

take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before January 27, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Jill Stevenson, F/SF1, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301-713-2347).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

A Certificate of Eligibility for Billfishes is required under 50 CFR Section 644 to accompany all billfish except for a billfish landed in a Pacific state and remaining in the state of landing. This documentation certifies that the accompanying billfish was not harvested from the Atlantic Ocean management unit (described on the form). The certificate must accompany the billfish to any dealer or processor who subsequently receives or possesses the billfish. This collection is necessary to implement the Atlantic Billfish Fishery Management Plan whose objective is to reserve Atlantic billfish for the recreational fishery.

II. Method of Collection

Completion of certificate and recordkeeping.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0216

Form Number: None assigned.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Businesses and other for-profit (seafood importers, distributors).

Estimated Number of Respondents: 10 for completion of certificate and 250 for recordkeeping.

Estimated Time Per Response: 20 minutes for completion of certificate and 2 minutes for recordkeeping.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 117 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Cost: \$0 (no capital expenditures are required).

IV. Request for Comments

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 the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 20, 1997.

Linda Engelmeier,

Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.

[FR Doc. 97-31174 Filed 11-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D.111497A]

Ecosystem Principles Advisory Panel; Advisory Panel Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of advisory panel meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 406 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act), which requires NMFS to establish an advisory panel to develop recommendations to expand the application of ecosystem principles in fishery conservation and management activities, NMFS is announcing the date, time, and location of the second of three advisory panel meetings scheduled as follows:

DATES: The second advisory panel meeting will be held Monday, December 15, 1997, 9 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. and Tuesday, December 16, 1997, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Edmond Meany Hotel, 4507 Brooklyn Ave. NE, Seattle, Washington 98104.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ned Cyr, Office of Science and Technology, NMFS, 1315 East-West Hwy., Silver Spring, MD 20910; Telephone: (301)713-2363, Fax: (301)713-1875.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 406 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act

requires NMFS to establish an advisory panel, no later than April 11, 1997, to develop recommendations to expand the application of ecosystem principles in fishery conservation and management activities. The panel will consist of no more than 20 individuals with expertise in the structures, functions, and physical and biological characteristics of ecosystems. The panel will also consist of representatives from the Regional Fishery Management Councils, states, fishing industry, conservation organizations, or others with expertise in the management of marine resources. The panel is required to submit a report to Congress by October 11, 1998, to include the following: an analysis of the extent to which ecosystem principles are being applied in fishery conservation and management activities, including research activities; proposed actions by the Secretary of Commerce and by Congress that should be undertaken to expand the application of ecosystem principles in fishery conservation and management; and such other information as may be appropriate.

The first Advisory Panel meeting was held Wednesday, September 10 and Thursday, September 11, 1997, in Washington, DC.

Time will be allotted for public comments at the meeting. Persons planning to comment at the panel meeting should notify NMFS at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting (close of business Monday, December 1, 1997).

Special Accommodations

The review panel meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Ned Cyr at (301) 713-2363 at least 10 days prior to the advisory panel meeting.

Dated: November 21, 1997.

David L. Evans,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 97-31191 Filed 11-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 111997B]

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 its Stone Crab Advisory Panel and Scientific and Statistical Committee via conference call on Monday, December 15, 1997, beginning at 8:30 a.m. eastern standard time.

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

NMFS Southeast Regional Office, 9721 Executive Center Drive North, St. Petersburg, FL; telephone: 813-570-5301;

NMFS Miami Laboratory, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Room 200, Miami, FL; telephone: 305-361-4259.

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

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne E. Swingle, Executive Director, at the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The meeting is being held to review Draft Amendment 6 to the Stone Crab Fishery Management Plan. The amendment proposes to extend a moratorium on registration on commercial stone crab vessels by the Regional Administrator of NMFS for a period not to exceed 4 years. The purpose of the moratorium is to provide time for the state of Florida to implement a limited access system for the fishery and for the Council to develop and implement an amendment extending the limited access system to the exclusive economic zone.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before the Panel/Committee for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal Panel/Committee action during this meeting. Panel/Committee action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed in this notice.

Special Accommodations

Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see **ADDRESSES**) by December 8, 1997.

Dated: November 21, 1997.

Gary C. Matlock,

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

[FR Doc. 97-31247 Filed 11-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 102097D]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of three applications (1071, 1081, 1093) and one modification (1044) for scientific research permits; issuance of modifications to two scientific research permits (1028, 1051).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station (USFS) in Arcata, CA (1071), the U.S. National Park Service, Redwood National and State Parks (NPS) in Orick, CA (1081), and the U.S. Geological Survey, Humboldt Cooperative Fishery Research Unit (USGS) in Arcata, CA (1093) have applied in due form for permits, and the National Marine Fisheries Service, Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) in Tiburon, CA (1044) has applied in due form for a permit modification authorizing takes of a threatened species for scientific research purposes. Notice is hereby also given that on November 12, 1997, NMFS issued Modification #1 of Permit #1028 to Mr. Steven Serfling, of Mote Marine Laboratory, and that on November 19, 1997, NMFS issued Modification #1 of Permit #1051 to Mr. Jorgen Skjeveland, of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

DATES: Written comments or requests for a public hearing on any of the applications or the modification request must be received on or before December 29, 1997.

ADDRESSES: The applications, permits, and related documents are available for review in the following offices, by appointment:

Applications for Permits 1071, 1081, and 1093, and modification request for permit 1044: Protected Species Division, NMFS, 777 Sonoma Avenue, Room 325, Santa Rosa, CA 95404-6528 (707-575-6066).

Modification requests and Permits 1028 and 1051: Director, Southeast Region, NMFS, NOAA, 9721 Executive

Center Drive, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432 (813-893-3141).

All documents may also be reviewed by appointment in the Office of Protected Resources, F/PR3, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301-713-1401).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For Permits 1044, 1071, 1081, and 1093: Tom Hablett, Protected Resources Division, NMFS Santa Rosa Office (707-575-6066).

For Permits 1028 and 1051: Terri Jordan, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, (301-713-1401).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: USFS (1071), NPS (1081), USGS (1093) and SWFSC (1044) have requested permits or modifications to permits under the authority of section 10 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) and NMFS regulations governing ESA-listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 217-227). NMFS has issued modifications to permits held by Mr. Steven Serfling, of Mote Marine Laboratory (1028), and by Mr. Jorgen Skjeveland, of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (1051) under the authority of section 10 of the ESA and NMFS regulations governing ESA-listed fish and wildlife permits. USFS (1071) requests a five-year permit for takes of juvenile, threatened, southern Oregon/northern California coast (SONCC) coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) associated with fish population studies in the Eel and Van Duzen River Drainages within the Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU). The studies consist of juvenile coho salmon distribution for which ESA-listed fish are proposed to be taken. ESA-listed juvenile fish will be captured, anesthetized, handled (identified, and measured), allowed to recover from the anesthetic, and released. ESA-listed juvenile salmon indirect mortalities associated with the research are also requested.

NPS (1081) requests a five-year permit for takes of juvenile, threatened, SONCC coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) associated with fish population studies in NPS regulated drainages within the ESU. The studies consist of four assessment tasks for which ESA-listed fish are proposed to be taken: 1) Presence/absence, 2) population estimates, 3) habitat quality evaluation, and 4) spawner surveys. ESA-listed fish are proposed to be observed or captured, anesthetized, handled (identified and measured), allowed to recover from the anesthetic, and released. ESA-listed salmon indirect mortalities associated with the research are also requested.