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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to David Doyle, Chief Geodetic Surveyor, National Geodetic Survey (NNGS2), 1315 East-West Highway, #8815, Silver Spring, MD 20910; Phone: (301) 713-3178.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Ocean Service (NOS), National Geodetic Survey (NGS), has completed the definition and implementation of VIVD09. VIVD09 supersedes all previously published height systems determined by other Federal surveying and mapping agencies on St. Croix, St. John, and St. Thomas, with the exception of those specifically related to tidal datums and/or military applications. VIVD09 heights are the result of a mathematical least squares general adjustment of the vertical control portion of the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS) and are derived from approximately 105.85 km of Double-Run, 1 st-Order, Class II geodetic leveling observations (54.73 km on St. Croix, 29.10 km on St. John, and 22.02 km on St. Thomas) undertaken specifically for this project. The basis for all VIVD09 heights is Local Mean Sea Level, for the National Tidal Datum Epoch 1983–2001, as determined by the NOS Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS), and published for the National Water Level Observation Network (NWLON) bench marks numbered 975 1401 M (PID DK7165) (3.111 meters), located at Lime Tree Bay, St. Croix, 975 1381 TIDAL A (PID DL3636) (1.077 meters), located at Lameshur Bay, St. John, and 975 1639 F (PID DL3908) (1.552 meters), located at Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas.

VIVD09 height information for individual geodetic control monuments is available in digital form, from the NGS Web site: <http://www.ngs.noaa.gov/cgi-bin/datasheet.prl>.

Dated: November 21, 2011.

Juliana P. Blackwell,

Director, Office of National Geodetic Survey, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA831

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; North Pacific Halibut and Sablefish Individual Fishing Quota Cost Recovery Programs

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

ACTION: Notification of standard prices and fee percentage.

SUMMARY: NMFS publishes individual fishing quota (IFQ) standard prices and fee percentage for the IFQ cost recovery program in the halibut and sablefish fisheries of the North Pacific. The fee percentage for 2011 is 1.6%. This action is intended to provide holders of halibut and sablefish IFQ permits with the 2011 standard prices and fee percentage to calculate the required payment for IFQ cost recovery fees due by January 31, 2012.

DATES: Effective December 12, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Troie Zuniga, Fee Coordinator, (907) 586-7231.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

NMFS Alaska Region administers the halibut and sablefish individual fishing quota (IFQ) programs in the North Pacific. The IFQ programs are limited access systems authorized by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) and the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982. Fishing under the IFQ programs began in March 1995. Regulations implementing the IFQ program are set forth at 50 CFR part 679.

In 1996, the Magnuson-Stevens Act was amended to, among other things, require the Secretary of Commerce to “collect a fee to recover the actual costs directly related to the management and enforcement of any * * * individual quota program.” This requirement was further amended in 2006 to include collection of the actual costs of data collection, and to replace the reference to “individual quota program” with a more general reference to “limited access privilege program” at section 304(d)(2)(A). This section of the Magnuson-Stevens Act also specifies an upper limit on these fees, when the fees must be collected, and where the fees must be deposited.

On March 20, 2000, NMFS published regulations implementing the IFQ cost recovery program (65 FR 14919), which are set forth at § 679.45. Under the regulations, an IFQ permit holder incurs a cost recovery fee liability for every pound of IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish that is landed on his or her IFQ permit(s). The IFQ permit holder is responsible for self-collecting the fee liability for all IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish landings on his or her permit(s). The IFQ permit holder is also responsible for submitting a fee liability payment to NMFS on or before the due date of January 31 of the year following the year in which the IFQ landings were made. The dollar amount of the fee due is determined by multiplying the annual IFQ fee percentage (3 percent or less) by the ex-vessel value of all IFQ landings made on a permit and summing the totals of each permit (if more than one).

Standard Prices

The fee liability is based on the sum of all payments made to fishermen for the sale of the fish during the year. This includes any retro-payments (e.g., bonuses, delayed partial payments, post-season payments) made to the IFQ permit holder for previously landed IFQ halibut or sablefish.

For purposes of calculating IFQ cost recovery fees, NMFS distinguishes between two types of ex-vessel value: Actual and standard. Actual ex-vessel value is the amount of all compensation, monetary or non-monetary, that an IFQ permit holder received as payment for his or her IFQ fish sold. Standard ex-vessel value is the default value on which to base fee liability calculations. IFQ permit holders have the option of using actual ex-vessel value if they can satisfactorily document it; otherwise, the standard ex-vessel value is used.

Regulations at § 679.45(c)(2)(i) require the Regional Administrator to publish IFQ standard prices during the last quarter of each calendar year. These standard prices are used, along with estimates of IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish landings, to calculate standard values. The standard prices are described in U.S. dollars per IFQ equivalent pound for IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish landings made during the year. IFQ equivalent pound(s) is the weight (in pounds) for an IFQ landing, calculated as the round weight for sablefish, and headed and gutted net weight for halibut. NMFS calculates the standard prices to closely reflect the variations in the actual ex-vessel values of IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish landings by month and port or port-group. The standard prices for IFQ halibut and IFQ sablefish are listed in

the tables that follow the next section. Data from ports are combined as necessary to protect confidentiality.

Fee Percentage

Section 304(d)(2)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act specifies a maximum fee of 3 percent of the ex-vessel value of fish harvested under an IFQ Program. NMFS annually sets a fee percentage for sablefish and halibut IFQ holders that is

based on the actual annual costs associated with certain management and enforcement functions, as well as the standard ex-vessel value of the catch subject to the IFQ fee for the current year. The method used by NMFS to calculate the IFQ fee percentage is described at § 679.45(d)(2)(ii).

Regulations at § 679.45(d)(3)(i) require NMFS to publish the IFQ fee percentage for the halibut and sablefish IFQ

fisheries in the **Federal Register** during or before the last quarter of each year. For the 2011 sablefish and halibut IFQ fishing season, an IFQ permit holder is to use a fee liability percentage of 1.6% to calculate his or her fee for landed IFQ in pounds. The IFQ permit holder is responsible for submitting the fee liability payment to NMFS on or before January 31, 2012.

REGISTERED BUYER STANDARD EX-VESSEL PRICES BY LANDING LOCATION FOR 2011 IFQ SEASON

Landing location	Period ending	Halibut standard ex-vessel price	Sablefish standard ex-vessel price
CORDOVA	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31 .....	.....	.....
	April 30 .....	.....	.....
	May 31	\$6.44	.....
	June 30 .....	.....	.....
	July 31 .....	.....	.....
	August 31	7.04	.....
	September 30 .....	.....	.....
	October 31 .....	.....	.....
	November 30 .....	.....	.....
DUTCH HARBOR	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31 .....	.....	.....
	April 30	5.86	4.60
	May 31	6.32	4.43
	June 30	6.46	5.71
	July 31	6.28	5.46
	August 31	6.59	5.84
	September 30	6.73	5.52
	October 31	6.73	5.52
	November 30	6.73	5.52
HOMER	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31	6.36	6.56
	April 30	6.42	.....
	May 31	6.27	5.24
	June 30	6.44	5.49
	July 31	6.70	.....
	August 31	6.85	5.10
	September 30	6.77	6.42
	October 31	6.77	6.42
	November 30	6.77	6.42

REGISTERED BUYER STANDARD EX-VESSEL PRICES BY LANDING LOCATION FOR 2011 IFQ SEASON—Continued

Landing location	Period ending	Halibut standard ex-vessel price	Sablefish standard ex-vessel price
KETCHIKAN	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31 .....	.....	.....
	April 30 .....	.....	.....
	May 31 .....	.....	.....
	June 30 .....	.....	.....
	July 31	6.83	.....
	August 31	6.94	.....
	September 30 .....	.....	.....
	October 31 .....	.....	.....
	November 30 .....	.....	.....

KODIAK	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31	5.99	5.28
	April 30	6.06	4.60
	May 31	6.32	4.93
	June 30	6.48	5.07
	July 31	6.66	5.26
	August 31	6.77	5.16
	September 30	6.77	5.69
	October 31	6.77	5.69
	November 30	6.77	5.69

PETERSBURG	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31	6.67	.....
	April 30	6.46	.....
	May 31	6.60	.....
	June 30	6.80	.....
	July 31	6.97	.....
	August 31	7.05	.....
	September 30	7.14	.....
	October 31	7.14	.....
	November 30	7.14	.....

SEWARD	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31 .....	.....	.....
	April 30 .....	.....	.....
	May 31 .....	.....	.....
	June 30 .....	.....	.....
	July 31 .....	.....	.....

REGISTERED BUYER STANDARD EX-VESSEL PRICES BY LANDING LOCATION FOR 2011 IFQ SEASON—Continued

Landing location	Period ending	Halibut standard ex-vessel price	Sablefish standard ex-vessel price
	August 31 .....	.....	.....
	September 30 .....	.....	.....
	October 31 .....	.....	.....
	November 30 .....	.....	.....
SITKA	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31 .....	.....	.....
	April 30 .....	.....	.....
	May 31 .....	.....	.....
	June 30 .....	.....	.....
	July 31 .....	.....	.....
	August 31 .....	.....	.....
	September 30 .....	.....	.....
	October 31 .....	.....	.....
	November 30 .....	.....	.....
	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31 .....	.....	.....
YAKUTAT	April 30 .....	.....	.....
	May 31 .....	.....	.....
	June 30 .....	.....	.....
	July 31 .....	.....	.....
	August 31 .....	.....	.....
	September 30 .....	.....	.....
	October 31 .....	.....	.....
	November 30 .....	.....	.....
	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31 .....	.....	.....
	April 30 .....	.....	.....
	May 31 .....	.....	.....
BERING SEA ¹	June 30 .....	.....	.....
	July 31 .....	.....	.....
	August 31 .....	.....	.....
	September 30 .....	.....	.....
	October 31 .....	.....	.....
	November 30 .....	.....	.....
	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31 .....	.....	.....
	April 30	5.92	5.62
	May 31	6.32	4.84
	June 30	6.40	5.26
	July 31	6.42	5.20
CENTRAL GULF ²	August 31	6.59	4.87
	September 30	6.69	5.54
	October 31	6.69	5.54
	November 30	6.69	5.54
	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31	6.32	5.03

REGISTERED BUYER STANDARD EX-VESSEL PRICES BY LANDING LOCATION FOR 2011 IFQ SEASON—Continued

Landing location	Period ending	Halibut standard ex-vessel price	Sablefish standard ex-vessel price
	April 30	6.28	4.95
	May 31	6.34	4.90
	June 30	6.48	5.15
	July 31	6.68	5.22
	August 31	6.82	5.11
	September 30	6.87	5.93
	October 31	6.87	5.93
	November 30	6.87	5.93
SOUTHEAST ³	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31	6.55	4.59
	April 30	6.48	4.81
	May 31	6.61	5.23
	June 30	6.63	5.19
	July 31	6.75	5.51
	August 31	6.94	5.43
	September 30	6.99	5.71
	October 31	6.99	5.71
	November 30	6.99	5.71
ALL ⁴	February 28 .....	.....	.....
	March 31	6.37	4.73
	April 30	6.33	4.91
	May 31	6.39	5.00
	June 30	6.49	5.18
	July 31	6.61	5.23
	August 31	6.75	5.11
	September 30	6.84	5.72
	October 31	6.84	5.72
	November 30	6.84	5.72

¹ Landing locations Within Port Group—Bering Sea: Adak, Akutan, Akutan Bay, Atka, Bristol Bay, Chefnak, Dillingham, Captains Bay, Dutch Harbor, Egegik, Ikatan Bay, Hooper Bay, King Cove, King Salmon, Kipnuk, Mekoryuk, Naknek, Nome, Quinhagak, Savoonga, St. George, St. Lawrence, St. Paul, Togiak, Toksook Bay, Tununak, Beaver Inlet, Ugadaga Bay, Unalaska.

² Landing Locations Within Port Group—Central Gulf of Alaska: Anchor Point, Anchorage, Alitak, Chignik, Cordova, Eagle River, False Pass, West Anchor Cove, Girdwood, Chinitna Bay, Halibut Cove, Homer, Kasilof, Kenai, Kenai River, Alitak, Kodiak, Port Bailey, Nikiski, Niniichik, Old Harbor, Palmer, Sand Point, Seldovia, Resurrection Bay, Seward, Valdez, Whittier.

³ Landing Locations Within Port Group—Southeast Alaska: Angoon, Baranof Warm Springs, Craig, Edna Bay, Elfin Cove, Excursion Inlet, Gustavus, Haines, Hollis, Hoonah, Hyder, Auke Bay, Douglas, Tee Harbor, Juneau, Kake, Ketchikan, Klawock, Metlakatla, Pelican, Petersburg, Portage Bay, Port Alexander, Port Graham, Port Protection, Point Baker, Sitka, Skagway, Tenakee Springs, Thorne Bay, Wrangell, Yakutat.

⁴ Landing Locations Within Port Group—All: For Alaska: All landing locations included in 1, 2, and 3. For California: Eureka, Fort Bragg, Other California. For Oregon: Astoria, Aurora, Lincoln City, Newport, Warrenton, Other Oregon. For Washington: Anacortes, Bellevue, Bellingham, Nagai Island, Edmonds, Everett, Granite Falls, Ilwaco, La Conner, Port Angeles, Port Orchard, Port Townsend, Ranier, Fox Island, Mercer Island, Seattle, Standwood, Other Washington. For Canada: Port Hardy, Port Edward, Prince Rupert, Vancouver, Haines Junction, Other Canada.

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

Dated: December 5, 2011.

Steven Thur,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA838

Hawaii Crustacean Fisheries; 2012 Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Lobster Harvest Guideline

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

ACTION: Notification of lobster harvest guideline.

SUMMARY: NMFS establishes the annual harvest guideline for the commercial lobster fishery in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) for calendar year 2012 at zero lobsters.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jarad Makaiau, NMFS Pacific Islands Region, (808) 944-2108.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NWHI commercial lobster fishery is managed under the Fishery Ecosystem Plan for the Hawaiian Archipelago. The regulations at 50 CFR 665.252(b) require NMFS to publish an annual harvest guideline for lobster Permit Area 1, comprised of Federal waters around the NWHI. Regulations governing the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument in the NWHI prohibit the unpermitted removal of monument resources (50 CFR 404.7), and establish a zero annual harvest guideline for lobsters (50 CFR 404.10(a)). Accordingly, NMFS establishes the harvest guideline for the NWHI commercial lobster fishery for calendar year 2012 at zero lobsters. Thus, no harvest of NWHI lobster resources is allowed.

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

Dated: December 7, 2011.

Steven Thur,

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

[FR Doc. 2011-31809 Filed 12-9-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA862

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Scallop Oversight Committee, in January, 2012, 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, January 19, 2012 at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hotel Providence, 139 Mathewson Street, Providence, RI 02903; *telephone:* (401) 861-8000; *fax:* (401) 861-8002.

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 Scallop Committee will begin development of Framework 24 (fishery specifications for fishing years 2013 and 2014). This action will also include several additional measures identified by the Council in priority order; possible modification of George's Bank access area opening dates; consider measures to address sub-ACL of yellowtail flounder for the LAGC trawl fishery and leasing LAGC IFQ mid-year. The Committee will also review results from several scallop resource surveys conducted with Research Set-Aside funds in 2011 and have a presentation on potential plan for future Federal scallop survey conducted by NMFS. The Committee may discuss other business at this meeting.

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

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

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: December 7, 2011.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2011-31784 Filed 12-9-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA843

Schedules for Atlantic Shark Identification Workshops and Protected Species Safe Handling, Release, and Identification Workshops

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

ACTION: Notice of public workshops.

SUMMARY: Free Atlantic Shark Identification Workshops and Protected Species Safe Handling, Release, and Identification Workshops will be held in January, February, and March of 2012. Certain fishermen and shark dealers are required to attend a workshop to meet regulatory requirements and maintain valid permits. Specifically, the Atlantic Shark Identification Workshop is mandatory for all federally permitted Atlantic shark dealers. The Protected Species Safe Handling, Release, and Identification Workshop is mandatory for vessel owners and operators who use bottom longline, pelagic longline, or gillnet gear, and who have also been issued shark or swordfish limited access permits. Additional free workshops will be conducted during 2012.

DATES: The Atlantic Shark Identification Workshops will be held January 12, February 23, and March 22, 2012.

The Protected Species Safe Handling, Release, and Identification Workshops will be held on January 11, January 25, February 8, February 22, March 14, and March 21, 2012.