

surveys in the Gulf of Alaska for a 1-year period, provided the mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are undertaken.

Dated: September 22, 2004.

Laurie K. Allen,

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

[FR Doc. 04-21847 Filed 9-28-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 090904E]

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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 separately convene its Mackerel and Reef Fish Advisory Panels (AP).

DATES: The Mackerel AP meeting will be convened by conference call at 3 p.m. EST on Tuesday, October 26, 2004. The Reef Fish AP meeting will be convened by conference call at 3 p.m. EST on Wednesday, October 27, 2004.

ADDRESSES: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for locations of listening stations.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard L. Leard, Deputy Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: (813) 228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Persons wishing to listen to the calls may do so at the following locations:

1. NMFS Panama City Laboratory, 3500 Delwood Beach Road, Panama City, FL, Contact: Gary Fitzhugh at 850-234-6541, extension 214.
2. NMFS Southeast Regional Office, 9721 North Executive Center Drive, St. Petersburg, FL, Contact: Peter Hood at 727-570-5728.
3. NMFS Pascagoula Laboratory, 3209 Frederic Street, Pascagoula, MS, Contact: Cheryl Hinkel at 228-762-4591.
4. NMFS Galveston Laboratory (on 15th only), 4700 Avenue U, Galveston, TX, Contact: Rhonda O'Toole at 409-766-3500.

The Council will separately convene its Mackerel and Reef Fish AP to review public hearing drafts of Amendment 15 to the Coastal Migratory Pelagics Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and Amendment 24 to the Reef Fish FMP. Each of these amendments contain alternatives to allow the existing commercial permit moratoria to expire, extend the moratoria for 5 or 10 years, or replace the moratoria with permanent limited access systems that would, in essence, maintain the cap on the number of permits indefinitely, or until replaced or eliminated by additional actions by the Council.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agendas may be discussed by the APs, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions of the APs 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

Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Dawn Aring at the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) by September 24, 2004.

Dated: September 23, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

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

[FR Doc. E4-2406 Filed 9-28-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 092304B]

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits

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

ACTION: Notification of a proposal for exempted fishing permits to conduct experimental fishing; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries,

Northeast Region, NMFS (Assistant Regional Administrator) has made a preliminary determination that the subject Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) application contains all the required information and warrants further consideration. The Assistant Regional Administrator has also made a preliminary determination that the activities authorized under the EFP would be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Northeast (NE) Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP). However, further review and consultation may be necessary before a final determination is made to issue the EFP. Therefore, NMFS announces that the Assistant Regional Administrator proposes to recommend that an EFP be issued that would allow one vessel to conduct fishing operations that are otherwise restricted by the regulations governing the fisheries of the Northeastern United States. The EFP may allow for exemptions from the NE multispecies days-at-sea (DAS) effort control program for up to 11 DAS for testing a bycatch reducing gear modification. Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed EFPs.

DATES: Comments on this document must be received on or before October 14, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Comments on this notice may be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing e-mail comments is DA591@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: "Comments on UNH Soft Grid Gear Modification EFP Proposal." Written comments should be sent to Patricia A. Kurkul, Regional Administrator, NMFS, Northeast Regional Office, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope "Comments on UNH Soft Grid Gear Modification EFP Proposal." Comments may also be sent via facsimile (fax) to (978) 281-9135.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Hooker, Fishery Policy Analyst, phone 978-281-9220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Dr. Pingguo He of the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension (UNH) submitted an application for an EFP on May 27, 2004. This is a continuation of a project that started in 2002. Due to gear modifications, tank flume tests, and poor weather conditions the sea trials were not completed in the 2003-2004 fishing

year. This EFP would authorize one commercial vessel to conduct sea trials using a soft grid finfish excluder device. The objective of the research is to test gear to separate flatfish from roundfish in trawl nets and to reduce the bycatch of roundfish, particularly cod, when fishing for flatfish. The separation device is designed to exploit behavioral differences that exist between the species.

The design consists of a trawl net with a soft panel, or ramp, that would be positioned in front of a double codend. It would take advantage of the tendency for flatfish to swim toward the ocean bottom after encountering the separation panel and thereby into the lower codend portion of the net. Roundfish, which are not expected to swim toward the sea floor after encountering the panel, would swim into the upper codend portion of the net, which would be left open under normal fishing practices where the vessel was targeting flatfish. However, for the purposes of this experiment both codends will remain closed in order to quantify separation success. The net would also utilize visual stimuli fixed forward of the codend to test changes in swimming behavior in roundfish and flatfish in response to the stimuli. Underwater videography would be employed to observe fish behavior and functioning of the experimental selectivity device.

The sea trials would be conducted in shallow water (30 to 50 fathoms (55 to 91 m)) off the coasts of New Hampshire, southern Maine, and a small portion of northern Massachusetts. UNH researchers would be aboard the vessel at all times during the experimental work. The at-sea portion of the experiment would last no longer than 11 fishing days in the 2004 fishing year. Based upon the catch rates from eight days of fishing in the 2003 fishing year, the following catch is estimated for the 2004 fishing year: Cod 2,846 lb (1,291 kg); American plaice 274 lb (124 kg); witch flounder 1,547 lb (702 kg); haddock 34 lb (15 kg); pollock 11 lb (5 kg); yellowtail flounder 87 lb (40 kg); winter flounder 50 lb (23 kg), and white hake 140 lb (64 kg). All undersized fish would be returned to the sea as quickly as possible. Legal-sized fish that would otherwise have to be discarded would be allowed to be retained and sold within the applicable Gulf of Maine (GOM) possession limits. The participating vessel would be required to report all landings in its Vessel Trip Report.

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

Dated: September 23, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E4-2403 Filed 9-28-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING

Sunshine Act Meetings

FEDERAL REGISTER CITATION OF PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT: 69 FR 56748.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED TIME AND DATE OF THE MEETING: 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, September 29, 2004.

CHANGES IN THE MEETING: The Rule Enforcement Review has been cancelled.

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Jean A. Webb, (202) 418-5100.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 04-21969 Filed 9-27-04; 1:47 pm]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Acting Leader, Information Management Case Services Team, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before October 29, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Carolyn Lovett, Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or faxed to (202) 395-6974.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or

Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Acting Leader, Information Management Case Services Team, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, *e.g.* new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) title; (3) summary of the collection; (4) description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) reporting and/or recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Dated: September 24, 2004.

Linda C. Tague,

Acting Leader, Information Management Case Services Team, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Postsecondary Education

Type of Review: Reinstatement.

Title: Targeted Teacher Deferments (Teacher Shortage Area).

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs; Federal Government.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden: Responses: 59.

Burden Hours: 148.

Abstract: This program has not received funding since 1977. It was originally designed to assist State agencies to provide scholarships to talented and meritorious students who were seeking careers as teaching professionals.

Requests for copies of the submission for OMB review; comment request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2571. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Potomac Center, 9th Floor, Washington, DC 20202-4700. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address OCIO_RIMS@ed.gov or faxed to 202-245-6621. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Joseph Schubart at his e-mail address Joe.Schubart@ed.gov. Individuals who use a