

small numbers of Cook Inlet beluga whales, Pacific harbor seals and harbor porpoises incidental to conducting seismic operations in the northwestern Cook Inlet in Alaska, provided the previously mentioned mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are incorporated. Likewise, NMFS has issued IHAs for potential harassment of Steller sea lions and killer whales incidental to conducting of seismic operations in the northwestern Cook Inlet in Alaska, provided that previously mentioned mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are incorporated.

Dated: March 30, 2007.

Angela Somma,

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

[FR Doc. E7-6488 Filed 4-5-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 040307A]

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Surfclam/Ocean Quahog and Tilefish Committee and Tilefish Advisory Panel will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2007, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2 Harmon Plaza, Secaucus, NJ; telephone: (201) 348-6900.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; 300 S. New Street, Room 2115, Dover, DE 19904, telephone: (302) 674-2331.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Daniel T. Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; 300 S. New Street, Room 2115, Dover, DE 19904; telephone: (302) 674-2331, extension 19.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this meeting is to review progress regarding Amendment 1 to the Tilefish Fishery Management Plan (FMP). It is expected that preferred management measures will be discussed and identified when possible. Amendment 1 to the Tilefish FMP

addresses: (1) Possible implementation of an Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) management system for tilefish [initial IFQ allocation, IFQ transferability of ownership, IFQ share accumulation, fees and cost recovery, establish flexibility to revise/adjust IFQ program, establish IFQ reporting requirements, other]; (2) Possible implementation of recreational bag-size limit; (3) Possible implementation of recreational permits and reporting requirements; (4) Potential improvements for monitoring of tilefish commercial landings; (5) Potential revisions to current tilefish reporting requirements (Interactive Voice Response); (6) Possible expansion of and revision to the list of management measures that can be adjusted via the framework adjustment process; (7) Potential revisions to essential fish habitat (EFH) designation; (8) Potential revisions to habitat areas of particular concern (HAPC) designation; (9) Consideration of possible measures to reduce gear impacts on EFH; and, (10) other issues to be considered in Amendment 1.

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 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 Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Committee's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

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 Bryan at the Mid-Atlantic Council Office, (302) 674-2331 extension 18, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: April 3, 2007.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E7-6428 Filed 4-5-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. /707A]

Annual National Marine Fisheries Service/State Marine Fisheries Directors Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of open public meetings.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of an annual meeting of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the State Marine Fisheries Directors. This annual meeting provides the opportunity for State and Federal fishery managers to discuss fishery management areas of concern. The meeting will be hosted by the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC). All sessions will be open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 1 – May 3, 2007. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for dates, times, and agenda.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Hotel Del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue, Coronado, CA 92118, (800) HOTELDEL.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chris Moore, Chief, Partnerships and Communications Division, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS; telephone: (301) 713-2379x165.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As required by section 10(a) (2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, notice is hereby given of this meeting. This annual meeting provides the opportunity for State Marine Fisheries Directors and Federal fishery managers to discuss fishery management areas of concern.

Tuesday, May 1, 2007

8 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. – Opening remarks and introductions will be presented by Dr. William T. Hogarth, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, and by Mr. Randy Fisher, Executive Director of PSMFC.

8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. – Presentations by the three Interstate Marine Fisheries Commissions; overview of state activities, and Gulf States experience with natural disasters.

10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – Implementation of Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Management and Conservation Act (MSA) will be presented; recreational fisheries registry and recreational fisheries data Marine

Recreational Fisheries Statistical Survey (MRFSS) and National Research Council (NRC).

1 p.m. to 3 p.m. – Discussion on recreational data issues (continued).

3:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. – Implementation of MSA will be presented; annual catch limits/accountability measures.

4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Science concerns and stock assessments will be discussed.

4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. – NOAA Fisheries Budget will be discussed.

Wednesday, May 2, 2007

8 a.m. to 9 a.m. – Implementation of MSA will be presented; National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA).

9 a.m. to 10 a.m. – Enforcement updates and vessel monitoring system (VMS) will be presented.

10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. – Specific management issues will be discussed; circle hooks, etc.

11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – National Outreach Plan will be presented.

1 p.m. to 2 p.m. – National Fish Habitat Plan will be presented.

2 p.m. to 3 p.m. – Aquaculture Legislation update will be presented.

3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. – State Directors will discuss areas of concern: grants, etc.

Thursday, May 3, 2007

8 a.m. to 10 a.m. – State Directors discussion of areas of concern (continue).

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. – Wrap-up meeting.

The above agenda items may not be taken in the order in which they appear and are subject to change as necessary to allow for full discussion.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Chris Moore, Chief, Partnerships and Communications Division, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS; telephone: (301) 713-2379 ext: 165, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: April 2, 2007.

James P. Burgess,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E7-6399 Filed 4-5-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. /607C]

Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

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

ACTION: Notice of availability and request for comment.

SUMMARY: Limit 10(i) of the June 28, 2005, Endangered Species Act (ESA) provides that road maintenance programs that comply with a program substantially similar to that contained in the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Guide that is determined to meet or exceed the protections provided by the ODOT Guide can be excepted from the prohibitions provided in earlier sections of that rule. The Five Counties Salmon Conservation Program's (5 C) "A Water Quality and Stream Habitat Protection Manual for County Road Maintenance in Northwestern California Watersheds" (Manual), is a comprehensive road maintenance program for Humboldt, Del Norte, Siskiyou, Trinity, and Mendocino Counties (5 C area). If the Manual is qualified under Limit 10(i), each of the five counties would adopt the Manual as its road maintenance program. To facilitate NMFS review of the Manual under Limit 10(i), 5 C prepared a submittal package that addresses each of the approval criterion in the 4(d) rule. The Manual would affect two Evolutionarily Significant Units (ESUs) of threatened salmon and two Distinct Population Segments (DPSs) of threatened steelhead identified in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** below. The Manual specifies the future management practices for routine road maintenance activities within the 5 C area. This notice serves to inform the public of the availability of the Manual and submittal package for review and comment.

DATES: Written comments on the Manual and submittal package must be received at the appropriate address or fax number (see **ADDRESSES**) no later than 5 p.m. Pacific Daylight Savings Time on May 7, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to Garwin Yip, Protected Resources Division, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1655 Heindon Road, Arcata, CA 95521. Comments may also be sent via fax to (707) 825-4840 or e-mail at 5C4DRule.SWR@noaa.gov.

Comments will not be accepted if submitted via the Internet. Copies of the Manual and submittal package are available on the Internet at <http://www.5counties.org>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Garwin Yip at phone number: (707) 825-5166, or e-mail: garwin.yip@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is relevant to the salmonid ESUs and DPSs listed as threatened in the 5 C area and covered by the June 2005 4(d) Rule. These ESUs and DPSs include the Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast coho salmon ESU, California Coastal Chinook salmon ESU, Northern California steelhead DPS, and Central California Coast steelhead DPS.

Background

On June 28, 2005, NMFS adopted a rule under section 4(d) of the ESA of 1973, as amended prohibiting the "take" of 20 groups of salmon and steelhead listed as threatened under the ESA the 4(d) Rule. That rule also describes limits on the extension of the definition of take to certain state and local programs in 13 specific categories, including Routine Road Maintenance (Limit 10). Limit 10(i) provides that routine road maintenance activities conducted by employees or agents of a state, county, city, or port that complies with a program substantially similar to that contained in the ODOT Guide that is determined to meet or exceed the protections provided by the ODOT Guide are eligible for the limitation on the definition of "take" of threatened species as to those road maintenance activities.

Each of the 5 counties of Humboldt, Del Norte, Siskiyou, Trinity, and Mendocino will adopt the Manual to obtain coverage under Limit 10(i) of the 4(d) Rule, should NMFS find the Manual is consistent with Limit 10(i). For NMFS to approve the Manual under Limit 10(i), it must find that the Manual meets or exceeds the protections provided by the ODOT Guide. To facilitate the approval of the Manual, the 5 C prepared the submittal package that includes a comparison, where applicable, of each category of maintenance practices and how they are equal to or exceeds the protections provided by the ODOT Guide.

In March 2007, the 5 C submitted the submittal package and Manual to NMFS for approval under the 4(d) rule. Within the Manual, Chapter 1 explains watershed basics, stream habitat needs, and road treatment principles. Chapter 2 explains the regulatory process in establishing the necessary permits in