

any comments that are received by that date available at the meeting. All comments received will be made available at the Central Reference and Records Inspection Facility, Herbert C. Hoover Building, Room 6020, 14th Street between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

NIST and the Board extend their appreciation to all those providing public comment.

Dated: November 24, 1997.

Elaine Buntin-Mines,

Director Program Office

[FR Doc. 97-31367 Filed 11-28-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 101497D]

Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations; Atlantic Offshore Cetacean Take Reduction Plan Environmental Assessment

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

ACTION: Extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: On November 4, 1997, NMFS published a notice of availability of a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) on the alternatives being considered for implementation of the Atlantic Offshore Cetacean Take Reduction Plan. NMFS is hereby extending the public comment period for an additional 30 days.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before January 4, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft EA or the draft Atlantic Offshore Cetacean Take Reduction Plan may be obtained from Chief, Marine Mammal Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, or by calling (301) 713-2322.

Written comments should be submitted to Chief, Marine Mammal Division, Office of Protected Resources, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, fax: 301/713-2322.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Victoria Cornish, Office of Protected Resources, (301) 713-2322.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 4, 1997, NMFS published a notice of availability of a draft EA on the alternatives being considered for implementation of the Atlantic Offshore Cetacean Take Reduction Plan. The

notice indicated that comments must be received on or before December 4, 1997.

NMFS has since received a request to extend the public comment period for an additional 30 days. This request is made because at least 2 members of the Atlantic Offshore Cetacean Take Reduction Team will be out of the country for a large portion of the public comment period and would be unable to sufficiently review and comment on the EA. NMFS agrees that the current public comment period is not long enough to allow for sufficient public comment in lieu of other previous commitments by members of the team.

NMFS hereby extends the public comment period for an additional 30 days, until January 4, 1998.

Dated: November 24, 1997.

Patricia A. Montanio,

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

[FR Doc. 97-31315 Filed 11-28-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 112497H]

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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 convene a public meeting of the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Technical Review Panel (TRP).

DATES: The meeting is scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, December 15, 1997, and adjourn at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 16, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the at the Wyndham Riverfront Hotel, 701 Convention Center Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130; telephone: 504-524-8200.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne Swingle, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: At this meeting, the TRP will review the technical accuracy and adequacy of preliminary drafts of Sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the Generic Amendment

addressing EFH requirements in the fishery management plans of the Gulf of Mexico. EFH amendments are mandated by the recent passage of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

The TRP will review each section and provide updated information to the extent possible. Based on the review, the TRP will develop comments and recommendation for consideration by the Council.

A copy of the agenda can be obtained by calling 813-228-2815.

Although other issues not on the agenda may come before the Panel for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Panel action during this meeting. Panel action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed as available by this notice.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see ADDRESSES) by December 8, 1997.

Dated: November 25, 1997.

Gary C. Matlock,

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

[FR Doc. 97-31445 Filed 11-28-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 112497A]

Longline Advisory Panel; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Longline Advisory Panel (AP) for the pelagic longline fishery for Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS) will hold its third meeting on Dec. 9, 1997, in Alexandria, VA to discuss the draft report on the future management options for the pelagic longline fishery.

DATES: The longline AP will meet on Dec. 9, 1997, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The AP meeting will be held at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Alexandria, VA, 901 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.