

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Groundfish Committee to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

**DATES:** This meeting will be held on Thursday, June 9, 2016 at 9 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, 100 Boardman Street, Boston, MA 02128; phone: (617) 567-6789; fax: (617) 461-0798.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Agenda**

The committee will receive an update from the Plan Development Team (PDT) on Committee tasking regarding estimated discards and associated CVs and a draft white paper examining the groundfish monitoring program; and make recommendations to the Council. They will also review PDT work to date on developing a sub-ACL for the scallop fishery for northern windowpane flounder and allocating the northern windowpane flounder stock to sectors in the groundfish fishery; and make recommendations to the Council regarding the development of alternatives. The committee will also review PDT work to date on this action that considers revising the Georges Bank haddock sub-ACL and associated accountability measures; and make recommendations to the Council regarding the development of alternatives. Other business will be discussed as necessary.

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 listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens 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 Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: May 18, 2016.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2016-12060 Filed 5-20-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**RIN 0648-XE637**

**Fisheries of the South Atlantic; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Public Meeting**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of SEDAR Data Best Practices Standing Panel Webinar.

**SUMMARY:** The SEDAR Data Best Practices Panel will develop, review, and evaluate best practice recommendations for SEDAR Data Workshops. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**DATES:** The SEDAR Data Best Practices Standing Panel webinar will be held on Monday, June 6, 2016, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. (EST).

**ADDRESSES:**

*Meeting address:* The meeting will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact Julia Byrd at SEDAR (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation providing webinar access information. Please request webinar invitations at least 24 hours in advance of each webinar.

*SEDAR address:* South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC), 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405; [www.sedarweb.org](http://www.sedarweb.org).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julia Byrd, SEDAR Coordinator, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405; phone: (843) 571-4366; email: [julia.byrd@safmc.net](mailto:julia.byrd@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and

Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions, have implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR is a three-step process including: (1) Data Workshop; (2) Assessment Process utilizing webinars; and (3) Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a data report which compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The product of the Assessment Process is a stock assessment report which describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The assessment is independently peer reviewed at the Review Workshop. The product of the Review Workshop is a Summary documenting panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data. Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office, Highly Migratory Species Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include: Data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs); international experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

The SEDAR Data Best Practices Standing Panel is charged with developing, reviewing, and evaluating best practice recommendations for SEDAR Data Workshops. This will be the second meeting of this group. The items of discussion for this webinar are as follows:

1. Finalize terms of reference, incorporating SEDAR Steering Committee feedback as necessary, that specify the Panel's purpose and approach.

2. Begin discussions on SEDAR Data Best Practices living document.

3. Other business.

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 intent to take final action to address the emergency.

**Special Accommodations**

This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the SAFMC office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

**Note:** The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: May 18, 2016.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2016-12037 Filed 5-20-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**United States Patent and Trademark Office**

**Patent Processing (Updating)**

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on this extension of a continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before July 22, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Email:* [InformationCollection@uspto.gov](mailto:InformationCollection@uspto.gov). Include "0651-0031 inquiry" in the subject line of the message.
- *Federal Rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>.
- *Mail:* Marcie Lovett, Records Management Division Director, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United

States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information should be directed to Raul Tamayo, Senior Legal Advisor, Office of Patent Legal Administration, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; by telephone at 571-272-7728; or by email to [Raul.Tamayo@uspto.gov](mailto:Raul.Tamayo@uspto.gov) with "0651-0031 inquiry" in the subject line. Additional information about this collection is also available at <http://www.reginfo.gov> under "Information Collection Review."

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**I. Abstract**

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is required by 35 U.S.C. 131 to examine an application for patent and, when appropriate, issue a patent. The USPTO is also required to publish patent applications, with certain exceptions, promptly after the expiration of a period of eighteen months from the earliest filing date for which a benefit is sought under Title 35, United States Code ("eighteen-month publication"). Certain situations may arise which require that additional information be supplied in order for the USPTO to further process the patent or application. The USPTO administers the statutes through various sections of the rules of practice in 37 CFR part 1.

The information in this collection can be used by the USPTO to continue the processing of the patent or application to ensure that applicants are complying with the patent regulations and to aid in the prosecution of the application.

**II. Method of Collection**

The forms associated with this collection may be downloaded from the USPTO Web site in Portable Document Format (PDF), filled out electronically, and then either printed for mailing or submitted to the USPTO online through EFS-Web. The "EFS-Web only" items in this collection must be submitted to the USPTO online through EFS-Web. In addition, the USPTO provides an electronic interface on its Web site that the public can use to submit the information associated with the

Electronic Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form.

**III. Data**

*OMB Number:* 0651-0031.

*IC Instruments and Forms:* PTO/AIA/22, PTO/AIA/24, PTO/AIA/24B, PTO/AIA/31, PTO/AIA/32, PTO/AIA/33, PTO/AIA/40, PTO/AIA/41, PTO/AIA/96, PTO/SB/08a, PTO/SB/08b, PTO/SB/17i, PTO/SB/21, PTO/SB/22, PTO/SB/24, PTO/SB/24B, PTO/SB/25, PTO/SB/26, PTO/SB/27, PTO/SB/30, PTO/SB/31, PTO/SB/32, PTO/SB/33, PTO/SB/35, PTO/SB/36, PTO/SB/37, PTO/SB/38, PTO/SB/39, PTO/SB/43, PTO/SB/61, PTO/SB/63, PTO/SB/64, PTO/SB/64a, PTO/SB/67, PTO/SB/68, PTO/SB/91, PTO/SB/92, PTO/SB/96, PTO/SB/97, PTO/SB/130, PTO-2053-A/B, PTO-2054-A/B, PTO-2055-A/B, PTOL-413A, and PTOL-413C.

*Type of Review:* Revision of a Previously-Existing Information Collection.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; and non-profit institutions.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 3,542,082 responses per year.

*Estimated Time per Response:* The USPTO estimates that it will take the public between 2 minutes (.03 hours) and 8 hours to submit a single item in this collection depending on the instrument used, including the time to gather the necessary information, prepare the appropriate form or petition, and submit the completed request to the USPTO. The time per response, estimated annual responses, and estimated annual hour burden associated with each instrument in this collection are shown in the table below.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours:* 3,631,187.33 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Respondent (Hourly) Cost Burden:* \$952,818,894.17. The USPTO expects that attorneys and/or paralegals will complete the instruments listed in the table below. The professional hourly rates for attorneys and paralegals, based on AIPLA's 2015 *Report of the Economic Survey*, are \$410 and \$125 respectively. Using these hourly rates, the USPTO estimates that the total respondent cost burden for this collection is \$952,818,894.17 per year.

IC No.	Item	Estimated response time (minutes)	Estimated annual responses	Estimated annual burden (hours)	Rate (\$/hr)
		(a)	(b)	(a) × (b)/60 = (c)	(d)
1 .....	EFS-Web IDS (Information Disclosure Statements) that do not require the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).	120	635,000	1,270,000.00	410.00