

Dated: May 3, 2016.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2016-10692 Filed 5-5-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XE595

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

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

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, May 25–26, 2016, beginning at 1 p.m. on May 25 and conclude by 1 p.m. on May 26. For agenda details, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be at the Royal Sonesta Harbor Court, 550 Light Street, Baltimore, MD 21202; telephone: (410) 234-0550.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N. State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901;

telephone: (302) 674-2331 or on their Web site at www.mafmc.org.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, telephone: (302) 526-5255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda items to be discussed at the SSC meeting include: Review fishery performance report and multi-year ABC specifications for long-finned and short finned squid, Atlantic mackerel and butterflyfish; discuss MAFMC risk policy and assignment of CVs for Mid-Atlantic assessments; review fishery performance report and recommend surfclam and ocean quahog ABC specifications for 2017–18.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XE605

Regional Fishery Management Councils: Council Coordination Committee; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of Regional Fishery Management Councils Coordination Committee Meeting.

SUMMARY: The Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC) will host a meeting of the Council Coordination Committee (CCC) consisting of eight Regional Fishery Management Councils (RFMC) chairs, vice chairs, and executive directors and its subcommittees in May 2016. The intent of this meeting is to discuss issues of relevance to the Councils, contained in the following proposed agenda. All sessions are open to the public:

DATES: The meeting dates are May 25–26, 2016. Registration for the meeting will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on May 24, 2016, and from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on May 25, 2016. The meetings will begin at 9 a.m., on May 25, 2016, and recess at 5 p.m., or when business is completed, and will reconvene for its final day on May 26, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. until 4:45 p.m. or when business is completed.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place at the Frenchman's Reef and Morning Star Marriott Beach Resort, 5 Estate Bakkeroe, St. Thomas, U.S Virgin Islands.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 270 Muñoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 401, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918-1903, telephone (787) 766-5926.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Time	Discussion item	Presenter
May 25, 2016		
9 a.m.–10 a.m.	Welcome NMFS Update —NMFS Science Update on Coral Work in the Caribbean. —NMFS Science Update on Coral Work in the Caribbean.	Carlos Farchette/Eileen Sobeck. Eileen Sobeck.
10 a.m.–10:20 a.m.	Recreational Fisheries Update	Russell Dunn.
10:20 a.m.–10:35 a.m.	Coffee Break.	
10:35 a.m.–11:30 a.m.	FY 16/17 Budget Updates	Brian Pawlak.
11:30 a.m.–12 noon	Legislative Update	Dave Whaley.
12 noon–1:30 p.m.	Lunch.	
1:30 p.m.–2 p.m.	EBFM Road Map (Plan for Implementation)	Sam Rauch/Heather Sagar.
2 p.m.–3 p.m.	Council Definition of OY and Update on NS1	CCC Sam Rauch.
3 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	Coffee break.	
3:15 p.m.–4:15 p.m.	Catch Share Update Review	Alan Risenhoover/Kelly Denit.
4:15 p.m.–5 p.m.	Bycatch Discussion. —SBRM Rule Status Update —Council Discussion & Comments on Bycatch Strategy	Sam Rauch. CCC.
May 26, 2016		
8:30 a.m.–9:15 a.m.	New Operational Guidelines and the Regional Operation Agreements	Chuck Tracy/Alan Risenhoover.
9:15 a.m.–10 a.m.	EM & ER Regional Implementation Update	Jane DiCosimo/Kelly Denit/CCC.
10 a.m.–10:15 a.m.	Coffee Break.	
10:15 a.m.–11:00 a.m.	EFH Summit Update	Bill Tweit/Terra Lederhouse.
11a.m.–11:30 a.m.	Update on Conflict of Interest Regulations Project	Adam Issenberg.

Time	Discussion item	Presenter
11:30 a.m.–12 noon	Communications Group Report	Kitty Simonds.
12 noon–1:30 p.m.	Lunch.	
1:30 p.m.–3 p.m.	Compliance with NS2: BSIA used by Council/NMFS for stock status determination, specifications (OFL/ABC/ACL), and model selection. —Issues and examples. —Agency process to determine BSIA for Stock Status.	Tom Nies/Gregg Waugh/Jane DiCosimo.
3 p.m.–3:15 p.m.	Coffee Break.	
3:15 p.m.–3:45 p.m.	SSC Subcommittee. —Agenda items for 2017 Meeting.	
3:45 p.m.–4:15 p.m.	Other Business.	
4:15 p.m.–4:45 p.m.	Next CCC Meeting (2017)	Tom Nies.

The order in which the agenda items are addressed may change. The CCC will meet as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

Copy of the tentative agenda can be found at the CFMC Web page: www.caribbeanfmc.com.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. For more information or request for sign language interpretation and other auxiliary aids, please contact Mr. Miguel A. Rolón, Executive Director, Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 270 Muñoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 401, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00918–1903, telephone (787) 766–5926, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: May 2, 2016.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

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

[FR Doc. 2016–10650 Filed 5–5–16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No.: PTO–P–2015–0064]

Use of WIPO's ePCT System for Preparing the PCT Request for Filing as Part of an International Application With the USPTO as Receiving Office

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (Office or USPTO), in its capacity as a PCT Receiving Office (RO/US), will begin to accept international applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) that are filed electronically with a PCT Request prepared in the World Intellectual Property Organization's (WIPO) ePCT system. ePCT allows users to generate a zip file containing a validated PCT Request; the zip file can then be

submitted electronically to the RO/US as part of an international application filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system (EFS-Web). Because WIPO's ePCT system is web-based and the servers that support the system are located outside the United States, users of ePCT are reminded that the export of subject matter abroad pursuant to a foreign filing license from the USPTO is limited to purposes related to the filing of foreign applications, which include international applications filed in a Receiving Office other than the RO/US. A foreign filing license does not authorize the export of subject matter into ePCT for generating a PCT Request for filing with the RO/US. Persons who are considering the use of WIPO's ePCT system for preparation of the PCT Request for filing as part of an international application with the RO/US should consider contacting the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) at the Department of Commerce, the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC) at the Department of State, or the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) at the Department of Energy for the appropriate clearances where the international application may include technology subject to export controls.

DATES: The change in this notice takes effect on June 1, 2016.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Neas, Deputy Director (telephone (571) 272–3289; electronic mail message (michael.neas@uspto.gov)), International Patent Legal Administration, Office of International Patent Cooperation.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The USPTO's electronic filing system (EFS-Web) enables users to electronically file international applications under the PCT with the RO/US. EFS-Web currently permits users to submit the PCT Request by uploading a zip file created using PCT Secure Applications Filed Electronically (PCT–SAFE) software which is made available and maintained by WIPO. The zip file from

PCT–SAFE contains a validated PCT Request and fee calculation sheet in PDF format, which are subsequently loaded in the USPTO's Image File Wrapper (IFW). The zip file contains additional files that, among other things, allow the USPTO and WIPO to auto-load application bibliographic data. All other documents and application parts must be prepared and loaded separately in EFS-Web for filing of the international application. Submission of the zip file from PCT–SAFE at the time of filing the international application entitles the applicant to a reduction of the international filing fee. Starting on June 1, 2016, in addition to accepting the zip files generated by PCT–SAFE, the RO/US will also begin to accept international applications filed electronically with zip files created by WIPO's ePCT system. ePCT is a web-based service that provides for electronic filing of international applications with certain PCT Receiving Offices. ePCT also provides for secure electronic access, file management, and document submissions for international applications held by the International Bureau (IB). The use of ePCT in this manner requires the use of a WIPO user account authenticated with a WIPO digital certificate. ePCT is accessed via an internet browser on the user's system, and all information input into ePCT is stored securely on WIPO's servers. Detailed information on ePCT-Filing can be found at http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/pct/en/epct/pdf/epct_filing_guidelines.pdf.

Both PCT–SAFE and ePCT include validation features to help users properly complete the PCT Request. Since the PCT–SAFE validation can only be made against the version of the software installed on the user's system, the most up-to-date version of PCT–SAFE is required in order to ensure accurate validation. In contrast to PCT–SAFE, validation in the ePCT system is made in real time and does not require software updates. Furthermore, like PCT–SAFE, the zip file generated by ePCT, which contains a PCT Request in