

intend to do so, in order to ensure the timely and accurate data collection NMFS needs to meet this year's research objectives. An applicant who has been charged criminally or civilly (e.g., issued a Notice of Violation and Assessment (NOVA) or Notice of Permit Sanction) for any HMS-related violation will not be considered for participation in the shark research fishery. In addition, applicants who were selected to carry an observer in the previous 2 years for any HMS fishery, but failed to contact NMFS to arrange the placement of an observer as required per 50 CFR 635.7, will not be considered for participation in the 2016 shark research fishery. Applicants who were selected to carry an observer in the previous 2 years for any HMS fishery and failed to comply with all the observer regulations per 50 CFR 635.7 will also not be considered. Exceptions will be made for vessels that were selected for HMS observer coverage but did not fish in the quarter when selected and thus did not require an observer. Applicants who do not possess a valid USCG safety inspection decal when the application is submitted will not be considered. Applicants who have been non-compliant with any of the HMS observer program regulations in the previous 2 years, as described above, may be eligible for future participation in shark research fishery activities by demonstrating 2 subsequent years of compliance with observer regulations at 50 CFR 635.7.

#### Selection Process

The HMS Management Division will review all submitted applications and develop a list of qualified applicants from those applications that are deemed complete. A qualified applicant is an applicant that has submitted a complete application by the deadline (see **DATES**) and has met the selection criteria listed above. Qualified applicants are eligible to be selected to participate in the shark research fishery for 2016. The HMS Management Division will provide the list of qualified applicants without identifying information to the SEFSC. The SEFSC will then evaluate the list of qualified applicants and, based on the temporal and spatial needs of the research objectives, the availability of observers, the availability of qualified applicants, and the available quota for a given year, will randomly select qualified applicants to conduct the prescribed research. Where there are multiple qualified applicants that meet the criteria, permittees will be randomly selected through a lottery system. If a public meeting is deemed necessary, NMFS will announce details of a public

selection meeting in a subsequent **Federal Register** notice.

Once the selection process is complete, NMFS will notify the selected applicants and issue the shark research fishery permits. The shark research fishery permits will be valid only in calendar year 2016. If needed, NMFS will communicate with the shark research fishery permit holders to arrange a captain's meeting to discuss the research objectives and protocols. NMFS held mandatory captain's meetings before observers were placed on vessels in 2013 (78 FR 14515; March 6, 2013), 2014 (79 FR 12155; March 4, 2014), and 2015 (80 FR 3221; January 22, 2015) and expects to hold one again in 2016. Once the fishery starts, the shark research fishery permit holders must contact the NMFS observer coordinator to arrange the placement of a NMFS-approved observer for each shark research trip.

A shark research fishery permit will only be valid for the vessel and owner(s) and terms and conditions listed on the permit, and, thus, cannot be transferred to another vessel or owner(s). Shark research fishery permit holders must carry a NMFS-approved observer in order to land sandbar sharks. Issuance of a shark research permit does not guarantee that the permit holder will be assigned a NMFS-approved observer on any particular trip. Rather, issuance indicates that a vessel may be issued a NMFS-approved observer for a particular trip, and on such trips, may be allowed to harvest Atlantic sharks, including sandbar sharks, in excess of the retention limits described in 50 CFR 635.24(a). These retention limits will be based on available quota, number of vessels participating in the 2016 shark research fishery, the research objectives set forth by the shark board, the extent of other restrictions placed on the vessel, and may vary by vessel and/or location. When not operating under the auspices of the shark research fishery, the vessel would still be able to land LCS, SCS, and pelagic sharks subject to existing retention limits on trips without a NMFS-approved observer.

NMFS annually invites commercial shark permit holders (directed and incidental) to submit an application to participate in the shark research fishery. Permit applications can be found on the HMS Management Division's Web site at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/index.htm> or by calling (301) 427-8503. Final decisions on the issuance of a shark research fishery permit will depend on the submission of all required information by the deadline (see **DATES**), and NMFS' review of applicant information as outlined above.

The 2016 shark research fishery will start after the opening of the shark fishery and under available quotas as published in a separate **Federal Register** final rule.

Dated: November 2, 2015.

**Emily H. Menashes,**

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

[FR Doc. 2015-28257 Filed 11-4-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XE299**

#### Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Advisory Panel

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

**ACTION:** Notice; solicitation of nominations.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS solicits nominations for the Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Advisory Panel (AP). NMFS consults with and considers the comments and views of the HMS AP when preparing and implementing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) or FMP amendments for Atlantic tunas, swordfish, sharks, and billfish. Nominations are being sought to fill approximately one-third (11) of the seats on the HMS AP for a 3-year appointment. Individuals with definable interests in the recreational and commercial fishing and related industries, environmental community, academia, and non-governmental organizations are considered for membership on the HMS AP.

**DATES:** Nominations must be received on or before December 7, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit nominations and requests for the Advisory Panel Statement of Organization, Practices, and Procedures by any of the following methods:

- **Email:** [HMSAP.Nominations@noaa.gov](mailto:HMSAP.Nominations@noaa.gov). Include in the subject line the following identifier: "HMS AP Nominations."

- **Mail:** Margo Schulze-Haugen, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, NMFS SF1, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Craig Cockrell at (301) 427-8503.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Introduction**

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act, Public Law 104–297, provided that the Secretary may establish Advisory Panels to assist in the collection and evaluation of information relevant to the development of any Fishery Management Plan (FMP) or FMP amendment for any highly migratory species fishery that is under the Secretary’s authority. NMFS has consulted with the HMS AP on: Amendment 1 to the Billfish FMP (April 1999); the HMS FMP (April 1999); Amendment 1 to the HMS FMP (December 2003); the 2006 Consolidated HMS FMP (October 2006); Amendments 1, 2, 3, 4, 5a, 5b, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 to the 2006 Consolidated HMS FMP (April and October 2008, February and September 2009, May and September 2010, April and September 2011, March and September 2012, January and September 2013, April and September 2014, and March and September 2015); among other relevant fishery management issues.

**Procedures and Guidelines**

*A. Nomination Procedures for Appointments to the Advisory Panel*

Nomination packages should include:

1. The name of the nominee and a description of his/her interest in HMS or HMS fisheries, or in particular species of sharks, swordfish, tunas, or billfish;

2. Contact information, including mailing address, phone, and email of the nominee;

3. A statement of background and/or qualifications;

4. A written commitment that the nominee shall actively participate in good faith, and consistent with ethics obligations, in the meetings and tasks of the HMS AP; and

5. A list of outreach resources that the nominee has at his/her disposal to communicate HMS issues to various interest groups.

**Qualifications for HMS AP Membership**

Qualification for membership includes one or more of the following: (1) Experience in HMS recreational fisheries; (2) experience in HMS commercial fisheries; (3) experience in fishery-related industries (*e.g.*, marinas, bait and tackle shops); (4) experience in the scientific community working with HMS; and/or (5) representation of a private, non-governmental, regional, national, or international organization representing marine fisheries, or environmental, governmental, or academic interests dealing with HMS.

**Tenure for the HMS AP**

Member tenure will be for 3 years (36 months), with approximately one-third of the members’ terms expiring on December 31 of each year. Nominations are sought for terms beginning January 2016 and expiring December 2018.

*B. Participants*

Nominations for the HMS AP will be accepted to allow representation from commercial and recreational fishing

interests, academic/scientific interests, and the environmental/non-governmental organization community, who are knowledgeable about Atlantic HMS and/or Atlantic HMS fisheries. Current representation on the HMS AP, as shown in Table 1, consists of 12 members representing commercial interests, 12 members representing recreational interests, 4 members representing environmental interests, 4 academic representatives, and the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) Advisory Committee Chairperson. Each HMS AP member serves a 3-year term with approximately one-third of the total number of seats (33) expiring on December 31 of each year. NMFS seeks to fill 3 academic, 3 commercial, 4 recreational organization, and 1 environmental organization vacancies by December 31, 2015. NMFS will seek to fill vacancies based primarily on maintaining the current representation from each of the sectors. NMFS also considers species expertise and representation from the fishing regions (Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean) to ensure the diversity and balance of the AP. Table 1 includes the current representation on the HMS AP by sector, region, and species with terms that are expiring identified in bold. It is not meant to indicate that NMFS will only consider persons who have expertise in the species or fishing regions that are listed. Rather, NMFS will aim toward having as diverse and balanced an AP as possible.

**TABLE 1—CURRENT REPRESENTATION ON THE HMS AP BY SECTOR, REGION, AND SPECIES**

[Terms that are expiring or for whom current members are stepping down are in bold. NMFS tries to maintain diversity and balance in representation among fishing regions and species.]

Sector	Fishing region	Species	Date appointed	Date term expires
Academic	All	Tuna	1/1/2013	12/31/2015
Academic	Southeast/Gulf of Mexico	Shark	1/1/2013	12/31/2015
Academic	Southeast	Swordfish/HMS	1/1/2013	12/31/2015
Academic	All	Swordfish/Tuna	1/1/2015	12/31/2017
Commercial	Southeast	Shark	1/1/2013	12/31/2015
Commercial	Southeast	Swordfish/Tuna	1/1/2013	12/31/2015
Commercial	Northeast	Tuna	1/1/2014	12/31/2016
Commercial	Mid-Atlantic	HMS/Shark	1/1/2014	12/31/2016
Commercial	Southeast	Swordfish	1/1/2014	12/31/2016
Commercial	Gulf of Mexico	Shark	1/1/2014	12/31/2016
Commercial	Gulf of Mexico	Shark	1/1/2014	12/31/2016
Commercial	MidAtlantic	HMS	1/1/2015	12/31/2017
Commercial	Northeast	Tuna/Swordfish	1/1/2015	12/31/2017
Commercial	Gulf of Mexico	Tuna/Swordfish	1/1/2015	12/31/2017
Commercial	Northeast	Tuna	1/1/2015	12/31/2017
Commercial	Northeast	Tuna	1/1/2015	12/31/2017
Environmental	All	Tuna	1/1/2014	12/31/2016
Environmental	All	Tuna	1/1/2014	12/31/2016
Environmental	All	Shark	1/1/2015	12/31/2017
Environmental	All	HMS	1/1/2015	12/31/2017
Recreational	Northeast	Tuna/Shark	1/1/2013	12/31/2015

TABLE 1—CURRENT REPRESENTATION ON THE HMS AP BY SECTOR, REGION, AND SPECIES—Continued

[Terms that are expiring or for whom current members are stepping down are in bold. NMFS tries to maintain diversity and balance in representation among fishing regions and species.]

Sector	Fishing region	Species	Date appointed	Date term expires
Recreational	Southeast	Swordfish	1/1/2013	12/31/2015
Recreational	Northeast	HMS	1/1/2013	12/31/2015
Recreational	Southeast	HMS	1/1/2013	12/31/2015
Recreational	Northeast	HMS	1/1/2013	12/31/2016
Recreational	Northeast	Tuna	1/1/2014	12/31/2016
Recreational	Mid-Atlantic	HMS	1/1/2014	12/31/2016
Recreational	Southeast	Billfish	1/1/2014	12/31/2016
Recreational	Gulf of Mexico	HMS	1/1/2014	12/31/2016
Recreational	Gulf of Mexico/Southeast	Billfish	1/1/2015	12/31/2017
Recreational	Mid-Atlantic	Shark	1/1/2015	12/31/2017
Recreational	Mid-Atlantic	Tuna	1/1/2015	12/31/2017

The intent is to have a group that, as a whole, reflects an appropriate and equitable balance and mix of interests given the responsibilities of the HMS AP.

Five additional members on the HMS AP include one member representing each of the following Councils: New England Fishery Management Council, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, and the Caribbean Fishery Management Council. The HMS AP also includes 22 ex-officio participants: 20 representatives of the coastal states and two representatives of the interstate commissions (the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission).

NMFS will provide the necessary administrative support, including technical assistance, for the HMS AP. However, NMFS will not compensate participants with monetary support of any kind. Depending on availability of funds, members may be reimbursed for travel costs related to the HMS AP meetings.

### C. Meeting Schedule

Meetings of the HMS AP will be held as frequently as necessary but are routinely held twice each year—once in the spring, and once in the fall. The meetings may be held in conjunction with public hearings.

Dated: November 2, 2015.

**Emily H. Menashes,**

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

[FR Doc. 2015-28263 Filed 11-4-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

[Docket ID: DoD-2015-OS-0122]

### Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary of Defense, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice to alter a System of Records.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the Secretary of Defense proposes to alter a system of records, DWHS C01, entitled “Enterprise Support Portal (ESP)” to assist OSD Components in organizational management tasks, manpower-related tasks, and general administrative tasks related to employees by retrieving information from the authoritative sources and storing administrative information within the Enterprise Support Portal. To process network/system account requests, IT service/helpdesk requests, and facilities requests.

**DATES:** Comments will be accepted on or before December 7, 2015. This proposed action will be effective the day following the end of the comment period unless comments are received which result in a contrary determination.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

\* *Federal Rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

\* *Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Deputy Chief Management Officer, Directorate of Oversight and Compliance, Regulatory and Audit Matters Office, 9010 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-9010.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name and

docket number for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Cindy Allard, Chief, OSD/JS Privacy Office, Freedom of Information Directorate, Washington Headquarters Service, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1155, or by phone at (571) 372-0461.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Office of the Secretary of Defense notices for systems of records subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended, have been published in the **Federal Register** and are available from the address in **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** or at <http://dpcl.d.defense.gov/>. The proposed system report, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(r) of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, was submitted on October 30, 2015, to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) pursuant to paragraph 4c of Appendix I to OMB Circular No. A-130, “Federal Agency Responsibilities for Maintaining Records About Individuals,” dated February 8, 1996 (February 20, 1996, 61 FR 6427).

Dated: October 30, 2015.

**Aaron Siegel,**

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

### DWHS C01

#### SYSTEM NAME:

Enterprise Support Portal (ESP) (March 5, 2013, 78 FR 14275)