

3. *The anticipated level of salmon incidental catch based on salmon incidental catch from previous years.* During 1997 and 1998, about 118,000 and 128,000 salmon, respectively, were caught incidentally in the BSAI groundfish trawl fisheries. Another 18,500 and 30,000 salmon, respectively, were taken in the GOA trawl fisheries.

4. *The potential number of vessels and processors participating in the groundfish trawl fisheries.* In 1997, about 8 shoreside processors, 59 trawl catcher/processors, 3 motherships, and 113 trawl catcher vessels participated in the BSAI groundfish trawl fisheries. During the same year, about 18 shoreside processors, 29 trawl catcher/processors, and 174 trawl catcher vessels participated in the GOA groundfish trawl fisheries.

This PSD permit is in effect for a 3-year period from the publication date of this notice unless suspended or revoked. It may not be transferred; however it may be renewed following the application procedures in § 679.26.

If the authorized distributor modifies any information on the PSD permit application submitted under § 679.26(b)(1)(xi) or (b)(1)(xiii), the authorized distributor must submit a modified list of participants or a modified list of delivery locations to the Regional Administrator.

This permit may be suspended, modified, or revoked under 15 CFR part 904 for noncompliance with terms and conditions specified in the permit or for a violation of this section or other regulations in 50 CFR part 679.

#### Classification

This action is taken under 50 CFR 679.26.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 773 *et seq.*, 1408 *et seq.*, and 3631 *et seq.*

Dated: August 9, 1999.

**Bruce C. Morehead,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 080499C]

### Advisory Panels on Billfish and Highly Migratory Species Fisheries

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent; request for nominations.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS solicits nominations for the Billfish and Highly Migratory Species (HMS) advisory panels (APs). The purpose of the APs is to assist NMFS in the collection and evaluation of information relevant to the development of management plans, plan amendments, and regulatory amendments for Atlantic billfish and for Atlantic tunas, swordfish, and sharks. The APs include representatives from all interests in HMS fisheries.

**DATES:** Nominations must be submitted on or before September 13, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Nominations should be submitted by mail to Rebecca Lent, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD, 20910, or by fax: 301-713-1917.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jill Stevenson or Alicon Morgan at (301) 713-2347.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, (Magnuson-Stevens Act), 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act, Public Law 104-297, two Advisory Panels (APs) were established in 1997 to consult with NMFS in the collection and evaluation of information relevant to the development of fishery management plans (FMPs), FMP amendments, and regulatory amendments under the framework provisions for Atlantic billfish and Atlantic tunas, swordfish and sharks. Members of these two APs were selected to serve for approximately 2 years. The HMS AP Statement of Organization, Practices and Procedures (SOPPs) call for half of the AP members to be replaced after 2 years, with the other half being replaced 6 months later. This staggered renewal process was designed to allow for a more gradual adjustment as the AP members are replaced. The HMS AP SOPPs further state that, of the 22 non-federal members of the AP, 8 are representatives of the commercial fisheries for Atlantic HMS, 7 are representatives of the recreational fisheries for Atlantic HMS, 6 are from the academic and environmental community active in the conservation and management of Atlantic HMS, and 1 is from the U.S. Advisory Committee to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). The Billfish AP SOPPs indicate that the membership term for all members of the

Billfish AP expired June 1, 1999. Of the 7 non-federal voting members of the Billfish AP, 4 are representatives of the recreational fisheries for Atlantic HMS, 1 is a representative of commercial fisheries for whom billfish are incidental catch or bycatch, 1 is a representative of the environmental organizations active in the conservation and management of Atlantic billfish, and 1 is a representative of the academic community.

Five additional members of the HMS AP include one representative each of the New England Fishery Management Council, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, and the Caribbean Fishery Management Council. The HMS AP also includes 22 *ex-officio* participants: 20 representatives of the constituent states and 2 representatives of the constituent interstate commissions: the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

Five additional voting members of the Billfish AP include one representative each of the New England Fishery Management Council, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, and the Caribbean Fishery Management Council. The Billfish AP also includes 23 non-voting members: 20 representatives of the constituent states, 2 representatives of the constituent interstate commissions; the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission; and the chair, or his or her designee, of the U.S. Advisory Committee to ICCAT.

In order to determine which HMS AP members are to be replaced within 2 years and which within 2 1/2 years, NMFS selected every odd-numbered member from an alphabetically ordered list of the original appointees. Nevertheless, NMFS is soliciting nominations for replacing the entire membership of the AP at this time, with some new members to begin their 2-year term on October 11, 1999, and others on April 6, 2000. Selection of AP members will not be limited to those that are nominated.

The following HMS AP members' terms expire October 11, 1999: Recreational representatives - Joe McBride, Ray Bogan, Bob Eakes and Mark Sampson; Commercial representatives - Rich Ruais and Peter Weiss; and academic/environmental representatives: John Dean, Sonja

Fordham, Bob Hueter and John Wingard.

The following HMS AP members' terms expire April 6, 2000: Recreational representatives - Jim Donofrio, Ellen Peel and Bob Zales; Commercial representatives - Nelson Beideman, Russell Hudson, Robert Fitzpatrick, Gail Johnson and Bob Spaeth; academic/environmental representatives - Carl Safina and David Wilmot; and ICCAT representative - John Graves.

All Billfish AP members' terms expired June 1, 1999. NMFS is soliciting nominations for replacing the entire membership of the Billfish AP.

The purpose of the APs is to assist NMFS in the development of FMPs, FMP amendments, and regulatory amendments under the FMP framework provisions for Atlantic billfish and Atlantic tunas, swordfish and sharks. The APs assist NMFS in meeting the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act throughout the FMP development process.

#### Procedures and Guidelines

##### *Procedures for Selecting Advisory Panel Members*

Individuals with definable interests in the recreational and commercial fishing and related industries, environmental community, academia, governmental and quasi-governmental entities will be considered as members of the AP. Selection of AP members will not be limited to those nominated.

Nominations may include current members of the billfish or HMS APs.

Nominations are invited from all individuals and constituent groups. The nomination should include:

1. Indication of whether the nomination is for the billfish AP, HMS AP, or both APs;
2. The name of the applicant or nominee and a description of his or her interest in or connection with billfish (for billfish AP) or with one species in particular from among billfish, sharks, swordfish, and tunas (for HMS AP);
3. A statement of background and/or qualifications; and
4. A written commitment that the applicant or nominee shall actively participate in good faith in the tasks of the AP.

##### *Participants*

Nominations will be accepted to allow representation from recreational and commercial fishing interests, the conservation community, and the scientific community. NMFS does not believe that each potentially affected organization or individual must necessarily have its own representative, but each interest must be adequately represented. The intent is to have a

group that, as a whole, reflects an appropriate balance and mix of interests, given the responsibilities of the AP. Criteria for membership include one or more of the following:

1. Experience in the recreational fishing industry involved in catching swordfish, tunas, or sharks;
2. Experience in the commercial fishing industry for HMS;
3. Experience in connected industries (marinas, bait and tackle shops);
4. Experience in the scientific community working with HMS; and
5. Former or current representative of a private, regional, state, national, or international organization representing marine fisheries interests dealing with HMS.

NMFS will provide the necessary administrative support, including technical assistance, for the AP. However, NMFS will be unable to compensate participants with monetary support for their labor, as no funds were appropriated to support this activity in fiscal year 1999. Funding for travel costs of AP members is not always available; therefore, AP members may be expected to pay for travel costs related to the AP.

##### *Tentative Schedule*

Meetings of the AP will be held twice yearly or more frequently as necessary; the APs will meet jointly every year, in January or in February to review the Annual SAFE Report and to consider future management actions. Upcoming activities include consideration of regulatory amendments under the framework provisions, particularly measures to address bycatch.

Dated: August 10, 1999.

**Gary C. Matlock,**

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

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#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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

[I.D. 052599B]

##### **ICCAT Advisory Committee; Public Meetings; correction**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting; Correction

**SUMMARY:** In a previous **Federal Register** notice, incorrect dates were given for the fall meeting of the Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section to the

International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). This document provides corrected dates for the meeting.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David Kerstetter at 301-713-2337 or Kimberly Blankenbaker at 301-713-2276.

##### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Correction**

In the June 7, 1999, issue of the **Federal Register**, on page 30321, in the second column, the first sentence of the seventh paragraph under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**, the dates should be corrected to read "October 24-26, 1999."

Dated: August 10, 1999.

**Bruce C. Morehead,**

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

[FR Doc. 99-21095 Filed 8-13-99; 8:45 am]

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#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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

[I.D. 081099C]

##### **North 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 North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) has scheduled meetings during the month of September 1999.

**DATES:** See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times of meetings.

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

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Council staff, phone: 907-271-2809.

##### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

1. The Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee will meet by teleconference on Wednesday September 1, 1999 to review the revised analysis of a proposed split of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Pacific cod fixed gear quota between longline and pot gears, and to further discuss