

the availability of a peer review report that consolidates the comments received. We are also providing the public an opportunity to submit comments or information on the peer review report for 30 days. The comment period shall be limited to 30 days because the statutory deadline requires a final listing determination by June 10, 2012.

#### Obtaining a Copy of the Peer Review Report

You may obtain a copy of the peer review report for review:

Via the Federal eRulemaking Portal <http://www.regulations.gov> at Docket No. NOAA–NMFS–2010–0258.

By visiting the Internet at: <http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/protectedresources/seals/ice.htm>.

Documents cited in this notice, including the peer review report, may also be viewed, by appointment, during regular business hours, at the aforementioned address in Juneau, AK (see **ADDRESSES**).

#### Public Comments Solicited

Comments and information submitted during the initial comment period on the December 10, 2011 (75 FR 77476), proposed rule should not be resubmitted since they are already part of the record. Comments and information submitted should focus on the information contained in the peer review report listed above. Our final determination of whether Arctic, Okhotsk, Baltic, and Ladoga ringed seals qualify as threatened or endangered under the ESA will take into consideration all comments and information we receive and have previously received during both comment periods. We request that all comments and information be accompanied by supporting documentation such as maps, bibliographic references, or reprints of pertinent publications. Please submit any comments to the **ADDRESSES** listed above.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: April 2, 2012.

**Alan D. Risenhoover,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2012–8371 Filed 4–5–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 223

RIN 0648–XZ58

#### Endangered and Threatened Species; Proposed Threatened Status for Distinct Population Segments of the Bearded Seal

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

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; notice of availability and opening of comment period.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS has conducted special independent peer review of the December 2010 status review report of the bearded seal (*Erignathus barbatus*) under the Endangered Species Act, as amended (ESA). This notice announces availability of a peer review report that consolidates the comments received from the reviewers and the opening of a 30-day public comment period on that report. Please note that comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted since they are already part of the record and will be considered when NMFS makes its final determination.

**DATES:** Comments and information must be received by May 7, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to Jon Kurland, Assistant Regional Administrator, Protected Resources Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, Attn: Ellen Sebastian. You may submit comments, identified by FDMS Docket Number NOAA–NMFS–2010–0259, by any one of the following methods:

Electronic Submissions: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal <http://www.regulations.gov>. To submit comments via the e-Rulemaking Portal, first click the “submit a comment” icon, then enter NOAA–NMFS–2010–0259 in the keyword search. Locate the document you wish to comment on from the resulting list and click on the “Submit a Comment” icon on the right of that line.

*Mail:* Submit written comments to P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802.

*Fax:* (907) 586–7557.

*Hand delivery to the Federal Building:* 709 West 9th Street, Room 420A, Juneau, AK.

Comments must be submitted by one of the above methods to ensure that the comments are received, documented,

and considered by NMFS. Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered.

All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.) submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter “N/A” in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous). Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word or Excel, WordPerfect, or Adobe PDF file formats only.

For information on obtaining a copy of the peer review report, see the “Obtaining a Copy of the Peer Review Report” section below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tamara Olson, NMFS Alaska Region, (907) 271–5006; Jon Kurland, NMFS Alaska Region, (907) 586–7638; or Marta Nammack, Office of Protected Resources, Silver Spring, MD (301) 713–1401.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

On December 10, 2010, NMFS made a 12-month petition finding and proposed to list the Beringia DPS and the Okhotsk DPS of the *Erignathus barbatus nauticus* subspecies of bearded seals as threatened (75 FR 77496). On December 13, 2011, in consideration of substantial disagreement regarding the sufficiency or accuracy of the model projections and analysis of future sea ice habitat in the range of the Beringia DPS of bearded seals, NMFS announced a 6-month extension of the deadline for the final listing determination to June 10, 2012 (76 FR 77465). At that time, we also announced that we were conducting special independent peer review of the sections of the status review report of the bearded seal (Cameron *et al.*, 2010) related to the disagreement, and that the resulting peer review report would be made available for public comment.

We have conducted this special peer review, and are notifying the public of the availability of a peer review report that consolidates the comments received. We are also providing the public an opportunity to submit comments or information on the peer review report for 30 days. The comment

period shall be limited to 30 days because the statutory deadline requires a final listing determination by June 10, 2012.

### Obtaining a Copy of the Peer Review Report

You may obtain a copy of the peer review report for review:

Via the Federal eRulemaking Portal <http://www.regulations.gov> at Docket No. NOAA–NMFS–2010–0259.

By visiting the Internet at: <http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/protectedresources/seals/ice.htm>.

Documents cited in this notice, including the peer review report, may also be viewed, by appointment, during regular business hours, at the aforementioned address in Juneau, AK (see **ADDRESSES**).

### Public Comments Solicited

Comments and information submitted during the initial comment period on the December 10, 2011 (75 FR 77496), proposed rule should not be resubmitted since they are already part of the record. Comments and information submitted should focus on the information contained in the peer review report listed above. Our final determination of whether the Beringia and Okhotsk DPSs of bearded seals qualify as threatened or endangered under the ESA will take into consideration all comments and information we receive and have previously received during both comment periods. We request that all comments and information be accompanied by supporting documentation such as maps, bibliographic references, or reprints of pertinent publications. Please submit any comments to the **ADDRESSES** listed above.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

Dated: April 2, 2012.

**Alan D. Risenhoover,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2012–8373 Filed 4–5–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 622

[Docket No. 100217095–2197–05]

RIN 0648–AY56

#### Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Amendment 32 Supplement

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

**ACTION:** Supplemental proposed rule; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS proposes to supplement the regulations that implemented management measures described in Amendment 32 to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico (Amendment 32) prepared by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council). After publication of the final rule for Amendment 32, published on February 10, 2012, NMFS identified inconsistencies in the regulatory text regarding the quotas and annual catch limits (ACLs) for “other shallow water grouper” (Other SWG) that need correction. This rule would revise the regulatory text regarding the quotas and ACLs for Other SWG. Additionally, NMFS proposes revisions to improve clarity of the regulations.

**DATES:** Written comments must be received on or before April 23, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on the supplemental proposed rule identified by “NOAA–NMFS–2011–0135” by any of the following methods:

- Electronic submissions: Submit electronic comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Mail: Peter Hood, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

Instructions: All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov> without change. All Personal Identifying Information (for example, name, address, etc.) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

To submit comments through the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal: [http://](http://www.regulations.gov)

[www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), click on “submit a comment,” then enter “NOAA–NMFS–2011–0135” in the keyword search and click on “search”. To view posted comments during the comment period, enter “NOAA–NMFS–2011–0135” in the keyword search and click on “search”. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter N/A in the required field if you wish to remain anonymous). You may submit attachments to electronic comments in Microsoft Word, Excel, WordPerfect, or Adobe PDF file formats only.

Comments through means not specified in this rule will not be accepted.

Electronic copies of Amendment 32, which includes a final environmental impact statement (FEIS), a regulatory flexibility analysis, and a regulatory impact review, may be obtained from the Southeast Regional Office Web Site at <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sf/GrouperSnapperandReefFish.htm>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Peter Hood, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, telephone 727–824–5305; email: [Peter.Hood@noaa.gov](mailto:Peter.Hood@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The reef fish fishery of the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) is managed under the FMP. The FMP was prepared by the Council and is implemented through regulations at 50 CFR part 622 under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). Background

A final rule to implement management measures described in Amendment 32 was published on February 10, 2012 (77 FR 6988). That final rule included measures to:

- Adjust the commercial gag quota and recreational annual catch target (ACT) for 2012 through 2015 and subsequent fishing years, consistent with the gag rebuilding plan established in Amendment 32;
- Adjust the shallow-water grouper (SWG) quota;
- Adjust the commercial and recreational sector’s ACLs for gag and red grouper;
- Adjust the commercial ACL for SWG;
- Establish a formula-based method for setting gag and red grouper multi-use allocation for the grouper/tilefish individual fishing quota program in the Gulf;
- Set the recreational gag fishing season from July 1 through October 31;
- Reduce the gag commercial size limit to 22 inches (59 cm) total length (TL); and
- Modify the gag and red grouper accountability measures (AMs).