

previously mentioned mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are incorporated.

Dated: April 13, 2007.

**James H. Lecky,**

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041207E]

#### Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene a meeting of its Ecosystem Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) in St. Petersburg, FL.

**DATES:** The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, May 8, 2007 and conclude by 3 p.m. on Thursday, May 10, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Florida Fish & Wildlife Research Institute, 100 8th Avenue, SE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

*Council address:* Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steven Atran, Population Dynamics Statistician, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene its Ecosystem Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), along with other invited ecosystem modeling experts, in St. Petersburg, FL, to conduct a three day workshop to demonstrate the feasibility of using ecosystem modeling as a tool to address fishery management issues. While there are numerous fishery related issues that could potentially be addressed through an ecosystem modeling approach, the SSC identified three primary issues to be the focus of the workshop: (1) Red snapper-shrimp interactions; (2) multi-species (MPA) effects on snapper-grouper; and (3) Gulf of Mexico hypoxic area from drainage from the Mississippi River effects on demersal and pelagic ecosystems. Other

issues identified by the Ecosystem SSC as that could also be selected for evaluation at the workshop, include: (4) the role menhaden as a forage base in the Gulf; (5) impacts of red tide on Gulf of Mexico ecosystem; and (6) impacts of artificial reefs on Gulf of Mexico ecosystem.

Utilizing a preliminary ecosystem model recently developed for the Gulf of Mexico, the workshop will address as many of the issues identified above as is practicable within the time and data constraints of the workshop. Additional issues may also be addressed if time and available data permit. The workshop participants will work with Council staff subsequent to the workshop to develop final reports to the Gulf Council, and a presentation of the results of the workshop will be given to the Gulf Council at one of the Council's regularly scheduled meetings.

Copies of the agenda and other related materials can be obtained by calling (813) 348-1630.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agendas may come before the SSC for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions of the SSC will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agendas and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under Section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take 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 Tina Trezza at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 working days prior to the meeting.

Dated: April 16, 2007.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041207F]

#### Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council); Public Meetings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Council Coordination Committee (CCC) will convene public meeting consisting of representatives of all eight Regional Fishery Management Councils as well as attendees from the National Marine Fisheries Service.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held May 8 - 11, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the W Hotel, 333 Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA 70130.

*Council address:* Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Wayne E. Swingle, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The CCC will convene a public meeting consisting of representatives of all eight Regional Fishery Management Councils as well as attendees from the National Marine Fisheries Service. The meeting is being hosted/coordinated by the Gulf Council (see **ADDRESSES**).

#### Tuesday, May 8, 2007

*10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.* - a meeting of the eight regional fishery management Councils' Administrative Officers (AOs) will be held. The AOs will discuss issues relating to the Councils' Standard Operating Practices and Procedures (SOPPs), NOAA grant requirements, record keeping requirements and options, review and updates of various legal opinions, insurance and liability issues, and other general topics related specifically to the fishery management Councils. Also, the Councils and NMFS will separately review and discuss the following agenda items so that the CCC can come to a consensus on a position and the necessary future action needed.

#### Wednesday, May 9, 2007

*8 a.m.* - the CCC Session will begin with an opening statement and adoption of the agenda;

*8:15 a.m.* - overview of actions needed by Councils and NMFS to comply with

the Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization Act (MSRA) provisions for the National Standard 1, the requirement for annual catch limits (ACL), accountability measures, rebuilding plans, and reduction of open access fisheries;

10 a.m. - overview of compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the MSRA;

11:15 a.m. - discussion of fiscal year (FY) 2007 and FY 2008 Council budgets; and

12 noon - the CCC will break to participate in a hands-on restoration work session to aid fishermen who were victims of Hurricane Katrina.

#### Thursday, May 11, 2007

8 a.m. - actions to implement Limited Access Privilege Programs (LAPPS); 9:30 am - actions to implement Council member training;

10:15 a.m. - actions needed to include provisions of MSRA into the Council's Standard Operating Practices and Procedures (SOPPs);

10:45 a.m. - applicability of Fair Labor Standards Act to NOAA observers;

11:15 a.m. - receive a briefing on court cases affecting the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act); the meeting will recess at noon. Friday, May 12, 2007

8 a.m. - U.S. Coast Guard enforcement/safety issues;

8:30 a.m. - items from the preceding Administrative Officer's meeting needing CCC concurrence or discussion;

9:30 a.m. - NOAA's actions under Recreational Data Survey and registry;

10:15 a.m. - update on regulatory streamlining process;

11 a.m. - other Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization Act (MSRA) timelines affecting Councils;

11:30 a.m. - planning session for the September MSRA Conference/ Workshop/CCC Meeting;

12 noon - scheduling the next CCC meeting;

12:30 p.m. - the meeting will adjourn.

A copy of the agenda and related meeting materials may be obtained by contacting Mr. Wayne Swingle at the Gulf Council (see **ADDRESSES**).

The established times for addressing items on the agenda may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the agenda items. In order to further allow for such adjustments and completion of all items on the agenda, the meeting may be extended from, or completed prior to the date established in this notice.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agendas may come before the CCC for discussion, in accordance with

the Magnuson-Stevens Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions of the CCC will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agendas and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under Section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take 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 Tina Trezza at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 working days prior to the meeting.

Dated: April 16, 2007.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. E7-7419 Filed 4-18-07; 8:45 am]

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#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

##### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041207D]

##### New England 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 New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Whiting Committee meeting, in May, 2007, to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Thursday, May 3, 2007 at 9:30 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, 31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA 02048; telephone: (508) 339-2200; fax: (508) 339-1040.

*Council address:* New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Committee will continue development of alternatives for consideration in an amendment to address the management of small mesh multispecies (silver hake, red hake, offshore hake). The committee will also discuss alternatives for limited access qualification criteria and possible approaches for addressing historical fishery participants as well as possible approaches for managing the catch of small mesh multispecies in non-directed fisheries. The committee will continue development of alternatives for specifying Optimum Yield (OY) and discuss alternatives for total allowable catches (TACs) and TAC-based management in the small mesh multispecies fishery. Other topics may be covered at the committee's discretion.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. 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 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 Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: April 16, 2007.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

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#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

##### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041207G]

##### Pacific 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 Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Coastal