

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

RIN 0648–XG100

Pacific Bluefin Tuna Management Strategy Evaluation National Marine Fisheries Service Listening Sessions; Meeting Announcement

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: NMFS is holding a listening session to provide information and receive stakeholder input regarding an upcoming Pacific bluefin tuna management strategy evaluation workshop. The listening session will be broadcast in two separate locations, and will include presentations and time for stakeholder input into the development of management objectives. The meeting topics are described under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

DATES: The meeting will be held on April 18, 2018, from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. PDT.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held concurrently in two locations: (1) In the Pacific Conference Room (Room 300) at NMFS, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, 8901 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, California 92037; (2) Room 3400 at the Long Beach Federal Building, 501 W Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, California 90802. Please notify Celia Barroso (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) by April 11, 2018, if you plan to attend and whether you will be attending in person or remotely. The meetings will be accessible by webinar—instructions and background materials will be emailed to meeting participants.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Celia Barroso, West Coast Region, NMFS, at Celia.Barroso@noaa.gov, or at (562) 432–1850.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean is hosting the first Pacific bluefin tuna management strategy evaluation (MSE) workshop May 30–31, 2018, in Yokohama, Japan. MSE is a simulation that allows stakeholders (*e.g.*, industry, managers, scientists) to assess how well different management strategies, such as harvest control rules, meet the objectives of the fishery. In accordance with the outcomes from the 2nd Joint Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission—

Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Northern Committee Working Group meeting,¹ NMFS anticipates that at this first workshop, participants will begin to develop potential management objectives that might be used in the MSE for the Pacific bluefin tuna fishery.

For the listening session, NMFS will provide stakeholders with background on the status of the Pacific bluefin tuna stock and the MSE process.

Additionally, NMFS is interested in learning from stakeholders about preferred management objectives. The manner of public comment will be at the discretion of the presenters and NMFS staff.

Pacific Bluefin Tuna MSE Listening Session Topics

The Pacific bluefin tuna MSE topics will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) An overview of MSE and
- (2) Example management objectives for Pacific bluefin tuna.

Special Accommodations

The meeting location is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Celia Barroso (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) by April 5, 2018.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 951 *et seq.* and 16 U.S.C. 6901 *et seq.*

Dated: March 20, 2018.

Jennifer M. Wallace,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Deep Seabed Mining Exploration Licenses**

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information

collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before May 25, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Jennifer Jessup, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6616, 14th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230 (or via the internet at pracomments@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Kerry Kehoe (301) 713–3155 extension 151, or Kerry.Kehoe@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Abstract**

This request is for extension of a currently approved information collection.

NOAA's regulations at 15 CFR 970 govern the issuing and monitoring of exploration licenses under the Deep Seabed Hard Mineral Resources Act. Any persons seeking a license must submit certain information that allows NOAA to ensure the applicant meets the standards of the Act. Persons with licenses are required to conduct monitoring and make reports, and they may request revisions, transfers, or extensions of licenses.

II. Method of Collection

Paper submissions are used; however, applicants are encouraged to submit supporting documentation electronically when feasible.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0648–0145.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Review: Regular submission (extension of a currently approved information collection).

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2.

Estimated Time per Response: Applications, 2,000–4,000 hours (no applications are expected); license renewals, 250 hours; reports, 20 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Burden

Hours: 290.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$200 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have

¹ <https://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/nc13>.