

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 Tina Trezza at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 working days prior to the hearing.

Dated: May 6, 2008.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
[FR Doc. E8-10383 Filed 5-9-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN: 0648-XH77**

#### 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's (Council) Groundfish Advisory Panel will meet to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 27, 2008, at 9:30 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, One Newbury Street, Peabody, MA 01960; telephone: (978) 535-4600.

*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 items of discussion in the committee's agenda are as follows:

The Groundfish Advisory Panel will review draft Amendment 16 management measures and will develop recommendations for the consideration of the Groundfish Oversight Committee and the Council.

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 identified 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 (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: May 6, 2008.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XH79**

#### 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 4-10, 2008, in Kodiak, AK.

**DATES:** The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, June 4 continuing through Tuesday June 10, 2008. The Council's Advisory Panel (AP) will begin at 8 a.m., Monday, June 2 and continue through Saturday June 7. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, June 2 and continue through Wednesday June 4, 2008. The Enforcement Committee will meet Tuesday, June 3, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Harbor Room. All meetings are open to the public, except executive sessions.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held at the Best Western Kodiak Inn, 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:** *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.

1. Reports
  - Executive Director's Report
  - NMFS Management Report (including permit fee discussion paper)
  - Alaska Department of Fish & Game Report
  - U.S. Coast Guard Report
  - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Report
  - NMFS Enforcement Report
  - Protected Species Report (including update on the BiOp schedule)
2. Subsistence Halibut: Initial review/final action on subsistence halibut rural definition.
3. Salmon Bycatch: Initial review of BSAI (BSAI) Salmon Bycatch Environmental Impact Statement.
4. BSAI Crab Issues: Initial review/final action on fees for crab loan program; Receive report from Crab Committee; (relative to the Western Aleutian Islands Golden King Crab underutilization, community Right Of First Refusal (ROFR), crew participation, and emergency relief) and take action as necessary.
5. Gulf of Alaska Groundfish (GOA) Issues: Initial review of fixed gear recency; Initial review of the Pacific cod sector split.
6. Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) exemption for dinglebar: Final action on VMS exemption for dinglebar gear.
7. Research Priorities: Review and adopt a 5 year research plan.
8. 4E Seabirds: Final action on 4e seabird avoidance measures.
9. Ecosystem Based Management: Receive report from Ecosystem Committee; preliminary review of Arctic FMP. (Council only).
10. GOA Sideboards: Initial review GOA sideboards for BSAI crab vessels; Initial review GOA sideboards regarding GOA rockfish; Initial review GOA sideboards for American Fisheries Act Catcher Vessels.
11. Miscellaneous Groundfish Management: Committee report on other species management; Discussion paper on GOA crab and salmon bycatch (Council only); Receive report on gear modification research; Review discussion paper on Amendment 80 sector cooperative criteria; Report on

halibut excluder Experimental Fishing Permit (EFP).

12. GOA Rockfish Pilot Program: Receive report which reviews the Rockfish Pilot Program; Receive report on Central GOA Rockfish EFP, phase one.

13. BSAI Crab Overfishing Level (OFLs): Receive Plan Team report on BSAI crab OFLs; Review preliminary Crab Stock Assessment Evaluation report.

14. Staff Tasking: Review Committees and tasking; review Programmatic Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement priorities workplan; Receive report on native/community/ stakeholder participation.

15. Other Business.

The SSC agenda will include the following issues:

1. Halibut Subsistence
2. Salmon Bycatch
3. Research Priorities
4. GOA Sideboards
5. GOA Rockfish Pilot
6. BSAI Crab OFLs
7. GOA Groundfish

The Advisory Panel will address most of the same agenda issues as the Council, except for t1 reports. The Agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted at <http://www.fakr.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 identified 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 meeting date.

Dated: May 6, 2008.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
[FR Doc. E8-10385 Filed 5-9-08; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN: 0648-XH81**

### 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 Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Economic and Groundfish Subcommittees (Subcommittees) of the Scientific and Statistical Committee will hold a joint working meeting, which is open to the public.

**DATES:** The Subcommittees will meet Wednesday, May 28, 2008, from 8 a.m. until business for the day is completed, and reconvene on Thursday, May 29 at 8 a.m. and adjourn that day upon completion of business.

**ADDRESSES:** The Subcommittees' meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites Portland Airport, Cedar I and II Room, 7900 NE 82nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97220; telephone: (503) 460-3000.

*Council address:* Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Jim Seger, Staff Officer; telephone: (503) 820-2280.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the Subcommittees' meeting is to review the analysis developed in support of Council consideration of a preliminary preferred trawl rationalization alternative.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in the meeting agenda may come before the Subcommittees for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of action during this meeting. The Subcommittees' 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 Subcommittee'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 Ms. Carolyn Porter at (503) 820-2280 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: May 6, 2008.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. E8-10387 Filed 5-9-08; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN: 0648-XH80**

### Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council's (Council) will convene public meetings.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held from Tuesday, May 27, 2008, through Thursday May 29, 2008. See

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific times, dates, and agenda items.

**ADDRESSES:** The public meetings will be held at Waiakea High School, 155 W. Kawili Street, Hilo, HI; at the Hawaii Big Game Fishing Club at the Honokohau Harbor in Kona, HI; and at Pacific Ocean Producers, Pier 38, 1133 North Nimitz Highway, Honolulu, HI; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: (808) 522-8220.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### Dates and Times and Locations

The public meetings will be held between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Tuesday, May 27, 2008, at Waiakea High School in Hilo, HI; Wednesday, May 28, 2008, at the Hawaii Big Game Fishing Club in Kona, HI; and on Thursday, May 29, 2008, at Pacific Ocean Producers in Honolulu, HI.

#### Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Description of Management Alternatives under Consideration for the Offshore Handline Pelagics Fishery
3. Discussion and Questions
4. Public Comment

The Western Pacific Council voted at its 139th meeting in October 2007 directed staff to draft an amendment to its Pelagic Fisheries Management Plan