

have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the affected marine mammal stocks for subsistence uses. In addition, NMFS finds that, under its previous LOA, BPXA has met the requirements contained in the implementing regulations, including monitoring and reporting requirements.

This LOA remains valid until November 30, 2002, provided BPXA is in conformance with the conditions of the regulations and the LOA and the mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements described in this document and in the LOA are undertaken.

Dated: December 14, 2001.

**David Cottingham,**

*Deputy Director Office of Protected Resources  
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121801C]

#### 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 meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene a public meeting of the Shrimp Advisory Panel (AP).

**DATES:** The AP will meet beginning at 8:30 a.m. on January 7, 2001 and will conclude by 3 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the New Orleans Airport Hilton, 901 Airline Highway, Kenner, LA; telephone: 504-469-5000.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Richard Leard, Senior Fishery Biologist, at the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: 813-228-2815.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Shrimp AP will receive reports from NMFS on the status and health of shrimp stocks in the Gulf and the effects of the 2001 Cooperative Shrimp Closure with the state of Texas. The Shrimp AP may make recommendations for a cooperative closure with Texas for 2002. The Shrimp AP will also review an

Options Paper for Amendment 13 to the Shrimp Fishery Management Plan (FMP) that includes alternatives to add rock shrimp to the Shrimp FMP and establishment of status criteria for shrimp stocks including maximum sustainable yields (MSY), optimum yields (OY), as well as criteria for determining if any of the shrimp stocks are undergoing overfishing or should be classified as overfished. The Options Paper may also contain alternatives for bycatch quotas.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agenda may come before the AP for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions of the AP will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agendas 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 action to address the emergency.

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

#### 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 December 31, 2001.

Dated: December 18, 2001.

**Richard W. Surdi,**

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

[FR Doc. 01-31542 Filed 12-20-01; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121801B]

#### 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 public meetings of the Standing and Special Reef Fish Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and the Reef Fish Advisory Panel

(AP) from January 7 through January 11, 2002.

**DATES:** The Council's Reef Fish AP will convene at 9 a.m. (EST) on Monday, January 7, 2002 and conclude by 5 p.m. Wednesday, January 9, 2002. The Council will also convene a meeting of the Standing and Special Reef Fish SSC at 8:30 a.m. (EST) on Thursday, January 10, 2002 and conclude by 5 p.m. on Friday, January 11, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held at the Hilton Tampa Airport Hotel, 2225 Lois Avenue, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone: 813-877-6688.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Steven Atran, Population Dynamics Statistician, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; telephone: 813-228-2815.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The AP and the SSC will review a report from the Council's Reef Fish Stock Assessment Panel (RFSAP) summarizing recent NMFS stock assessments, recommendations for allowable biological catch (ABC) and thresholds for status determination for gag, vermilion snapper, and gray triggerfish. They will also review a report from the Council's Socioeconomic Panel (SEP) summarizing the available economic and social information and implications of setting recommended ABC levels for those stocks. The SSC will comment on the scientific validity of these reports, and both the SSC and AP may make recommendations for setting total allowable catch (TAC) or other management measures for these stocks.

Although other non-emergency issues not on the agenda may come before the AP/SSC for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Actions of the AP/SSC will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agendas 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 action to address the emergency.

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

#### 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 December 31, 2001.

Dated: December 18, 2001.

**Richard W. Surdi,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 121801A]

#### New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Enforcement Committee and Advisory Panel, Red Crab Advisory Panel and Oversight Committee and Monkfish Oversight Committee in January, 2002 to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from these groups will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

**DATES:** The meetings will be held between January 8, 2002 and January 14, 2002. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific dates and times.

**ADDRESSES:** The meetings will be held in Newburyport, MA Mansfield, MA and Portsmouth, NH. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for specific locations.

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

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; (978) 465-0492.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Meeting Dates and Agendas**

*Tuesday, January 8, 2002 at 9:30 a.m.—Enforcement Committee and Advisory Panel Meeting.*

*Location:* New England Fishery Management Council Office, 50 Water Street, Mill #2, Newburyport, MA 01950; (978) 465-0492.

The Committee will review enforcement policies and they will discuss policies as they pertain to

Scallop Amendment 10 and Monkfish annual adjustments.

*Tuesday, January 8, 2002 at 9:30 a.m.—Red Crab Advisory Panel Meeting.*

*Location:* Rossi's Restaurant, 50 Water Street, Mill #2, Newburyport, MA 01950; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

The Advisory Panel will meet to discuss the Council's draft Red Crab Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and proposed management measures. The Advisors will develop recommendations on the final management measures for consideration by the Council's Red Crab Committee. Issues to be discussed include: qualification criteria for a controlled access program for the directed red crab fishery; a potential days-at-sea program for the directed fishery; a potential trip limit for the directed fishery; the establishment of the fishing year for management purposes; and other potential management measures to be implemented in the FMP.

*Wednesday, January 9, 2002 at 9:30 a.m.—Red Crab Oversight Committee Meeting.*

*Location:* Holiday Inn, 31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA 02048; telephone: (508) 339-2200.

The Oversight Committee will meet to discuss the Council's draft Red Crab FMP and draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the proposed management measures. The Committee will consider comments received by the Council at public hearings on the draft EIS and during the review period. The Committee will develop recommendations on the final management measures for consideration by the Council. Issues to be discussed include: a controlled access program for the directed red crab fishery; a potential days-at-sea program for the directed fishery; a potential trip limit for the directed fishery; the establishment of the fishing year for management purposes; and other potential management measures to be implemented in the FMP.

*Monday, January 14, 2002 at 10:00 a.m.—Monkfish Oversight Committee Meeting.*

*Location:* Courtyard by Marriott, 1000 Market Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801; telephone: (603) 436-2121.

The Committee will review the analysis of options under consideration in Framework 1 to the Monkfish FMP, and make a recommendation to the Council for measures to be submitted to NMFS for the fishing year starting May 1, 2002. Framework 1 contains alternatives to the default measures for Year 4 of the rebuilding program contained in the FMP. Those default

measures would eliminate the directed monkfish fishery. The Council is considering various alternative measures based on trip limit and Days-at-Sea (DAS) adjustments to either achieve the same landings as in Year 2 (fishing year 2000-01), the preferred alternative, or achieve the Year 2 and 3 total allowable catch targets (TACs), the non-preferred alternative. Time permitting, the Committee will take public scoping comments on Amendment 2 to the Monkfish FMP.

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**

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting dates.

Dated: December 18, 2001.

**Richard W. Surdi,**

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

[FR Doc. 01-31545 Filed 12-20-01; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Office of the Secretary

#### **Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

In compliance with section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) announces public comment on the provisions thereof. 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 burden of the proposed information collection; (c)