson@safmc.net](mailto:kim.iverson@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The items of discussion are as follows:

#### **Public Hearing: Amendment 35 to the Snapper Grouper FMP**

This amendment would remove four species from the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Unit (black snapper, dog snapper, mahogany snapper and schoolmaster). In addition, the amendment would make modifications to the current commercial longline endorsements for golden tilefish. The changes to the endorsements are being proposed to reflect the Council's intent regarding which gear-specific quota (longline or hook-and-line) endorsements holders may fish under.