

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

RIN 0648–XC191

**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's (Council) Observer Advisory Committee (OAC) will meet in Seattle, WA.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held September 17–18, 2012 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Alaska Fishery Science Center, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., Building 4, Observer Training Room, Seattle, WA 98115.

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

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The agenda items include: Council direction on OAC; Update on implementation of observer restructuring; Update on the development of the final rule; Getting the nuts and bolts in place for implementation; Planned outreach and education efforts; Registration system and brief demonstration: Draft 2013 observer deployment plan; Presentation of deployment plan; Discussion and recommendations on deployment plan; Electronic monitoring; Update on national white papers on electronic monitoring; Update on EM halibut fleet pilot project; Discuss development of EM as part of restructured program; Required elements for regulating EM; Public comment; Discussion and recommendations; Scheduling & other issues. The Agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted at <http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/npfmc/>.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions will be restricted to those issues specifically identified 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: August 24, 2012.

**William D. Chappell,**

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

[FR Doc. 2012–21320 Filed 8–28–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

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

RIN 0648–XC200

**Mid-Atlantic 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 Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council will hold a public meeting.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held on Friday, September 14, 2012 beginning at 10 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held via webinar with a telephone connection option. Details on webinar registration and the connection details are available at: <http://www.mafmc.org>.

*Council address:* Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 North State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674–2331.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 North State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674–2331, extension 255.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of this webinar is to consider whether it is appropriate to recommend any changes to NMFS for the 2012 butterfish acceptable biological catch (ABC) and also whether the catch cap of butterfish for the longfin squid fishery

should be altered to be a discard cap on the longfin squid fishery. This meeting would constitute "Meeting 1" of the 2-meeting framework adjustment process for "Framework 7 to the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fishery Management Plan." The second framework meeting would be at the October 2012 Council Meeting, which will be noticed separately. The meeting will be available via webinar via this link: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/602201185>. Additional information about accessing the webinar on September 14 is available on the Council's Web site at [www.mafmc.org](http://www.mafmc.org). A public listening station to allow public access to the webinar will also be available at the Council offices located 800 N. State St., Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901.

**Special Accommodations**

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to M. Jan Saunders at the Mid-Atlantic Council Office, (302) 526–5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 24, 2012.

**William D. Chappell,**

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

[FR Doc. 2012–21321 Filed 8–28–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****United States Patent and Trademark Office**

[Docket No. PTO–P–2012–0036]

**September 15, 2012 Deadline to File Requests for Inter Partes Reexamination Proceedings and Modification of Notice of Failure to Comply Form**

**AGENCY:** United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 6(c)(3) of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (AIA), the authority to file *inter partes* reexamination requests terminates effective September 16, 2012. Accordingly, any original or corrected/replacement request for an *inter partes* reexamination submitted on or after September 16, 2012, will not be accorded a filing date, and any such request will not be granted. This notice provides guidance to *inter partes* reexamination requesters with respect to timely filing requests prior to September 16, 2012, i.e., by the September 15,

2012, last day for filing of an *inter partes* reexamination request.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Kenneth M. Schor, Senior Legal Advisor ((571) 272-7710), or Joseph F. Weiss, Jr., Legal Advisor ((571) 272-7759), Office of Patent Legal Administration, Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**A. Filing Requests as Early as Possible**

Requesters are advised to file any *inter partes* reexamination requests which they intend to file as soon as possible, in order to provide the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Office) with maximum time to: (i) Receive, process, and review such requests for their compliance with all the filing date requirements for *inter partes* reexamination; and (ii) notify the requester of any deficiencies in the request via a Notice of Failure to Comply with *Inter Partes* Reexamination Request Filing Requirements (Notice of Failure to Comply) while providing sufficient time for requester to submit a corrected/replacement request prior to September 16, 2012.

In this regard, it is to be noted that any *inter partes* reexamination request must meet all the filing date requirements for *inter partes* reexamination, i.e., it must be filing-date compliant, *prior to September 16, 2012*. If a timely filed *inter partes* reexamination request fails to meet any filing date requirement for *inter partes* reexamination, then the requester will be so notified and, if time allows, given an opportunity to complete the request by filing a corrected/replacement request by September 15, 2012. If the request papers are then made filing-date compliant by a response which is properly filed with the Office by September 15, 2012, the filing date of the response will be assigned to the request (this is also true for any *sua sponte* filed corrected/replacement request). If the corrected/replacement request is not received by the Office as of September 15, 2012, the corrected/replacement request will not be accorded a filing date, even though the original request was timely received by the Office. This is so, *regardless of when requester receives notification that the original request is not filing-date compliant*.

The Office will make every effort to promptly and efficiently process and review all requests for *inter partes* reexamination. It is to be emphasized, however, that the Office cannot guarantee that a Notice of Failure to

Comply with *Inter Partes* Reexamination Request Filing Requirements will be issued by the Office prior to September 16, 2012, or even if it is so issued, that sufficient time will remain for the mailing to reach a requester and allow for response prior to September 16, 2012. While, traditionally, the Office has been setting a thirty-day period to respond to the Notice of Failure to Comply, this will no longer be possible for any Notice of Failure to Comply mailed after August 16, 2012, because the statute which provides for the filing of a request for *inter partes* reexamination will no longer be in effect as of September 16, 2012.

In view of the above, potential *inter partes* reexamination requesters are cautioned to file any such requests as soon as possible, in order to provide the Office with as much time as possible to receive the requests, process and review them, and notify requester with sufficient time to correct the request, if necessary, prior to September 16, 2012.

**B. The Last Day to File an Inter Partes Reexamination Request**

As mentioned above, section 6(c)(3) of the AIA statutorily terminates the authority for *inter partes* reexamination filings effective September 16, 2012. Since, *inter partes* reexamination filing is not available on or after September 16, 2012, the Office cannot grant a filing date to any *inter partes* reexamination request filed after September 15, 2012. In addition, as the termination of authority for *inter partes* reexamination filings in section 6(c)(3) of the AIA is not a time period for taking action under 35 U.S.C. 21(b), the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 21(b) do not authorize the Office to accept or accord a filing date to an original or corrected/replacement request for *inter partes* reexamination which is filed on or after September 16, 2012, even though September 15, 2012, the last day to file a request, is a Saturday.

An *inter partes* reexamination request can be submitted on Saturday, September 15, 2012, but only two methods are available to do so. The request may be submitted that Saturday: (1) Via the Office's Web-based electronic filing system, EFS-Web (see MPEP 502.05); or (2) by using the 37 CFR 1.10 "Express Mail" mailing procedure (see MPEP 513). No other method of submission is available for a Saturday. Thus, a request cannot be submitted on September 15, 2012, by hand, by courier, by facsimile transmission, or by mail other than Express Mail. If an attempt to do so is made, the request will not be received by the Office (on

that Saturday), and a filing date will not be accorded to the request.

If an original or corrected/replacement *inter partes* reexamination request is mailed (by mail other than Express Mail), the requester should take into consideration mailing time and the fact that 37 CFR 1.8 certificate of mailing and transmission procedures are not available for filing an original or corrected/replacement request for reexamination (see MPEP 2624). Thus, requester should take care to mail the request sufficiently early for the Office to receive it by Friday, September 14, 2012 (the Office does not receive mail on Saturday, the 15th—see 37 CFR 1.6(a)(1)).

**C. Modification of Notice of Failure to Comply Form**

In view of the above:

1. Any Notice of Failure to Comply mailed prior to September 15, 2012, will reference September 15, 2012, as the due date for any corrected/replacement *inter partes* reexamination request.

2. Any Notice of Failure to Comply mailed on or after September 17, 2012, will not set a period for response, but will rather inform requester that no filing date can be granted for the request, because *inter partes* reexamination filing has been statutorily terminated.

Dated: August 23, 2012.

**Teresa Stanek Rea,**

*Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.*

[FR Doc. 2012-21224 Filed 8-28-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Department of the Air Force**

**U.S. Air Force Academy Board of Visitors; Notice of Meeting**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Air Force Academy Board of Visitors, DoD.

**ACTION:** Meeting notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with 10 U.S.C. 9355, the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) Board of Visitors (BoV) will hold a meeting in Harmon Hall at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado on 14-15 Sep 12. The meeting sessions on 14 Sep will begin at 4 p.m. and the meeting sessions on 15 Sep will begin at 7:45 a.m. The purpose of this meeting is to review morale and discipline, social climate, curriculum, instruction, infrastructure, fiscal affairs, academic