

showcasing their exports of goods and/or services by contacting ITA through the individual listed above. A **Federal Register** notice will be published subsequently to announce the next sector to be highlighted.

#### Selection Process

Items will be selected for exhibition on the basis of the following factors:

(1) Items must be produced in, or representative of services exported from, the United States and have at least a 50% U.S. content (including materials, equipment and labor). To highlight the impact of exports on small businesses, items will also be considered that are produced by U.S. companies that do not directly export but rather whose goods or services are incorporated into another company's for export.

(2) The items must relate to the industry selected by ITA and are suitable for exhibit in a limited space.

(3) The company must not be owned or controlled, indirectly or directly, by a foreign government.

(4) Items chosen should reflect diversity of company size, location, demographics, and traditional under-representation in business.

(5) Preference will be given to companies which ITA assisted in their exporting endeavors through ITA's business counseling services, trade promotion events, or market access negotiations.

#### Other Conditions

Displayed items will be considered loans to the Department. Companies will be responsible for shipment of the item to and from the Commerce Department, for obtaining appropriate insurance, and for all related costs.

#### Time Frame for Applications

Expressions of interest from the motor vehicles/automotive parts sector should be received within one month of the date of this Notice. Expressions of interest should be sent to the ITA official identified above.

Dated: March 3, 1998.

**David L. Aaron,**

*Under Secretary for International Trade.*

[FR Doc. 98-5889 Filed 3-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-25-P

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 020498B]

#### Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Fisheries for Dolphin and Wahoo

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

**ACTION:** Request that NMFS designate the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council to prepare a fishery management plan (FMP) and subsequent FMP amendments (amendments) for dolphin and wahoo; request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS has received a request from the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (South Atlantic Council) that NMFS designate, under procedures of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the South Atlantic Council as the Regional Fishery Management Council (Council) to prepare a FMP and amendments for the fisheries for dolphin, *Coryphaena hippurus*, and wahoo, *Acanthocybium solanderi*, throughout their range in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the Atlantic Ocean, including the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea. If NMFS designates the South Atlantic Council to prepare this FMP and amendments for these fisheries, the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, Mid-Atlantic, and New England Fishery Management Councils would still be able to propose dolphin and wahoo management measures for inclusion in the FMP and amendments. Under the South Atlantic Council's proposal, preparation of the FMP and amendments, and submission of these to NMFS for review, approval, and implementation (as provided under section 302(h) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act), would require a majority vote by only the South Atlantic Council. Input to the FMP and amendments by other Councils would not require their formal action (i.e., formal Council vote). Public comments are solicited concerning the South Atlantic Council's request.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted by April 8, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be directed to Dr. Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mark Godcharles, 813-570-5305.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Currently, dolphin is managed under the Fishery Management Plan for the Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic (Coastal Pelagics FMP). Wahoo in the Atlantic Ocean, including the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea, is not included in any Federal FMP. At its August 1997 meeting, the South Atlantic Council passed a motion to begin development of an FMP that would regulate commercial and recreational fisheries for dolphin and wahoo in the Atlantic EEZ. The South Atlantic Council requested that NMFS designate it to prepare such an FMP for these species throughout their range in the EEZ of the Atlantic Ocean.

Under section 304(f) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce, may designate which Council(s) shall prepare an FMP and amendments for a fishery that extends beyond the geographical area of authority of any one Council. Specifically, NMFS may designate one Council to prepare the FMP and amendments or require that the FMP and amendments be prepared jointly by the Councils concerned. No jointly prepared FMP or amendment may be submitted to NMFS for review, approval, and implementation unless it is approved by a majority of the voting members, present and voting, of each Council concerned. Designation of one Council to prepare the FMP and amendments does not preclude participation in developing proposed management measures by the other Councils concerned.

South Atlantic Council action to initiate development of the FMP was prompted by public and Congressional concerns regarding possible overfishing and localized reductions of these two species because of increased harvesting by commercial and recreational fishermen. The South Atlantic Council believes that an FMP is necessary to protect and manage dolphin and wahoo resources throughout the Atlantic Ocean. Development of such an FMP is consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Act that requires the prevention of overfishing of fishery resources in the EEZ and the maintenance of fish stocks at population levels sufficient to produce maximum sustainable yield on a continuing basis. The South Atlantic Council indicates that the FMP would insure the long term health and sustainability of these fishery resources. Such an FMP would also address user group conflicts. To provide protection for dolphin and wahoo throughout their range in the Atlantic Ocean, the South Atlantic Council has asked the

Caribbean, Gulf, Mid-Atlantic, and New England Fishery Management Councils to support and participate in the management of these species.

Specifically, the South Atlantic Council would establish a dolphin and wahoo management committee comprised of members of all the Councils concerned as well as an advisory panel comprised of fishery representatives from the various Councils' jurisdictions. The South Atlantic Council indicates the FMP would preferably provide for consistent measures throughout the full range of dolphin and wahoo, but, where possible, the management program would be tailored to each Council's jurisdiction.

Inclusion of dolphin in the proposed FMP would require its removal from the Coastal Pelagics FMP by amendment to this fishery management plan. The Gulf and South Atlantic Councils jointly developed and amend the Coastal Pelagics FMP (managed species include king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, cero, cobia, dolphin, little tunny, and in the Gulf only, bluefish). The Coastal Pelagics FMP is implemented under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Act by regulations at 50 CFR part 622. Presently, those regulations specify authorized and unauthorized fishing gears for dolphin in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico EEZ, and corresponding dolphin possession limits for those gears.

The South Atlantic Council indicates, based on available information, that increased harvesting of dolphin and wahoo off the southern Atlantic states has contributed to localized depletion and user group conflicts. These problems are attributed to recent increases in fishing effort and market demand spurred by the popularity of dolphin among restaurant patrons. Available landings information indicates that the pelagic longlining fleet is directing increased effort toward dolphin, perhaps to offset declining swordfish catches. Considering that this fleet operates throughout the Atlantic EEZ, there is increasing opportunity for occurrences of localized overfishing of dolphin elsewhere in the EEZ, possibly leading to an overfished condition of the stock.

The South Atlantic Council believes that the present situation requires timely remedial action to prevent overfishing and serious user group conflicts before they occur off the southern Atlantic states or elsewhere in the Atlantic EEZ. In considering the increasing fishing pressure on dolphin and wahoo, and the sparse information available on stock structure and status, the South Atlantic Council perceives a

need to provide management throughout their range. Consequently, the South Atlantic Council requests authorization to develop an FMP that would provide comprehensive management and protection of dolphin and wahoo in the EEZ of the Atlantic Ocean.

NMFS requests public comments on the South Atlantic Council's proposal to be designated as the Council to prepare a new FMP to manage dolphin and wahoo throughout the Atlantic Ocean. Written comments will be reviewed and considered prior to NMFS' decision on this request.

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

Dated: March 2, 1998.

**Gary C. Matlock,**

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

[FR Doc. 98-5838 Filed 3-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 030398D]

#### Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene a public meeting of the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Technical Review Panel (TRP).

**DATES:** The meeting is scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1, 1998, and adjourn at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 2, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Wyndham Riverfront Hotel, 701 Convention Center Boulevard, New Orleans, LA 70130; telephone: 504-524-8200.

**Council address:** Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Wayne Swingle, Executive Director; telephone: 813-228-2815.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** At this meeting, the TRP will review the technical accuracy and adequacy of a revised preliminary draft of the Generic Amendment Addressing EFH Requirements in the Fishery

Management Plans of the Gulf of Mexico. EFH amendments are mandated by the recent passage of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

The TRP will review each section and provide comments. Based on the review, the TRP will develop recommendations for consideration by drafters of the document.

A copy of the agenda can be obtained by calling 813-228-2815.

Although other issues not on the agenda may come before the TRP for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed as available by this notice.

### Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) by March 25, 1998.

Dated: March 3, 1998.

**Bruce C. Morehead,**

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

[FR Doc. 98-6000 Filed 3-6-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 030398E]

#### Marine Mammals

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

**ACTION:** Receipt of application for amendment.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that Mr. Michael deGruy, The Film Crew, 629 State Street, Suite 222, Santa Barbara, CA 93101, has requested an amendment to Photography Permit No. 860-1374.

**DATES:** Written or telefaxed comments must be received on or before April 8, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** The amendment request and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s):

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS,