

Regional Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope, "Comments on twine-top EFP." Comments may also be sent via facsimile (fax) to (978) 281-9135.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Cheryl McGarrity, Fishery Management Specialist, phone: 978-281-9174, fax: 978-281-9135.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In response to the 2008 Atlantic Sea Scallop Research Set Aside (RSA) Program request for proposals, NMFS received a proposal from GMRI entitled, "An evaluation of hanging ratio and mesh orientation of twine-tops on selectivity and bycatch in the general category scallop dredge fishery in scallop limited access areas." The grant was approved by NOAA Grants on July 27, 2008, as NOAA Award No. NA08NMF4540667. GMRI proposes to determine if changes to the dredge twine-top configuration on a 10.5-ft (3.2 m) general category scallop dredge will affect species selectivity and reduce finfish bycatch.

Comparisons of catches will be made between panels with twine-top configurations of 2:1 hanging ratio, 3:1 hanging ratio with meshes elongated in the fore/aft direction, and 3:1 hanging ratio with meshes elongated laterally (perpendicular to the fore/aft direction). Research is to be conducted within the Elephant Trunk Access Areas (March/April 2009) and the Great South Channel Scallop Dredge Exemption Area (GSCDEA) (May/June 2009). Three general category scallop vessels using New Bedford style scallop dredges will be given a set of the three twine-top configurations, and will use one configuration per day for 12 days. It is expected that three tows per day will be completed, and vessels will spend 12 days in each of the two scallop access areas. The grant authorizes GMRI to land 14,400 lb (6,531.73 kg) of scallops each from the Elephant Trunk Access Area and GSCDEA (total of 28,800 lb (13,063.46 kg)), with the proceeds from landed scallops compensating participating vessel owners and defraying research costs. Vessels will stay within the daily landing limit of 400 lb (181.4 kg).

This EFP would exempt participating vessels from Scallop gear restrictions specified at 50 CFR 648.51(b)(2), possession restrictions found throughout part 648, Great South Channel (GSC) Southern New England (SNE)/Georges Bank (GB) Yellowtail Flounder Peak Spawning Closure restrictions at § 648.80(a)(18)(ii)(C), and GSC Cape Cod (CC)/Gulf of Maine

(GOM) Yellowtail Flounder Peak Spawning Closure restrictions at § 648.80(a)(18)(ii)(D).

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. The applicant may place requests for minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the year. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and minimal so as not to change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request.

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

Dated: January 26, 2009.

**Emily H. Menashes**

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

[FR Doc. E9-1999 Filed 1-29-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN: 0648-XM97**

#### North Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Scallop Plan Team.

**SUMMARY:** The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Scallop Plan Team will meet February 20-21, 2009, in Anchorage, AK.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on February 20, 2009, from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and February 21, 2009, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, 500 West 3rd Avenue, Fireweed Room, Anchorage, AK.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Diana Stram, Council staff, telephone: (907) 271-2809.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Agenda: Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) description plan for revisions; Final Rule on Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) discussion of plans

to revise Scallop FMP for ACL compliance; Review current regulations on VMS requirements; Review update on Scallop Observer Program; Review any pending BOF actions or regulatory changes; Status of Statewide Scallop Stocks and preparation of the SAFE report; Review ageing techniques and protocol issues and update; Review and revise research priorities.

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

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: February 27, 2009.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. E9-2057 Filed 1-29-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Telecommunications and Information Administration

**Docket No. 0812021556-9052-02**

#### Public Telecommunications Facilities Program: Closing Date

**AGENCY:** National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of Amended Solicitation of Applications.

**SUMMARY:** The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announces that it is extending the solicitation period for applications for the Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP) replacement digital television translator projects. NTIA will accept applications for these projects until Monday, May 18, 2009.

**DATES:** Applications for replacement digital television translator projects

must be received prior to 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (Closing Time), Monday, May 18, 2009 (Closing Date).

Applications submitted by facsimile will not be accepted. If an application is received after the Closing Date due to (1) carrier error, when the carrier accepted the package with a guarantee for delivery by the Closing Date and Closing Time, (2) significant weather delays or natural disasters, or (3) delays due to national security issues, NTIA will, upon receipt of proper documentation, consider the application as having been received by the deadline. NTIA will not accept applications post-marked on May 18, 2009 or later and received after this deadline.

**ADDRESSES:** To obtain a printed application package, submit completed applications, or send any other correspondence, write to PTFP at the following address (please note the new room number): NTIA/PTFP, Room H-4812, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20230. Application materials may be obtained electronically via the Internet at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ptfp> or <http://www.grants.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** William Cooperman, Director, Broadcasting Division, telephone: (202) 482-5802; fax: (202) 482-2156. Information about the PTFP can also be obtained electronically via the Internet at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/ptfp>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NTIA publishes this notice to announce that it is extending the solicitation period for applications for the Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP) replacement digital television translator projects. NTIA will accept applications for such projects until Monday, May 18, 2009. Any applications received between December 18, 2008 and May 18, 2009 will be considered timely and will be given full consideration.

On December 23, 2008, the FCC issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the creation of a new "replacement" digital television translator service to permit full-service television stations to continue to provide service to viewers within their coverage area who have lost service as a result of those stations' digital transition.<sup>1</sup> On December 30, 2008, the FCC announced that it would begin accepting applications for

replacement digital television facilities on January 5, 2009. The FCC further announced that stations could apply for Special Temporary Authority to immediately operate replacement digital television translator facilities during the pendency of the rulemaking proceedings.<sup>2</sup>

Consistent with PTFP's purposes, NTIA is extending the solicitation period for applications for replacement digital television translators until May 18, 2009 so stations may apply for the financial assistance necessary to build facilities as permitted by these new FCC policies. Such applications will be placed in Subpriority A. While applicants may file requests for FCC authorizations with the FCC after the expiration of NTIA's closing date for applications for replacement digital television translator projects, applicants are reminded that no grant will be awarded until confirmation has been received from the FCC that any necessary authorization will be issued. As noted in the Federal Funding Opportunity Notice of October 20, 2008, "[t]ransmission equipment required by public television stations to complete their digital broadcast facilities will be considered in Broadcast Other, Subpriority A" and that facilities "should replicate the station's comparable analog Grade B coverage."<sup>3</sup>

The new closing date of May 18, 2009 is consistent with the closing date for certain digital television Distributed Transmission System (DTS) projects for the FY 2009 PTFP grant round, which was announced on December 9, 2008.<sup>4</sup> DTS projects were authorized by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on November 3, 2008.<sup>5</sup>

Applications for replacement digital television translator projects will utilize the same forms, and undergo the same review and evaluation process

<sup>2</sup> "Media Bureau Announces Application and STA Filing Procedures for New Digital Television Translators," Public Notice, Federal Communications Commission, DA 08-2818 (rel., Dec. 30, 2008), available at [http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DA-08-2818A1.pdf](http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-08-2818A1.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> Announcement of Federal Funding Opportunity, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, FY 2009, U.S. Department of Commerce (Oct. 20, 2008), available at [http://www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/ptfp/attachments/FFO\\_Notice\\_09.html](http://www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/ptfp/attachments/FFO_Notice_09.html).

<sup>4</sup> "Public Telecommunications Facilities Program: Closing Date," 73 Fed. Reg. 74,709 (NTIA Dec. 9, 2008)(notice of amended closing date), available at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/ptfp/pdfForms/NOA-PTFP-AMEND-FY09.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> Digital Television Distributed Transmission System Technologies, *Report and Order*, MB Docket No. 05-312, 2008 FCC LEXIS 7698, FCC 08-256 (rel., Nov. 7, 2008) (DTS Report and Order).

contained in the PTFP Closing Date Notice of October 20, 2008.<sup>6</sup>

Dated: January 26, 2009.

**Dr. Bernadette McGuire-Rivera,**  
*Associate Administrator, Office of  
Telecommunications and Information  
Applications.*

[FR Doc. E9-1961 Filed 1-29-09; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-60-S**

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## COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

### Sunshine Act Meetings

#### AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:

Commodity Futures Trading  
Commission.

**TIME AND DATE:** 11 a.m., Friday, February 27, 2009.

**PLACE:** 1155 21st St., NW., Washington, DC, 9th Floor Commission Conference Room.

**STATUS:** Closed.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** Surveillance matters.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Sauntia S. Warfield, 202-418-5084.

**Sauntia S. Warfield,**  
*Staff Assistant.*

[FR Doc. E9-2187 Filed 1-28-09; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 6351-01-P**

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## COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

### Sunshine Act Meetings

#### AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING:

Commodity Futures Trading  
Commission.

**TIME AND DATE:** 11 a.m., Friday, February 6, 2009.

**PLACE:** 1155 21st St., NW., Washington, DC, 9th Floor Commission Conference Room.

**STATUS:** Closed.

**MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:** Surveillance matters.

**CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Sauntia S. Warfield, 202-418-5084.

**Sauntia S. Warfield,**  
*Staff Assistant.*

[FR Doc. E9-2188 Filed 1-28-09; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 6351-01-P**

<sup>6</sup> "Public Telecommunications Facilities Program: Closing Date," 73 Fed. Reg. 62,258 (NTIA Oct. 20, 2008)(notice), available at [http://www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/ptfp/pdfForms/PTFP\\_Closing-Dte\\_FY09.pdf](http://www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/ptfp/pdfForms/PTFP_Closing-Dte_FY09.pdf).

<sup>1</sup> See Amendment of Parts 73 and 74 of the Commission's Rules to Establish Rules for Replacement Digital Low Power Television Translator Stations, MB Docket No. 08-253, *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC 08-278 (rel., Dec. 23, 2008).