

addition to being a subjective score, the critical need score is also relative in the sense that each application is scored in comparison to other applications in the competition. These various factors explain why a similar application may receive a different critical need score in different years of this program.

VI. Award Administration Information

A. Award Notices

The Agency generally notifies applicants whose projects are selected for awards by faxing an award letter. The Agency follows the award letter with a grant agreement that contains all the terms and conditions for the grant. A copy of the standard agreement is posted on the RUS Web site at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/UTP_DTVResources.html.

An applicant must execute and return the grant agreement, accompanied by any additional items required by the grant agreement.

B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

The items listed in the program regulation at 7 CFR 1740.9(j) implement the appropriate administrative and national policy requirements.

C. Reporting

1. All recipients of Public Television Station Digital Transition Grant Program financial assistance must provide semiannual performance activity reports to RUS until the project is complete and the funds are expended. A final performance report is also required; the final report may serve as the last semiannual report. The final report must include an evaluation of the success of the project.

2. Recipient and Subrecipient Reporting

The applicant must have the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with the reporting requirements for first-tier sub-awards and executive compensation under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 in the event the applicant receives funding unless such applicant is exempt from such reporting requirements pursuant to 2 CFR part 170, § 170.110(b). The reporting requirements under the Transparency Act pursuant to 2 CFR part 170 are as follows:

a. First Tier Sub-Awards of \$25,000 or more in non-Recovery Act funds (unless they are exempt under 2 CFR part 170) must be reported by the Recipient to <http://www.fsrs.gov> no later than the end of the month following the month the obligation was made.

b. The Total Compensation of the Recipient's Executives (5 most highly compensated executives) must be reported by the Recipient (if the Recipient meets the criteria under 2 CFR part 170) to <http://www.ccr.gov> by the end of the month following the month in which the award was made.

c. The Total Compensation of the Subrecipient's Executives (5 most highly compensated executives) must be reported by the Subrecipient (if the Subrecipient meets the criteria under 2 CFR part 170) to the Recipient by the end of the month following the month in which the sub-award was made.

3. Systems Necessary To Meet Reporting Requirements

The applicant must have the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with the reporting requirements for first-tier sub-awards and executive compensation under the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 in the event the applicant receives funding unless such applicant is exempt from such reporting requirements pursuant to 2 CFR part 170, 170.110(b).

VII. Agency Contacts

A. Web site: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/>. The Web site maintains up-to-date resources and contact information for the Public Television Station Digital Transition Grant Program.

B. Phone: 202-690-4493.

C. Fax: 202-720-1051.

D. Main points of contact: Petra Schultze, Financial Analyst, Advanced Services Division, Telecommunications Program, RUS, telephone: 202-690-4493, fax: 202-720-1051, or email: petra.schultze@wdc.usda.gov. Additional point of contact at the same telephone number, or email: norberto.esteves@wdc.usda.gov: Norberto Esteves, Acting Director, Advanced Services Division.

Dated: April 12, 2012.

Jonathan Adelstein,

Administrator, Rural Utilities Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XC027

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) and its advisory committees will hold public meetings, June 4–12, 2012 in Kodiak, AK.

DATES: The meetings will be held Monday, June 4, 2012 through Tuesday, June 12, 2012. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times of the meetings.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Kodiak Harbor Convention Center, 236 Rezanof Drive, Kodiak, AK.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David Witherell, Council staff; telephone: (907) 271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, June 6 continuing through Tuesday, June 12, 2012. Council's Advisory Panel (AP) will begin at 8 a.m., Monday, June 4 and continue through Friday, June 8 at the Elks Club, 102 Marine Way. The Scientific Statistical Committee (SSC) will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, June 4 and continue through Wednesday, June 6 at the Kodiak Inn, Harbor Room. The Enforcement Committee will meet Tuesday, June 5, from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., meeting room to be announced. All meetings are open to the public, except executive sessions.

Council Plenary Session: The agenda for the Council's plenary session will include the following issues. The Council may take appropriate action on any of the issues identified.

Reports

1. Executive Director's Report

NMFS Management Report (including Observer Program update)

Alaska Department of Fish & Game Report

NOAA Enforcement Report

United States Coast Guard Report

United States Fish & Wildlife Service Report

Protected Species Report Alaska Oceans Observing System (AOOS)

2. Halibut Bycatch

Review Halibut Workshop Report; Final action on Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Halibut Prohibited Species Catch (PSC); Discussion paper on GOA comprehensive halibut bycatch amendments; Discussion paper on

Bering Sea Aleutian Island (BSAI) halibut PSC limit (T).

3. *Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)*

Initial review of Bering Sea Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC) skate egg sites.

4. *BSAI Crab Rebuilding*

Crab Plan Team report on Set catch Specifications for 4 stocks; Final action on Pribilof Bristol Bay Red King Crab rebuilding plan.

5. *Freezer Longline (FLL) Issues*

Discussion paper on revising FLL GOA cod sideboards (T); Initial review of FLL Vessel replacement.

6. *Groundfish Issues*

Discussion paper on limiting other gear on jig vessels; Discussion paper on BSAI Greenland turbot allocation; Discussion paper on BSAI Flatfish specification flexibility (T); Discussion paper on Grenadiers; Review and approve a 5-Year Research Priorities; Review comments & reports on Programmatic Supplemental Impact Statement (PSEIS); action as necessary; review Pacific cod assessment models (SSC only); Receive report of the Recruitment Workshop (SSC only).

7. *Staff Tasking*

Review Committees and tasking.

8. *Other Business*

The SSC agenda will include the following issues:

1. EFH
2. BSAI Crab Rebuilding
3. FFL Vessel replacement
4. 5-year Research Priorities

The Advisory Panel will address most of the same agenda issues as the Council except B reports. The Agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted at <http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/>.

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 these meetings. 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

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities.

Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Gail Bendixen at (907) 271-2809 at least 7 working days prior to the meetings.

Dated: May 15, 2012.

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

RIN 0648-XC028

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 the Standing, Special Shrimp and Special Reef Fish Scientific and Statistical Committees (SSC).

DATES: The meeting will convene at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, June 5, 2012 and conclude by 3 p.m., Friday, June 8, 2012.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 2203 North Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone: (813) 348-1630.

Council address: Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 2203 N. 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 Standing and Special Shrimp SSC will meet jointly on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 5-6, 2012 to review benchmark stock assessments on brown shrimp, white shrimp and pink shrimp, and may consider recommending definitions of overfishing limit (OFL) and acceptable biological catch (ABC) based on those assessments. On Thursday and Friday, June 7-8, 2012, the Standing and Special Reef Fish SSC will meet jointly. The Standing and Special Reef Fish SSC will receive a presentation on methods for setting ABC

for stocks that have reliable catch data only (only reliable catch stocks—ORCS). The SSC will also review recommendations from the ABC Control Rule Working Group on possible modifications to the ABC control rule that was adopted as part of the Generic Annual Catch Limits/Accountability Measures Amendment, and may make recommendations on modifications of the ABC control rule to the Council. The SSC will also reconsider its earlier ABC recommendation for vermilion snapper in light of concern that the P-star method used did not fully capture scientific uncertainty. The SSC will review proposed terms of reference for an upcoming SEDAR mutton snapper update assessment. The SSC will review barotrauma issues, including a summary of a recent workshop on developments in methods and devices for returning fish to the water, a presentation on physiological effects of barotrauma by Dr. Karen Burns, a presentation on marine mammal interactions with released fish by Dr. Greg Stuntz, and a review of a published report by Dr. Gene Wilde on the effectiveness of venting on improving survival of released fish. Based on these reviews, the SSC may make recommendations regarding the current rules requiring possession of venting tools on vessels catching reef fish. The SSC will also discuss establishing status determination criteria for determining when stocks are overfished or experiencing ongoing overfishing for stocks that do not currently have such criteria. In addition, the SSC will conduct a routine review of the schedule and priorities for upcoming SEDAR stock assessments. Under other business, the SSC will be asked to clarify a recent request that it be provided with an annual report on the status of Gulf gray triggerfish.

Copies of the agenda and other related materials can be obtained by calling (813) 348-1630 or can be downloaded from the Council's ftp site, <ftp.gulfcouncil.org>.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agenda may come before the Scientific and Statistical Committees 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. Actions of the Scientific and Statistical Committees will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda 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