

American Fisheries Act (AFA) measures on non-pollock fisheries, and initial review of amendments to fishery management plans to conform with the AFA.

3. Final review of management measures for seabird protection, and review an experimental fishery permits, if available, for bird avoidance measures.

4. Review of logbook data collection for the halibut charter fisheries off Alaska.

5. Initial review of fishery management plan amendments:

a. A non-pelagic trawl ban in Cook Inlet.

b. Initial review of alternatives for shark management.

6. Initial review of a proposed rebuilding plan for *C. bairdi* crab in the Bering Sea.

Advisory Panel

The agenda for the Advisory Panel will include the same subjects as listed below for the Council's plenary session, with the exception of Halibut Charter Guideline Harvest Level (Item 2), and Crab LLP Eligibility (Item 6), which they considered at their February 1999 meeting, and Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization (Item 10), the NMFS Budget (Item 12), and the status reports listed in Item 1.

Council

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. The Council will receive the following reports, taking action if required:

a. Reports from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) on the current status of the groundfish fisheries off Alaska.

b. Reports from the U.S. Coast Guard and NMFS Enforcement on recent enforcement activities.

c. Report from the National Research Council on a recent ecosystems management study.

2. The Council will review a discussion paper of proposed management measures for the Alaska halibut charterboat fleet and provide direction to staff.

3. Receive reports on Federal and State research activities relating to Steller sea lions.

4. Initial review of alternatives and options for implementation of additional or alternative Steller sea lion protection measures for 2000 and beyond.

5. Initial review of fishery management plan amendments to conform with requirements of the American Fisheries Act (AFA), and initial review of an amendment package for fishery management measures to mitigate impacts of the AFA on non-pollock fisheries.

6. Consider revision of previous action on eligibility for the license limitation program for the crab fisheries off Alaska.

7. The Council will discuss sustainable fisheries management, and receive a progress report on development of criteria for defining habitat areas of particular concern.

8. The Council is scheduled to take final action on management measures for seabird protection, discuss the problem of net debris, and review experimental fishery permits, if available, for bird avoidance measures.

9. The Council will receive a status report on the national vessel monitoring system.

10. The Council will receive a status report on a proposed weighmaster program for the halibut and sablefish IFQ fisheries and take any necessary action.

11. The Council will hold an initial discussion of potential amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

12. The Council will discuss and comment, if necessary, on a proposed rule to reduce observer coverage on longline catcher vessels 60 ft and under in the Community Development Quota (CDQ) program.

13. The Council will receive a status report on communities eligible under the CDQ program, and review an analysis to reduce CDQ observer coverage at shore plants.

14. The Council will discuss NMFS budget priorities and regional funding allocations within NMFS.

15. Under Groundfish Management, the Council will consider the following subjects:

a. Final action on reduction of the maximum retainable bycatch of shorttraker/rougheye and thornyhead rockfish.

b. Initial review of an amendment to ban non-pelagic trawl gear in Cook Inlet.

c. Review of any proposals received for individual vessel bycatch accountability and halibut mortality avoidance programs.

d. Direction to staff on allocation of Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Pacific cod between freezer longliners and other fixed gear.

e. Initial review of management alternatives for sharks in the waters off Alaska.

f. Discussion and direction to staff on analysis of species endorsements under the groundfish license limitation program.

g. Review experimental fisheries permit to assess sampling for species composition.

16. Initial review of a rebuilding plan for *bairdi* crab in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands.

17. Review Board of Fisheries activities concerning crab fishing seasons and new stand-down requirements.

The Council will review and discuss potential impacts of these actions on other Council-managed fisheries and take action as necessary.

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

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Helen Allen, 907-271-2809, at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: March 31, 1999.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 99-8471 Filed 4-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 032999C]

Western 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 Western Pacific Fishery Council (Council) will hold public meetings of its Bottomfish Advisory Panel (BAP) and Bottomfish Plan Team (BPT) in Honolulu, HI.

DATES: The BAP meeting will be held on April 21-22, 1999, from 8:30 a.m. to

5:00 p.m. each day. The BPT meeting will be held on April 28–29, 1999, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day.

ADDRESSES: Both meetings will be held at the Council office conference room, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI; telephone: (808–522–8220).

Council address: Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: 808–522–8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The BAP will discuss and may make recommendations to the Council on the agenda items below. The order in which agenda items will be addressed can change.

8:30 am Wednesday, April 21, 1999

1. Status of Northwestern Hawaiian Island (NWHI) and Main Hawaiian Islands (MHI) bottomfish management systems

A. Genetic research on onaga, ehu & hapuupuu stocks

B. Status of State's MHI management program (including enforcement and adequacy of closed areas)

2. Other concerns from the Region

A. Possible limited entry/closed areas in Northern Mariana Islands

B. Night scuba spear fishing in Guam

C. Other areas

3. Status of annual report recommendations (American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, Northern Mariana Islands, Region-wide)

8:30 a.m. Thursday, April 22, 1999

4. Status of amendment addressing Sustainable Fishery Act (SFA) provisions

5. Council's Program Planning document

6. Comprehensive Data Amendment

7. Other business

8. Summary of Panel's recommendations

The BPT will discuss and may make recommendations to the Council on the agenda items below. The order in which agenda items will be addressed can change.

8:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 28, 1999

1. Improvements to annual report modules

A. Progress with previous recommendations

B. Suggestions for further improvements

2. 1998 annual report modules (status of fishery and area recommendations; American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, Northern Mariana Islands)

3. 1998 annual report region-wide recommendations

A. Progress/status of previous year's recommendations

B. Development of new or repeat recommendations

8:30 a.m. Thursday, April 29, 1999

4. Status of amendment addressing SFA provisions

A. Bycatch

B. Overfishing

5. Addition of Bottomfish Management Unit Species (BMUS)

6. Status of NWHI bottomfish management system

A. Mau Zone limited entry amendment

7. MHI bottomfish management

A. Genetic stock structure of onaga & ehu

B. Genetic research needs for hapuupuu

C. Status of State's MHI management program (including enforcement and adequacy of closed areas)

8. Council's Program Planning document

9. Comprehensive Data Amendment

10. Recommendations of the Bottomfish Advisory Panel

11. Other business, and

12. Summary of Plan Team recommendations.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before the Council for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, 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.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, 808–522–8220 (voice) or 808–522–8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to meeting date.

Dated: March 30, 1999.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 99–8469 Filed 4–5–99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Admittance To Practice and Roster of Registered Patent Attorneys and Agents Admitted To Practice Before the Patent and Trademark Office

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (DOC), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on the continuing and proposed information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or June 7, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5033, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230 (e mail address is LEngelme@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to the attention of Karen Bovard, Director, Office of Enrollment and Discipline, 2221 South Clark Street, Arlington, VA 22202, by telephone at (703) 306–4097, or by facsimile transmission to (703) 306–4134.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Office of Enrollment and Discipline (OED) collects information to determine the qualifications of individuals entitled to represent applicants before the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) in the preparation and prosecution of applications for a patent. The OED also collects information to administer and maintain the roster of attorneys and agents registered to practice before the PTO.

There are forms associated with this information collection, which OED uses to collect information from the public. These forms are Form PTO–158 (Application for Registration to Practice Before the United States Patent and Trademark Office), Form PTO–158A (Application for Registration to Practice Before the United States Patent and Trademark Office Under 37 CFR 10.6(c) By a Foreign Resident), Form PTO–275 (Undertaking Under 37 CFR 10.10(b)), and Form PTO–107A (Data Sheet—Register of Patent Attorneys and