

Dated: January 8, 2000.

**Donald R. Knowles,**

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

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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-F**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 011100A]

#### New England 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 New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Capacity Committee. Recommendations from the Committee will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on February 2, 2000, at 9:30 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Foundry Offices, 235 Promenade Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room C, Providence, Rhode Island; telephone: (401) 222-6605 ext. 2412.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, telephone: (978) 465-04922.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Committee will continue its exploration of fishing capacity issues. The Committee will begin to review available information that may indicate the status of capacity in New England fisheries. Committee members will also begin to prioritize the problems caused by excess capacity in New England fisheries, and will begin to identify possible solutions to identified problems. The Committee will also review the number of permits held by vessels in order to characterize the amount of flexibility that fishermen have to move between fisheries.

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 Council action during this meeting. Council action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this document and any issues arising after publication of this document 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

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard, New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Newburyport, Massachusetts 01950; telephone: (978) 465-0492 at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: January 11, 2000.

**Richard W. Surdi,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 010400B]

#### Endangered Species; Permits

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

**ACTION:** Receipt of applications for scientific research permits (1229, 1231); issuance of modifications to existing permits (895, 900, 946, 1193, 1213).

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of scientific research and/or enhancement:

NMFS has received scientific research permit applications from Northern Wasco County People's Utility District at The Dalles, OR (NWCPU)(1229), and Dr. Llewellyn M. Ehrhart, of the University of Central Florida (LME-UCF) (1231); and NMFS has issued modifications to scientific research and/or enhancement permits to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District at Walla Walla, WA (COE)(895), Northwest Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service at Seattle, WA (NWFSC)(900, 946, 1213), and the Fish Passage Center at Portland, OR (FPC)(1193).

**DATES:** Comments or requests for a public hearing on either of the new applications must be received at the appropriate address or fax number no later than 5:00pm eastern standard time on February 14, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments on either of the new applications should be sent

to the appropriate office as indicated below. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the application. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the internet. The applications and related documents are available for review in the indicated office, by appointment:

For permits 895, 900, 946, 1193, 1213, and 1229: Protected Resources Division, F/NWO3, 525 NE Oregon Street, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97232-2737 (ph: 503-230-5400, fax: 503-230-5435).

For permit 1231: Office of Protected Resources, Endangered Species Division, F/PR3, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (ph: 301-713-1401, fax: 301-713-0376).

Documents may also be reviewed by appointment in the Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226 (301-713-1401).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

For permit 1231: Terri Jordan, Silver Spring, MD (ph: 301-713-1401, fax: 301-713-0376, e-mail: Terri.Jordan@noaa.gov).

For permits 900, 946, 1193, and 1229: Leslie Schaeffer, Portland, OR (ph: 503-230-5433, fax: 503-230-5435, e-mail: Leslie.Schaeffer@noaa.gov).

For permits 895 and 1213: Robert Koch, Portland, OR (ph: 503-230-5424, fax: 503-230-5435, e-mail: Robert.Koch@noaa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Authority

Issuance of permits and permit modifications, as required by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) (ESA), is based on a finding that such permits/modifications: (1) Are applied for in good faith; (2) would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species which are the subject of the permits; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits. Permits and modifications are issued in accordance with and are subject to the ESA and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Those individuals requesting a hearing on an application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on that application would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the permit action summaries are those of the applicant