stock is in an overfished condition. The Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council was notified of the status determination on August 11, 2009.

On April 22, 2009, NMFS notified the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council that the Mid-Atlantic coast stock of black sea bass was experiencing overfishing. This determination was based on an assessment using data up to 2007. Since this determination the assessment has been updated using 2008 data. The updated assessment found that the fishing mortality in 2008 was below the overfishing threshold, and NMFS has determined that overfishing is no longer occurring.

As noted above, within 2 years of determination that a fishery is overfished, the respective Council (or the Secretary) must adopt and implement a rebuilding plan, through an FMP Amendment or proposed implementing regulations, which ends overfishing immediately and provides for rebuilding. In addition, for the fisheries experiencing overfishing, the responsible Councils (or the Secretary) must propose, and NMFS must adopt, effective ACLs and AMs by fishing year 2010, if possible, but no later than 2011 to end overfishing.

Dated: December 15, 2009.

Emily H. Menashes,

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

[FR Doc. E9–30387 Filed 12–21–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN: 0648–XT34

New England 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 New England Fishery Management Council's (Council) Interspecies Committee will meet to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2010, at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, 31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA 02048; telephone: (508) 339–2200.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465–0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Topics to be discussed include the Committee's work plan, a buyback for the Northeast multispecies fishery, the status of monitoring programs in all fisheries, and NOAA's recent draft report on catch share policy;

2. Other items may also be discussed.

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 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 (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: December 16, 2009.

William D. Chappell,

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

[FR Doc. E9–30329 Filed 12–21–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Public Meeting and Public Comment

AGENCY: National Ocean Service, NOAA, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting, Notice of public comment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of a public meeting of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force. The meeting will be held in Washington, DC. This meeting, the 23rd bi-annual meeting of the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force, provides a forum for coordinated planning and action among Federal agencies, State and territorial governments, and nongovernmental partners. Please register in advance by visiting the Web site listed below. This meeting has time allotted for public comment. All public comment must be submitted in written format. A written summary of the meeting will be posted on the Web site within two months of its occurrence.

DATES: The meeting will be held Tuesday, February 23 and Wednesday, February 24, 2010. Registration is requested for all events associated with the meetings. Advance public comments can be submitted to the e-mail, fax, or mailing address listed below from Friday, January 15—Friday, January 29.

Location: The meeting will be held at the Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230 on February 23, 2010 and the Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240 on February 24, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Thur, NOAA U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Steering Committee Point of Contact, Coral Reef Conservation Program, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910 (*Phone:* 301–713–3155 ext. 147, *Fax:* 301–713–4389, *e-mail: Steven.Thur@noaa.gov*, Sarah Bobbe, U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Department of the Interior liaison, 1849 C Street NW., Room 5013 Washington, DC 20240 (*Phone:* 202–208–1378, *e-mail: Sarah Bobbe@ios.doi.gov*), or visit the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Web site at *http://www.coralreef.gov*.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Established by Presidential Executive Order 13089 in 1998, the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force mission is to lead, coordinate, and strengthen U.S. government actions to better preserve and protect coral reef ecosystems. Co-chaired by the Departments of Commerce and the Interior, Task Force members include leaders of 12 Federal agencies, seven U.S. States and territories, and three freely associated States. For more information about the meeting, registering, and submitting public comment go to *http://www.coralreef.gov*.

Dated: December 3, 2009.

Donna Wieting,

Director, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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