

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene public meetings of the Mackerel Advisory Panel (AP) and Standing and Special Mackerel Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC).

DATES: The meetings are scheduled as follows: Standing and Special Mackerel SSC will meet on April 30, 1997, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Mackerel AP will meet on May 1, 1997, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the New Orleans Airport Radisson Hotel, 2150 Veterans Boulevard, Kenner, LA 70062; telephone: 504-467-3111.

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; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Standing and Special Mackerel SSC will review the 1997 stock assessment updates for both king and Spanish Mackerel and the report of the Socioeconomic Panel (SEP) that includes economic and social information related to setting an allowable biological catch range and bag limits for mackerels in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic. Based on this review, the SSC may recommend to the Council levels for total allowable catch, bag limits, size limits, commercial quotas, and other measures for these species for the 1997-98 season.

The Mackerel AP will also review the 1997 stock assessment updates for both king and Spanish Mackerel and the report of the SEP. The AP will also provide recommendations to the Council based on their perspectives as users of these resources.

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 April 23, 1997.

Dated: April 1, 1997.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 97-8739 Filed 4-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 033197G]

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 via conference call on April 22, 1997, beginning at 10:00 a.m. eastern standard time (EST)/9:00 a.m. central standard time (CST) to resolve inconsistencies in their advice to the Council on vermilion snapper minimum size limits and allowable biological catch recommendations. The Council is considering an increase in the vermilion snapper minimum size limit from 8-inches to 10-inches total length in order to stop a decline in the vermilion snapper stock and prevent the stock from becoming overfished. In November 1996, the Reef Fish Stock Assessment Panel (RFSAP) had stated that changes in the minimum size limit would have very little impact on the resource, but in February 1997, the RFSAP concluded that increasing the minimum size limit to 10-inches total length would reduce overall harvest by about 33 percent.

DATES: The meeting will be held on April 22, 1997, beginning at 10:00 a.m. EST/9:00 a.m. CST.

ADDRESSES: A listening phone will be located at each of the following locations:

1. NMFS Southeast Regional Office, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL; telephone: 813-570-5335;
2. NMFS Panama City Laboratory, 3500 Delwood Beach Road, Panama City, FL; telephone: 904-234-6541;
3. NMFS Miami Laboratory, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, FL; telephone: 305-361-4487.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Atran, Population Dynamic Statistician; telephone: 813-228-2815.

Special Accommodations

Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the

Council (see **ADDRESSES**) by April 15, 1997.

Dated: April 1, 1997.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 97-8740 Filed 4-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 033197F]

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 Reef Fish Advisory Panel (AP).

DATES: The meeting will be held on May 2, 1997, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the at the Radisson Bay Harbor Inn, 7700 Courtney Campbell Causeway, Tampa, FL 33607; telephone: 813-281-8000.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Atran, Population Dynamics Statistician; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Reef Fish AP will review draft Reef Fish Amendment 15 which contains: proposals for a red snapper commercial license limitation system; limits on harvest of reef fish from crustacean traps; a vermilion snapper minimum size limit increase; removal of sea bass, grunts, and porgies from Federal management; and removal of several reef fish species from the aggregate bag limit rule. The Red Snapper AP may also provide recommendations to the Council, and the AP will also hear a presentation on marine reserves from NMFS.

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 April 25, 1997.

Dated: April 1, 1997.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 97-8741 Filed 4-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 033197E]

Gulf of Mexico 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 Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene public meetings of the Red Snapper Advisory Panel (AP) and Standing and Special Reef Fish Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC).

DATES: The meetings are scheduled as follows: Red Snapper AP will meet on April 28, 1997, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Standing and Special Reef Fish SSC will meet on April 29, 1997, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meetings will be held at the New Orleans Airport Radisson Hotel, 2150 Veterans Boulevard, Kenner, LA 70062; telephone: 504-467-3111.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Atran, Population Dynamics Statistician; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Red Snapper AP will review draft Reef Fish Amendment 15 which contains: proposals for a red snapper commercial license limitation system; limits on harvest of reef fish from crustacean traps; a vermilion snapper minimum size limit increase; removal of sea bass, grunts, and porgies from Federal management; and removal of several reef fish species from the aggregate bag limit rule. The Red Snapper AP may also provide recommendations to the Council, and the AP will also hear a presentation on marine reserves from NMFS.

The SSC will also review draft Reef Fish Amendment 15 and provide recommendations on the scientific merits of the alternatives contained within.

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 April 21, 1997.

Dated: April 1, 1997.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 97-8742 Filed 4-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 040197A]

Marine Mammals; Scientific Research Permits (PHF#s 779_1339 and 849_1341)

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

ACTION: Receipt of applications.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the following applicants, have applied in due form for a permit to take and/or import marine mammals for purposes of scientific research.

The Southeast Fisheries Science Center, NMFS (PHF#779_1339), 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, FL 33149; and

The University of Oklahoma, Department of Zoology, 730 Van Vleet Oval, Norman, OK 73019-0235.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before May 7, 1997.

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

Permits Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813-570-5301).

Written data or views, or requests for a public hearing on these requests, should be submitted to the Director, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**, NMFS is forwarding copies of the applications to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permits are requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered fish and wildlife (50 CFR 222.23).

Southeast Fisheries Science Center (PHF# 779-1339) requests a permit to (1) harass all species of cetaceans for the purpose of estimating abundance, collecting behavioral data, photography and biopsy sampling, and (2) collect and import biopsy tissue samples taken with a projectile dart. Activities will occur in the North Atlantic Ocean including the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, U.S. territorial seas and international waters.

University of Oklahoma, Department of Zoology (PHF# 849-1341) requests authority to import two skeletal remains of the South American dolphin (*Sotalia fluviatilis*) from Managua, Nicaragua for deposit at the Oklahoma Museum of Natural History for use in scientific research projects. The axial skeletons and skulls were found on the beach and are being held by the Nicaraguan Government pending receipt of appropriate permits.

Dated: April 1, 1997.

Ann D. Terbush,

Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 97-8757 Filed 4-4-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

AGENCY HOLDING THE MEETING: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

TIME AND DATE: 10:00 a.m., Thursday, April 24, 1997.

PLACE: 1155 21st St., N.W., Washington, D.C. Lobby Level Hearing Room.

STATUS: Open.