

may lose DAS during the 2001/2002 fishing year; (b) added the possibility of permit holders participating in approved alternatives to research, some of which may be less costly for the permit holder than providing a vessel for research; and (c) clarified that if a person wishes to receive compensation for only some of the DAS for which he or she is eligible, then NMFS will compensate unused 1998/1999 DAS first, and will subtract 1999/2000 DAS only if all the eligible DAS from last fishing year are used up. This provision allows a fisherman to receive compensation for DAS which have expired, but to choose to fish with this year's DAS instead of receiving \$1500 per DAS compensation.

E.O. 12866

This program has been determined to be significant for the purposes of E.O. 12866.

PRA

This program contains a collection-of-information requirement subject to the PRA. The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated at 1.5 hours per response, to submit a form indicating willingness to participate in the program. This estimate includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Comments were requested on this estimate when the proposed program was published in the **Federal Register**. NMFS received no comments on this estimate.

The collection of this information has been approved by OMB under control number 0648-0386.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the PRA unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Federal Policies and Procedures

Recipients of Federal assistance (permit holders and crew members who receive compensation through this program) are subject to all Federal laws and Federal and Department of Commerce (Commerce) policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance awards and must comply with general provisions that apply to all recipients under Commerce Federal assistance programs.

False Statements

A false statement on the application or any document submitted for consideration of financial assistance is grounds for denial or termination of funds and grounds for possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment (18 U.S.C. 1001).

Delinquent Federal Debts

No award of Federal funds shall be made if the would-be recipient has an outstanding delinquent Federal debt or fine until: (a) The delinquent account is paid in full; (b) a negotiated repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received; or (c) other arrangements satisfactory to Commerce are made.

IRS Information

An applicant classified for tax purposes as an individual, partnership, proprietorship, corporation, or medical corporation is required to submit a taxpayer identification number (TIN) (a social security number, or an employer identification number as applicable, or a registered foreign organization number) on IRS Form W-9, "Payer's Request for Taxpayer Identification Number." Tax-exempt organizations and corporations (with the exception of medical corporations) are excluded from this requirement. Form W-9 shall be submitted to NOAA upon application for assistance. The TIN will be provided to the IRS by Commerce on Form 1099-G, "Statement for Recipients of Certain Government Payments."

Disclosure of a recipient's TIN is mandatory for Federal income tax reporting purposes under the authority of 26 U.S.C., sections 6011 and 6109(d), and 26 CFR, 301.6109-1. This is to ensure the accuracy of income computation by the IRS. This information will be used to identify an individual who is compensated with Commerce funds or paid interest under the Prompt Payment Act.

Name Check

Recipients will be subject to a name check review process. Name checks are intended to reveal if they or any key individuals associated with an application for award have been convicted of, or are presently facing, criminal charges, such as fraud, theft, perjury, or other matters that significantly reflect on their management, honesty, or financial integrity. In the name check process, Commerce performs a credit check on businesses and individuals. A criminal background check on an individual's name is performed by the Federal

Bureau of Investigation. There is no charge to recipients for the name check.

Audits

Under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. 3, section 1 *et seq.*, an audit of the award of assistance may be conducted at any time. The Inspector General of Commerce, or any of his or her duly authorized representatives, shall have access to any pertinent books, documents, papers and records of the recipient, whether written, printed, recorded, produced or reproduced by any mechanical, magnetic or other process or medium, in order to make audits, inspections, excerpts, transcripts or other examinations as authorized by law. When the OIG requires an audit on a Commerce award, the OIG will usually make the arrangements to audit the award, whether the audit is performed by OIG personnel, an independent accountant under contract with Commerce, or any other Federal, state, or local audit entity.

Government-Wide Debarment and Suspension

Applicants must submit a completed Form CD-511, "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements and Lobbying." Prospective participants (as defined at 15 CFR 26.105) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, "Government-wide debarment and suspension (non-procurement) and government-wide requirements for drug-free workplace (grants)" and the related section of the certification form prescribed here applies.

Dated: August 26, 1999.

Gary C. Matlock,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 99-23221 Filed 9-3-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 082699D]

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will

convene a public meeting of the Reef Fish Stock Assessment Panel (RFSAP).

DATES: This meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, September 20, and conclude by 3:00 p.m. on Friday, September 24, 1999.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, FL.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Atran, Population Dynamics Statistician; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The RFSAP will convene to review stock assessments on the status of the red snapper stock and the red grouper stock in the Gulf of Mexico prepared by NMFS. The RFSAP will also evaluate new information on gag biology that had been presented to the Council during its development of the revised Regulatory Amendment to Set 1999 Gag/Black Grouper Management Measures. This new information includes reports prepared by Dr. Chris Koenig (Florida State University, Dr. Robert Chapman (South Carolina Department of Natural Resources) and other academic and state scientists, plus an evaluation and response to the analyses prepared for Southeastern Fisheries Association by Dr. Trevor Kenchington (Gadus Associates) and other independent scientists retained by Dr. Kenchington.

Based on its review of the red snapper and red grouper stock assessments, the RFSAP may recommend a range of allowable biological catch (ABC) for 2000, and may recommend management measures to achieve the ABC. In addition, the RFSAP will review the adequacy of recent biological information presented to the Council on gag that was used by the Council in its recent management decisions.

The RFSAP is composed of biologists who are trained in the specialized field of population dynamics. They advise the Council on the status of stocks and, when necessary, recommend a level of ABC needed to prevent overfishing or to effect a recovery of an overfished stock. They may also recommend catch restrictions needed to attain management goals.

The conclusions of the RFSAP will be reviewed by the Council's Standing and Special Reef Fish Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), Red Snapper Advisory Panel (RSAP), and Reef Fish Advisory Panel (RFAP) at meetings to be held in late October, 1999. Red grouper is a component of the

shallow-water grouper complex (which consists of red grouper, gag, yellowfin grouper, black grouper, scamp, yellowmouth grouper, rock hind, and red hind). The Council may set a year 2000 total allowable catch (TAC) for the red grouper component of the shallow-water grouper complex and red snapper. The Council may also consider other management measures at its meeting in Lake Buena Vista, FL on November 8-11, 1999.

Although other issues not on the agenda may come before the Panel for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed as available by this notice.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) by September 13, 1999.

Dated: August 31, 1999.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 99-23223 Filed 9-3-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 083199C]

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Herring Advisory Panel in September, 1999. Recommendations from the advisors will be brought to the Herring Oversight Committee and full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate. This will be a joint meeting with the Herring Industry Advisory Panel of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

DATES: The meeting will held on Friday, September 17, 1999 at 9:30 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Sheraton South Portland Hotel, 363

Maine Mall Road, South Portland, ME 04106, telephone: (207) 775-6161.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 5 Broadway, Saugus, MA 01906-1036

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council (781) 231-0422.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The advisors will elect a chair and vice-chair. They will also discuss various options for developing a controlled access program for the Atlantic herring fishery. The advisors may discuss other herring management issues, including spawning area closures and gear interactions.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is 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 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: August 31, 1999.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 99-23224 Filed 9-3-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 082599D]

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 Council (Council) will hold a meeting of its Coral Reef Ecosystem Plan Team (Plan Team) and its Ecosystem and Habitat Advisory Panel (Advisory Panel) in Honolulu, HI. The meeting will also include a public hearing on the management alternatives being considered for implementation in the