

Agenda

- (1) Review Committee's Charge.
- (2) Committee's working protocol.
- (3) NMFS approach and schedule for the draft Environmental Impact Statement on renewing Fur Seal Subsistence Harvest Regulations.
- (4) Presentation of Data on Status of the Bering Sea Fur Seal population.
- (5) Presentation on groundfish fishery harvest in the Bering Sea Aleutian Islands relative to fur seal foraging areas.
- (6) Other items as necessary.

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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: November 18, 2003.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. E3-00386 Filed 11-21-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 111703J]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Notice of Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Meetings of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council Joint Protocol Committee.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Joint Protocol Committee of the Alaska Board of Fisheries and Council will meet in December 2003, in Anchorage, AK.

DATES: The meeting will be held on December 8, 2003, 1-5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Hilton Hotel, 500 W. 3rd Avenue, Aspen/Spruce Room, Anchorage, AK.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jane DiCosimo, Council staff, Phone: 907-271-2809.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Agenda**

- (1) Steering Committee recommendations for managing State groundfish fisheries if Federal groundfish fisheries are rationalized.
- (2) Review groundfish proposals submitted to the Board of Fisheries.
- (3) Update on Congressional action on pending Council action (if available).
- (4) Other business as necessary.

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Dated: November 18, 2003.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[I.D. 111703HJ]

North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Notice of Public Meetings

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

ACTION: Meetings of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and its advisory committees.

SUMMARY: The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory committees will hold public meetings. December 8 through December 16, 2003.

DATES: The Council's Advisory Panel will begin at 8 a.m., Monday, December 8, 2003, and continue through Saturday, December 13, 2003.

The Scientific and Statistical Committee will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, December 8, 2003, and continue through Wednesday, December 10, 2003.

The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 2003 and continue through Tuesday December 16, 2003.

The Enforcement Committee will meet Tuesday, October 7, at 6:30 p.m.

All meetings are open to the public except executive sessions.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, 500 W 3rd Avenue, Anchorage, AK.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Council staff, Phone: 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

- (a) Executive Director's Report
- (b) National Marine Fisheries Service Management Report
- (c) United States Coast Guard Report/NMFS Enforcement Report
- (d) Alaska Department Fish & Game Reports
- (e) United States Fish & Wildlife Report

2. Gulf of Alaska Rationalization

- (a) Receive report from Joint Protocol Committee
- (b) Receive Groundfish Development Authority (Council only)
- (c) Review and refine alternatives and options

3. Observer Program

- (a) Program overview (Alaska Fishery Science Center)
- (b) Preliminary review of Program Restructuring Analysis

4. Improved Retention/Improved Utilization

- (a) Receive report from NMFS on Amendment 79
- (b) Review Committee report
- (c) Finalize alternatives and options for Amendments 80a and 80b

5. Halibut and Sablefish Individual Fishing Quotas (IFQ)

- (a) Receive report from IFQ Implementation and Cost Recovery Committee, and review IFQ proposals.

6. Groundfish Management

- (a) Final action to adopt final Gulf of Alaska groundfish specifications for 2004
- (b) Final action to adopt final Bering Sea Aleutian Islands groundfish specifications for 2004
- (c) Discuss alternatives and schedule for repealing the Vessel Incentive Program.

7. Staff Tasking

- (a) Review tasking and provide direction to staff
- (b) Discuss direction to Committees

8. Other Business

Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC): The SSC agenda will include the following issues:

- (a) D-1 Groundfish Management
- (b) C-2 Observer Program

Advisory Panel: The Advisory Panel will address the same agenda issues as the Council.

Enforcement Committee: The Enforcement Committee will meet during each meeting of the Council to discuss enforcement issues or concerns related to any subject on the Council agenda.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, these issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during the meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda 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

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: November 18, 2003.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 111803D]

Pacific 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 Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Model Evaluation Workgroup (MEW) will hold a work session, which is open to the public, to discuss documentation of the Chinook and Coho Fishery Regulation Assessment Model (FRAM).

DATES: The work session will be held Wednesday, December 10, 2003 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The work session will be held at the Pacific Fishery Management Council, West Conference Room, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200, Portland, OR 97220-1384, (503) 820-2280.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200, Portland, OR 97220-1384.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Chuck Tracy, (503) 820-2280.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the work session is to review progress on development of a programmers guide and a users manual for the Chinook and Coho FRAM, and to prioritize and schedule upcoming tasks.

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

Dated: November 19, 2003.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E3-00370 Filed 11-21-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 111703G]

South Atlantic 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 South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of its Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel, a joint meeting of its Snapper Grouper Committee and Advisory Panel, Highly Migratory Species Committee, Mackerel Committee, Shrimp Committee, Information and Education Committee, and a joint meeting of its Executive Committee and Finance Committee. In addition, there will be a meeting of the full Council.

DATES: The meeting will be held in December 2003. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Blockade Runner Beach Resort, 275 Waynick Blvd. Wrightsville Beach, NC 28480. Telephone: 1-800-541-1161 or 910-256-2251. Copies of documents are available from Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer, South Atlantic Fishery Management Council at 843-571-4366.

Council address: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, One Southpark Circle, Suite 306, Charleston, SC 29407-4699.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer; telephone: 843-571-4366 or toll free at 866-SAFMC-10; fax: 843-769-4520; email: kim.iverson@safmc.net.