

DPSs, specifically the Bb-Canada/Northern New England, Bb-Mid-Atlantic, and Bb-Southern Atlantic DPSs, were threatened or endangered throughout all or a significant portion of their ranges. In the June 19, 2019 Notice (hereafter Notice), we inadvertently omitted information related to the Status Review Team's (SRT) application of the SPR Policy (79 FR 37578; July 1, 2014) to the blueback herring DPSs and our subsequent findings. Consistent with the SRT's application of the SPR Policy to the alewife rangewide and to the alewife DPSs, which is described in the Notice, the SRT also applied the SPR Policy to the blueback herring population rangewide and to the blueback herring DPSs. The Notice provides a thorough discussion of the SPR Policy as applied to the blueback herring rangewide and our additional considerations, independent of the definition of "significant" in the policy given that the threshold for "significance" had recently been invalidated. In the Notice, however, we failed to include a discussion of the SRT's SPR analyses for the Bb-Canada/Northern New England, Bb-Mid-Atlantic, and Bb-Southern Atlantic DPSs, through which they found no evidence of a heightened risk of extinction now or in the foreseeable future in any portion of the ranges of these DPSs. Furthermore, we failed to state that we agreed with the SRT's analyses. Here, we provide corrections to our 12-month finding and provide notice that these analyses have also been included in the Status Review Report.

Additionally, in the SPR section of the Notice, within the rangewide analysis for blueback herring, our discussion of the Long Island Sound portion of the range requires clarification. Here, we clarify that the Long Island Sound portion of the range overlaps the Bb-Southern New England stock complex and the Bb-Mid-Atlantic DPS. As described in the Notice, some of the rivers in this portion occur within the Bb-Southern New England stock complex (the Gilbert-Stuart and Monument Rivers (Reid *et al.* 2018)), while other rivers are found in the Bb-Mid-Atlantic DPS (the Connecticut River and Mianus Rivers (Reid *et al.* 2018)). This clarifies that this portion does not exist solely within the Bb-Mid-Atlantic DPS.

#### Corrections

In the **Federal Register** of June 19, 2019 in FR Doc. 2019-12908, beginning on page 28663, in the preamble section, make the following corrections:

1. On page 28663, in the second column, in the first full paragraph, the first sentence is corrected to read:

Additionally, because in 2011, the petitioner identified the Long Island Sound portion of the range as a potential DPS, the SRT considered if this portion, which overlaps the Bb-Southern New England stock complex and the Mid-Atlantic DPS, would be considered "significant" under the SPR Policy.

2. On page 28663, in the second column, in the second full paragraph, the second sentence is corrected to read:

Notably, this area is found partially within the Bb-Mid-Atlantic DPS (discussed above and reviewed in Evaluation of Threats), and any information that may differ in the Long Island Sound portion of the range from other portions of the blueback herring range is expressed in the above descriptions with additional detail provided in the Status Review Report (NMFS 2019).

3. On page 28665, in the second column, after the first full paragraph, is corrected by adding the following paragraphs to read:

The SRT then applied the SPR Policy to each blueback herring DPS. In other words, the SRT evaluated whether there is substantial information indicating that any portions of any singular DPS may have a concentration of threats and should be further evaluated under the SPR Policy. After reviewing the best available data, the SRT found no information to suggest that any portion of the Bb-Canada/Northern New England, Bb-Mid-Atlantic, or Bb-Southern Atlantic DPSs stood out as having a heightened risk of extinction now or in the foreseeable future, and the SRT found no reason to further evaluate areas of any particular blueback herring DPS under the SPR Policy.

After reviewing the SRT's findings, we agree that there is no evidence to suggest that blueback herring are at heightened risk of extinction, now or in the foreseeable future, in any particular area of a DPS. Thus, we find no evidence that a significant portion of one of the blueback herring DPSs is threatened or endangered and accordingly, consistent with the SPR Policy, we do not reach the second question identified in the SPR Policy of whether a portion of any blueback herring DPS is biologically significant.

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

Dated: October 1, 2019.

**Samuel D. Rauch, III**,  
Deputy Assistant Administrator for  
Regulatory Programs, National Marine  
Fisheries Service.

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Tilefish Individual Fishing Quota Program

**AGENCY:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, 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 proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before December 3, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Adrienne Thomas, PRA Officer, NOAA, 151 Patton Avenue, Room 159, Asheville, NC 28801 (or internet at [PRAComments@doc.gov](mailto:PRAComments@doc.gov)). All comments received are part of the public record. Comments will generally be posted without change. All Personally Identifiable Information (for example, name and address) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Douglas Potts, (978) 281-9341 or [Douglas.Potts@noaa.gov](mailto:Douglas.Potts@noaa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

This request is for extension of a current information collection.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Greater Atlantic Region manages the golden tilefish fishery of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the Northeastern United States, through the Tilefish Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council prepared the FMP pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens

Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). The regulations implementing the FMP are specified at 50 CFR part 648 subpart N.

The recordkeeping and reporting requirements at § 648.294 form the basis for this collection of information. NMFS requests information from tilefish individual fishing quota (IFQ) permit holders to process applications that ensure IFQ allocation holders are provided a statement of their annual catch quota, and for enforcement purposes, to ensure vessels are not exceeding an individual quota allocation. In conjunction with the application, NMFS also collects IFQ share accumulation information to ensure that IFQ allocation holders do not acquire an excessive share of the total limited access privileges, as required by section 303A(d)(5)(C) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

NMFS requests transfer application information to process and track requests from allocation holders to transfer quota allocation (permanent and temporary) to another entity. NMFS also collects information for cost recovery purposes as required under the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Cost recovery is used to collect fees to recover the costs directly related to management, data collection and analysis, and enforcement of IFQ programs. Lastly, NMFS collects landings information to ensure that the amounts of tilefish landed and ex-vessel prices are properly recorded for quota monitoring purposes and the calculation of IFQ fees. Having this information results in an increasingly more efficient and accurate database for management and monitoring of fisheries of the Northeastern U.S. EEZ.

## II. Method of Collection

The IFQ Allocation permit application, IFQ holder cap form, and the IFQ transfer form are all paper applications. These applications can be filled out online, but must be printed and signed to complete. The IFQ cost recovery process is entirely online at [www.pay.gov](http://www.pay.gov).

## III. Data

*OMB Number:* 0648-0590.

*Form Number:* None.

*Type of Review:* Regular submission.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit organizations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 12.

*Estimated Time per Response:* IFQ Allocation Permit Application, 30 minutes; IFQ Holder Cap Form, 5 minutes; IFQ Transfer Form, 5 minutes; IFQ Cost Recovery, 2 hours.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 42.

*Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public:* \$45.

## IV. Request for Comments

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

**Sheleen Dumas,**

*Departmental Lead PRA Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.*

[FR Doc. 2019-21628 Filed 10-3-19; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XV091**

### Fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico and 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 64 Assessment Webinar III for Southeastern U.S. yellowtail snapper.

**SUMMARY:** The SEDAR 64 stock assessment process for Southeastern U.S. yellowtail snapper will consist of a Data Workshop, a series of assessment webinars, and a Review Workshop. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

**DATES:** The SEDAR 64 Assessment Webinar III will be held November 4, 2019, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Eastern Time.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to

members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact Julie A. Neer 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:* 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julie A. Neer, SEDAR Coordinator; (843) 571-4366; email: [Julie.neer@safmc.net](mailto:Julie.neer@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 multi-step process including: (1) Data Workshop, (2) a series of assessment webinars, and (3) A Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a report that compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The assessment webinars produce a report that describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The product of the Review Workshop is an Assessment 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, HMS 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 NGO's; International experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

The items of discussion during the Assessment Webinar are as follows:

1. Using datasets and initial assessment analysis recommended from the data workshop, panelists will employ assessment models to evaluate stock status, estimate population benchmarks and management criteria, and project future conditions.