techniques, standards, and technologies that support NOAA’s many ocean and coastal mapping activities. Such training would be beneficial to current or prospective NOAA contractors seeking to improve their capabilities and proposal submissions.


David M. Kennedy,
Acting Assistant Administrator, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2010–564 Filed 1–13–10; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–JE–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
RIN 0648–XT73

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 in Portland, OR.

DATES: The meetings will be held February 8–16, 2010. The Council will begin its plenary session at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, February 10 continuing through Tuesday, February 16. The Council’s Advisory Panel (AP) will begin at 8 a.m., Monday, February 8 and continue through Friday, February 12. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday, February 8 and continue through Wednesday, February 10, 2010. The Enforcement Committee will meet Tuesday, February 9 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. All meetings are open to the public, except executive sessions.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the Benson Hotel, 309 SW Broadway, Portland, OR 97205.


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:

a. Executive Director’s Report (including report on catch shares and marine spatial planning)
b. NMFS Management Report
c. Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) Report
d. International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) Report
e. U.S. Coast Guard Report
f. NMFS Enforcement Report/Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC) Report
g. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Report
h. Protected Species Report (including update on Biological Opinion and Center for Independent Experts review and seabird update)

2. Halibut/Sablefish Individual Fishing Quotas (IFQs) Program: Review proposals, receive committee report, and take action as necessary; receive discussion paper on Community Quota Entity Program.

3. Observer Program: Progress on Implementation Plan; Progress on Implementation Plan; Observer Advisory Committee report.

4. Bering Sea Aleutian Island (BSAI) Crab Issues: Initial review BSAI Crab Right of First Refusal; Initial review Western Aleutian Golden King Crab Regional Delivery; NOAA/Bering Sea Fisheries Foundation cooperative survey report; review methodology for Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) analysis and performance measures for rebuilding (SSC only).

5. Groundfish ACLs: Initial review of Groundfish ACL requirements.

6. Amendment 80 Cooperatives: Initial review of Amendment 80 Lost Vessel Replacement; Final action Amendment 80 Cooperative Formation.


9. Data Collection Discussion paper: Review discussion paper and take action as necessary.

10. Miscellaneous Issues: Review of analytical methods for BSAI Chum salmon bycatch (SSC only); review new area closure options for chum salmon bycatch alternatives; review preliminary Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) report (SSC only); review and adopt Habitats Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC) criteria and schedule; report and action as necessary on Aleutian Island Fishery Ecosystem Plan Addendum; review discussion paper on stranding of BSAI Pacific cod total allowable catch (T); review discussion paper on halibut PSC limits (T).

11. Staff Tasking: Review Committees and tasking.

12. Other Business

The SSC agenda will include the following issues:

1. C–5 [a] Amendment 80 Lost Vessel replacement
2. C–3 (a, b, c, d) BSAI Crab Issues
3. C–4 Groundfish ACLs
4. D–2 Data Collection
5. D–3(a, b, c) Groundfish Issues

The Advisory Panel will address most of the same agenda issues as the Council, except for #1 reports. The Agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted at http://www.alaska fisheries.noaa.gov/npmc/

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before the Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. 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: January 8, 2010.

William D. Chappell,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2010–492 Filed 1–13–10; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
RIN 0648–XT75

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Hearings

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

ACTION: Monkfish Fishery Management Plan Amendment 5; Public Hearings; Request for Comments.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold six public hearings to solicit comments on proposals to be included in the Draft Amendment 5 to the
Monkfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP).

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before 5 p.m. EST, March 5, 2010. The public hearings will be held from February 8, 2010 to March 5, 2010. For specific dates and times, see SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.

ADDRESSES: The Council will take comments at public meetings in Fairhaven, MA; Gloucester, MA; Cambridge, MD; Riverhead, NY; Lakewood, NJ and Rockport, ME. For specific locations, see SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION. Written comments should be sent to Patricia Kurkul, Regional Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Comments may also be sent via fax to (978) 281–9135 or submitted via e-mail to monkfandment5@noaa.gov with (Monkfish Amendment 5 Public Hearing Comments) in the subject line. Requests for copies of the public hearing document and other information should be directed to Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950; telephone: (978) 465–0492.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465–0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The New England Fishery Management Council’s Monkfish Committee is holding public hearings for Amendment 5 to the Monkfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The primary purpose of this amendment is to address the new requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act that the Council adopt Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) and Accountability Measures (AMs) and manage the fishery at long-term sustainable levels. According to the Act, these measures must be adopted by 2011. Amendment 5 will also include revised biological and management reference points to bring the FMP into compliance with revised National Standard 1 Guidelines. Further, Amendment 5 will specify total allowable catch targets and associated days-at-sea (DAS) and trip limits for the directed fishery to supplant the current specifications that it adopted for the 2007–09 fishing years along with an extension provision which will apply for the 2010 fishing year. Amendment 5 contains proposals to make modifications to the FMP to improve the Research Set-Aside (RSA) Program, to minimize bycatch resulting from trip limit overages, to accommodate those vessels fishing in groundfish sectors who would no longer be required to use their allocated groundfish DAS, to require all limited access monkfish vessels to use a VMS when on a monkfish DAS, and to allow the landing of monkfish heads.

The public hearing document, as well as the draft Amendment 5 document incorporating an Environmental Assessment, is available on the Monkfish page of the Council’s website (www.nefmc.org) or from the Council office.

After the close of the public comment period, the Monkfish Oversight Committee and Industry Advisory Panel will review the comments and develop recommendations to the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils on the measures to be submitted as final action for Amendment 5. The Councils will make their decisions in April, 2010 for submission to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). If approved by NMFS, Amendment 5 will take effect at the start of the 2011 fishing year.

The dates, times, locations and telephone numbers of the hearings are as follows:

- Monday, February 8, 2010 at 1 p.m. - Hampton Inn, One Hampton Way, Fairhaven, MA 02719; telephone: (508) 990–8500;
- Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 1 p.m. - Massachusetts Department of Marine Fisheries Annisquam River Station, 30 Emerson Avenue, Gloucester, MA 01930; telephone: (978) 282–0308;
- Thursday, February 11, 2010 at 8 a.m. - Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Hotel, 100 Heron Boulevard at Route 50, Cambridge, MD 21613; telephone: (410) 901–1234;
- Wednesday, February 24, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. - Holiday Inn Express East End, 1707 Old Country Road, Riverhead, NY 11901; telephone: (631) 548–1000;
- Thursday, February 25, 2010 at 9 a.m. - Hilton Garden Inn, 1885 Route 70, Lakewood, NJ 08701; telephone: (732) 262–5232;
- Friday, March 5, 2010 at 9 a.m. - Samoset Resort, 220 Warren Street, Rockport, ME 04856; telephone: (207) 594–2511.

Special Accommodations

These hearings are physically accessible to people with physical 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.