

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN 0648-XA801

Fisheries of the Pacific Region

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

ACTION: Notification of determination of an overfished condition.

SUMMARY: This action serves as a notice that NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), has determined that Pacific ocean perch, (*Sebastes alutus*), which is managed by the Pacific Fishery Management Council, is in an overfished condition.

NMFS notifies the appropriate fishery management council (Council) whenever it determines that overfishing is occurring, a stock is in an overfished condition, or a stock is approaching an overfished condition.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Nelson, (301) 427-8565.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to sections 304(e)(2) and (e)(7) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), 16 U.S.C. 1854(e)(2) and (e)(7), and implementing regulations at 50 CFR 600.310(e)(2), NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary, notifies Councils whenever it determines; a stock or stock complex is approaching an overfished condition, a stock or stock complex is overfished, or existing action taken to prevent previously identified overfishing or rebuilding a previously identified overfished stock or stock complex has not resulted in adequate progress. NMFS also notifies Councils when it determines a stock or stock complex is subject to overfishing.

On September 30, 2011, NMFS informed the Pacific Fishery Management Council that the most recent stock assessment for Pacific ocean perch found that the biomass is below the overfished threshold. A review of the stock assessment determined that it constituted the best available information and that the change in the stock status was primarily a result of using a different model to assess the stock. The assessment also found that overfishing was not occurring and that the stock of Pacific ocean perch is rebuilding.

Pacific ocean perch are currently under a rebuilding plan. The Council must continue to take measures to

ensure that overfishing does not occur and that the stock rebuilds on schedule. If additional information were to reveal any concern over maintaining the current rebuilding progress, changes to the management or rebuilding parameters of Pacific ocean perch could be addressed through the biennial specification and management measures process.

Dated: November 8, 2011.

Steven Thur,

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

[FR Doc. 2011-29318 Filed 11-10-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN 0648-XA815

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council's (Council) VMS/Enforcement Committee and Advisory Panel with the United States Coast Guard will hold a Commercial Fishing Gear Stowage Workshop to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

DATES: The meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 29, 2011 at 10 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Northeast Regional Fisheries Training Center, 5200 East Hospital Road, Buzzards Bay, MA 02542. The public must preregister for this workshop to facilitate entrance to this secure facility, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for details.

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; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Preregistration: Should be emailed to Lt. Lyle Kessler, USCG Northeast Fisheries Training Center lyle.e.kessler@uscg.mil with "I plan to attend the gear stowage workshop" in the subject line. You will need to provide your first and last name, license number, State and plate number.

Agenda

The Committee and advisory panel will discuss research regulation changes that would decrease industry's safety concerns regarding gear stowage regulations, while maintaining enforcement's ability to enforce gear stowage regulations from the air.

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 Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This workshop is 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 date.

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

Dated: November 7, 2011.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2011-29190 Filed 11-10-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

RIN 0648-XA818

New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC); Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Research Steering Committee (Committee), in November, 2011, 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: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 30, 2011 at 9 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Four Points Sheraton, 407 Squire Road, Revere, MA 02151, telephone: (781) 284-7200; fax: (781) 289-3176.

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; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Research Steering Committee will meet to give an update on the NEFSC Northeast Cooperative Research Program and an update on NERO Cooperative research activities: response to NEFMC letter concerning scientific research catch; NEFMC request to approve the mid-size eliminator trawl; and other matters. The Committee will also review cooperative research projects final reports: "Use of kites in shrimp codends to reduce small shrimp and bycatch species," (NEC)—Pingguo He UNH, Dan Schick, ME DMR; "Pulse: A cooperative partnership for pelagic ocean ecosystem monitoring in the Gulf of Maine," (NEC)—Jeffrey A. Runge and Rebecca J. Jones; "Saco Bay Scallop Stock Enhancement Project," (NEC)—Heather Deese-Riordan; "Activity and Distribution of Cod in the Ipswich Bay Spawning Area," (NEC)—W.H. Howell, UNH; "Building on Promise: Continued investigation using a 4-seam bottom trawl to improve escapement of small haddock and cod," Dana L. Morse, ME Sea Grant (NEC).

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 Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: November 7, 2011.

Tracey L. Thompson,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 2011-29196 Filed 11-10-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XA816

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Staff will hold a meeting of recreational fishermen to get input into management measures for the recreational summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass fisheries.

DATES: The meeting will begin on Friday, December 2, 2011 at 1 p.m. and will end on Saturday, December 3, 2011 no later than 5:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Pier V Hotel at 711 Eastern Avenue Baltimore MD 21202, in the Harbor East Ballroom.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N. State Street Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674-2331.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Christopher M. Moore, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N. State Street Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 526-5255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this meeting is for the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council to get guidance from the recreational fishing community in three areas: (1) What the recreational community envisions for Mid-Atlantic fisheries in the future; (2) The annual process related to establishing recreational regulations, focusing on the summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass fishery, and; (3) How the Council can work more effectively with the recreational community to integrate their views into the management process.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other

auxiliary aids should be directed to M. Jan Saunders at the Mid-Atlantic Council Office, (302) 526-5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: November 7, 2011.

Tracey L. Thompson,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 2011-29191 Filed 11-10-11; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XS41

Marine Mammals; File No. 87-1851

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

ACTION: Notice; issuance of permit amendment.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Daniel P. Costa, Ph.D., University of California at Santa Cruz, Long Marine Laboratory, 100 Shaffer Road, Santa Cruz, CA has been issued a major amendment to Permit No. 87-1851-03.

ADDRESSES: The permit amendment and related documents are available for review upon written request or by appointment in the following office(s): Permits, Conservation and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910; phone (301) 427-8401; fax (301) 713-0376; and Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213; phone (562) 980-4001; fax (562) 980-4018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amy Sloan or Tammy Adams, Ph.D., (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 2, 2011, notice was published in the **Federal Register** (76 FR 46279) that a request for an amendment to Permit No. 87-1851-03 to conduct research on Weddell seals (*Leptonychotes weddellii*) had been submitted by the above-named applicant. The requested permit amendment has been issued under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), and the regulations governing the taking and importing of marine mammals (50 CFR part 216).

Permit No. 87-1851-04 changes the expiration date of the permit from January 31, 2012 to December 31, 2012, and authorizes capture, tagging, and sampling of 35 Weddell seals, and