Fisher Data Collection and Reporting in the USVI
Commercial St. Thomas Data
Commercial St. Croix Data
d. Puerto Rico—Changes in Commercial Fishery Data Collection and Reporting in Puerto Rico
e. Puerto Rico—Changes in Recreational Data Collection
f. Ancillary Data—Fishery Independent Reports
—Recommendations to CFMC Regarding the Variables Affecting ACLs and Suggested Course of Actions

October 31, 2012
—Recommendations to CFMC Regarding 5-year Priority Research Needs

November 1, 2012
—Recommendations to CFMC Regarding 5-year Priority Research Needs (Continuation)
—Queen Conch Listing Update
—Other Business
—Adjourn

The SSC will convene on October 30th, 31st and November 1st, 2012, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., to discuss several issues related to the catch limits (ACLs). At the 143rd CFMC, it was reported that some ACLs are expected to be overrun in the US Caribbean.

The final Rule triggers accountability measures (AMs) if an ACL has been exceeded based on a moving multi-year average of landings. If the ACL for a species or species group is exceeded, the fishing season for the affected species will be reduced. The AM will be triggered unless NMFS SEFSC, in consultation with the CFMC and its SSC determine the ACL was exceeded because of enhanced data collection and monitoring efforts instead of an increase in total catch of the species or species group.

The SSC was charged with the determination of whether the numbers provided are a result of better data gathering or “real” overrun of the ACLs. The meetings are open to the public, and will be conducted in English. Fishers and other interested persons are invited to attend and participate with oral or written statements regarding agenda issues.

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. For more information or request for sign language interpretation and/or auxiliary aids, please contact Mr. Miguel A. Rolón, Executive Director, Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 268 Muñoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 1108, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00918–1920, telephone (787) 766–5926, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Tracey L. Thompson,
Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
RIN 0648–XC257
Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC); Public Meeting
AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.
ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Caribbean Fishery Management Council’s (Council) Outreach and Education Advisory Panel (OEP) will hold a meeting.

DATES: The OEP meeting will be held on October 30, 2012, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Verdana Hotel, 8020 Tartak St., Isla Verde, Puerto Rico.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 268 Muñoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 1108, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918–1920, telephone: (787) 766–5926.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The OEP will meet to discuss the items contained in the following agenda:
—Call to order
—OEP President report
—143rd CFMC meeting
—2013 Calendar subgroup meeting
—Status of Outreach and Education Strategic Plan
—Recommendations received
—O & E Proposals received (USVI, UPRSG)
—Ongoing activities
—2013 Calendar
—Newsletter
—Web page
—Fact Sheets
—CFMC brochure
—Other Business
—Next OEP meeting

The meeting is open to the public, and will be conducted in English. Fishers and other interested persons are invited to attend and participate with oral or written statements regarding agenda issues.

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.

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Tracey L. Thompson,
Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
RIN 0648–XC148
Migratory Bird Conservation; Executive Order 13186
AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.
ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the availability of the final signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and
Wildlife Service (FWS) to promote the conservation of migratory birds.

DATES: This MOU went into effect on July 17, 2012, the date it was signed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kim Rivera, (907) 586-7424, email Kim.Rivera@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 10, 2001, President Clinton signed Executive Order (EO) 13186, "Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds". One of the requirements of E.O. 13186 is that each Federal agency taking actions that have, or are likely to have, a measurable negative effect on migratory bird populations is directed to develop and implement a MOU with the FWS that shall promote the conservation of migratory bird populations. On January 17, 2012, NMFS and FWS finalized this MOU to conserve migratory bird populations as prescribed by E.O. 13186. This MOU went into effect on the date it was signed.

This NMFS–FWS MOU encompasses all relevant seabird-related NMFS activities and identifies specific areas of collaboration and cooperation with FWS, including seabird bycatch reduction, information sharing and coordination, international policy and diplomacy, and habitat conservation. The MOU also provides for strengthening migratory bird conservation by identifying strategies that promote conservation and reduce adverse impacts on migratory birds through enhanced collaboration between NMFS and the FWS. In addition, this MOU identifies specific activities where cooperation between NMFS and the FWS, will contribute to the conservation of migratory birds and their habitat. These activities are intended to complement and support existing efforts and to facilitate new collaborative conservation efforts for migratory birds.


Section 3(g) of the E.O. 13186 states that "Each agency shall advise the public of the availability of its MOU through a notice published in the Federal Register." This notice fulfills the requirements of Section 3(g) of E.O. 13186. The E.O. is posted at http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/protectedresources/seabirds/protectmigratory.pdf.

Dated: September 27, 2012.

Samuel D. Rauch III, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Performing the functions and duties of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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