

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Institute of Standards and Technology****Advanced Technology Program Advisory Committee**

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of partially closed meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, notice is hereby given that the Advanced Technology Program Advisory Committee, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) will meet Tuesday, January 30, 2007 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Advanced Technology Program Advisory Committee is composed of ten members appointed by the Director of NIST; who are eminent in such fields as business, research, new product development, engineering, education, and management consulting. The purpose of this meeting is to review and make recommendations regarding general policy for the Advanced Technology Program (ATP), its organization, its budget, and its programs within the framework of applicable national policies as set forth by the President and the Congress. The agenda will include an ATP Update, presentations on "Public-Private Partnerships", "The Network-Centric Innovation Imperative: How Manufacturers Work with Their Suppliers to Develop New Products" and "Benchmarking Regional Innovation Capacity: A Regional Innovation Index." A discussion scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. and to end at 3:30 p.m. on January 30, 2007, on ATP budget issues will be closed. Agenda may change to accommodate Committee business.

DATES: The meeting will convene Tuesday, January 30, at 9 a.m. and will adjourn at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 30, 2007.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Administration Building, Employees' Lounge, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899. All visitors to the National Institute of Standards and Technology site will have to pre-register to be admitted. Please submit your name, time of arrival, email address and phone number to Donna Paul no later than Friday, January 26, and she will provide you with instructions for admittance. Ms. Paul's e-mail address is donna.paul@nist.gov and her phone number is 301/975-2162.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Donna Paul, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-4700, telephone number (301) 975-2162.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The agenda will include presentations on Geographic Information System Approach for Identifying Emerging Technology Regions, U.S. Manufacturing Competitiveness in the Global Economy and Collaborations in ATP Projects. A discussion scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. and to end at 3:30 p.m. on January 30, 2007, on ATP budget issues will be closed. Agenda may change to accommodate Committee business. The Assistant Secretary for Administration, with the concurrence of the General Counsel, formally determined on January 9, 2007, that portions of the meeting of the Advanced Technology Program Advisory Committee which involve discussion of proposed funding of the Advanced Technology Program may be closed in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B), because that portion will divulge matters the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of proposed agency actions.

Dated: January 10, 2007.

James E. Hill,

Acting Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. E7-468 Filed 1-12-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****Availability of Seats for the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council**

AGENCY: National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Notice and request for applications.

SUMMARY: The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS or sanctuary) is seeking applicants for the following vacant seats on its Sanctuary Advisory Council (council): At-Large (two seats), Agriculture, Business/Industry, Commercial Fishing, Recreational Fishing, Recreation, Research, and Conservation. Applicants are chosen based upon their particular expertise and experience in relation to the seat for which they are applying; community and professional affiliations;

philosophy regarding the protection and management of marine resources; and possibly the length of residence in the area affected by the sanctuary.

Applicants who are chosen as members should expect to serve 3-year terms, pursuant to the council's Charter.

DATES: Applications are due by February 23, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Application kits may be obtained from Paul Chetirkin at the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, 299 Foam Street, Monterey, California 93940. Completed applications should be sent to the same address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Chetirkin at (831) 647-4210, or Paul.Chetirkin@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The MBNMS Advisory Council was established in March 1994 to assure continued public participation in the management of the Sanctuary. Since its establishment, the Advisory Council has played a vital role in decisions affecting the Sanctuary along the central California coast.

The Advisory Council's twenty voting members represent a variety of local user groups, as well as the general public, plus seven local, State and Federal governmental jurisdictions. In addition, the respective managers or superintendents for the four California National Marine Sanctuaries (Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary, Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary) and the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve sit as non-voting members.

Four working groups support the Advisory Council: The Research Activity Panel ("RAP") chaired by the Research Representative, the Sanctuary Education Panel ("SEP") chaired by the Education Representative, the Conservation Working Group ("CWG") chaired by the Conservation Representative, and the Business and Tourism Activity Panel ("BTAP") chaired by the Business/Industry Representative, each dealing with matters concerning research, education, conservation and human use. The working groups are composed of experts from the appropriate fields of interest and meet monthly, or bi-monthly, serving as invaluable advisors to the Advisory Council and the Sanctuary Superintendent.

The Advisory Council represents the coordination link between the Sanctuary and the State and Federal management agencies, user groups,

researchers, educators, policy makers, and other various groups that help to focus efforts and attention on the central California coastal and marine ecosystems.

The Advisory Council functions in an advisory capacity to the Sanctuary Superintendent and is instrumental in helping develop policies, program goals, and identify education, outreach, research, long-term monitoring, resource protection, and revenue enhancement priorities. The Advisory Council works in concert with the Sanctuary Superintendent by keeping him or her informed about issues of concern throughout the Sanctuary, offering recommendations on specific issues, and aiding the Superintendent in achieving the goals of the Sanctuary program within the context of California's marine programs and policies.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1431, *et seq.*

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: January 5, 2007.

Daniel J. Basta,

Director, National Marine Sanctuary Program, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 07-114 Filed 1-12-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-NK-M

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D.010807E]

Endangered Species; File No. 1595

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Michael Hastings, University of Maine, 5717 Corbett Hall, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469, has applied in due form for a permit to take shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*) for purposes of scientific research.

DATES: Written, telefaxed, or e-mail comments must be received on or before February 15, 2007.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following offices:

Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301)713-2289; fax (301)427-2521; and

Northeast Region, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298; phone (978)281-9300; fax (978)281-9394.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301)427-2521, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period.

Comments may also be submitted by e-mail. The mailbox address for providing e-mail comments is NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line of the e-mail comment the following document identifier: File No. 1595.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Brandy Hutnak or Malcolm Mohead, (301)713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 222-226).

Michael Hastings seeks permission to conduct research on shortnose sturgeon in the Penobscot River System, Maine, over a period of five years. The purpose of the research is to assess the distribution, movements, and abundance of shortnose sturgeon in the river system. Up to 300 shortnose sturgeon would be captured annually by gill and trammel nets; anesthetized; measured; weighed; sexed; photographed; fin clipped; scanned for tags; Carlin tagged; PIT tagged; allowed to recover; and released. A subset of 30 pre-spawned fish would have external transmitters attached, in addition to a subset of 30 post-spawned, non-spawning, or immature fish that would be surgically implanted with transmitters. Unintentional mortality is requested for up to 12 shortnose sturgeon and 4 Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) annually.

Dated: January 8, 2007.

Tammy C. Adams,

Acting Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E7-365 Filed 1-12-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[ID. 010807D]

Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Notice of Availability of Observer Coverage Plan and Notice of Sablefish At-Sea Processing Prohibition Exemption

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

ACTION: Notice of availability of an updated Observer Coverage Plan for the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery and an exemption to the at-sea processing prohibition for sablefish.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces availability of the updated Observer Coverage Plan for the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery pursuant to the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP). NMFS also announces the receipt of applications for, and the issuance of, an exemption to the prohibition of at-sea processing for sablefish caught during the primary sablefish fishery, a prohibition implemented as part of Amendment 14 to the FMP.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For more information on the Observer Coverage Plan, contact Jonathan Cusick (Northwest Fisheries Science Center, NMFS), phone: 360-332-2793 and e-mail: jonathan.cusick@noaa.gov. For more information on vessel exemptions to the prohibition of at-sea processing for sablefish, contact Kevin Ford (Northwest Region, NMFS), phone: 206-526-6115; fax: 206-526-6736 and e-mail: kevin.ford@noaa.gov.

Electronic Access

This **Federal Register** document is also accessible via the internet at the website of the Office of the **Federal Register**: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>. The updated Observer Coverage Plan is posted online at: <http://www.nwfsc.noaa.gov/research/divisions/fram/observer/index.cfm>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The FMP at Section 6.4.1.1 states: "The Regional Administrator will implement an