

Panel will develop its recommendations on the alternatives for further consideration by the Groundfish Oversight Committee. They will review the biological objectives for the amendment and will comment on those objectives. The Advisory Panel will develop recommendations for an observer program for the multispecies fishery, including funding sources. They will also identify issues that it believes may need further attention by the Committee, and may develop suggested alternatives to the management measures under development.

Friday, February 23, 2001, 10:00 a.m.—Social Sciences Advisory Committee Meeting

Location: Council Office, 50 Water Street, Newburyport, MA 01950; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

The Committee will review information collected from public meetings about the social and community impacts of Amendment 5, Amendment 7 and subsequent framework adjustments to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (Multispecies FMP). The Committee also will review economic information developed by the Council staff about the impacts of these measures. The information about the social, economic, and community impacts will be used in the development of Amendment 13 to the Multispecies FMP. The Committee also will discuss the organization of workshops for improving social and economic analyses.

Tuesday, February 27, 2001, at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday, February 28, 2001, at 8:30 a.m.—Groundfish Oversight Committee Meeting

Location: Holiday Inn, One Newbury Street, Route 1, Peabody, MA 01960; telephone: (978) 535-4600.

The Groundfish Oversight Committee Panel will review the proposed management alternatives for Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies Plan. These alternatives have been developed by the Groundfish Plan Development Team and the Groundfish Oversight Committee during the past year. The Committee will finalize its recommendation on management alternatives that will be presented to the Council for consideration at the March Council meeting. The Committee will identify issues that it believes may need further attention by the Plan Development Team, and may develop additional alternatives to the management measures under development. The Committee may discuss all elements of the alternatives, including the biological objectives. The Committee will also receive a report on the social impacts of

management measures that have adopted since 1994, based on information collected by the Council staff in late 2000. Staff will also present an analysis of groundfish fishing vessel gross revenues since 1994. This information will be used by the Committee in choosing and evaluating management alternatives.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council 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: February 2, 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. 020101C]

Pacific 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 Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and its advisory entities will hold public meetings.

DATES: The Council and its advisory entities will meet March 5-9, 2001. The Council meeting will begin on Tuesday, March 6, at 8 a.m., reconvening each day through Friday. The Council will meet as late as necessary each day to complete its scheduled business.

ADDRESSES: The meetings hearing will be held at the Double Tree Hotel -

Columbia River, 1401 N Hayden Island Drive, Portland, OR 97217; telephone: (503) 283-2111.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Donald O. McIsaac, Executive Director; telephone: (503) 326-6352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: All meetings are open to the public, except a closed session will be held from 8 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 7 to address litigation and personnel matters. The following items are on the Council agenda, but not necessarily in this order:

A. Call to Order

1. Opening Remarks, Introductions
2. Roll Call
3. Executive Director's Report
4. Approve Agenda
5. Approve September and November Meeting Minutes

B. Salmon Management

1. Report on Federal Regulation Implementation
2. Review of 2000 Fisheries and Summary of 2001 Stock Abundance Estimates
3. Inseason Management Recommendations for Openings Prior to May 1 off Oregon
4. Identification of Management Objectives and Preliminary Definition of 2001 Options
5. Progress Report on the Queets Coho Overfishing Status Review
6. Update on Snake River Spring Chinook Salmon Recovery
7. Council Recommendations for 2001 Management Option Analysis
8. Appointment of Officers for March Salmon Hearings
9. Adoption of 2001 Management Options for Public Review

C. Habitat Issues

Ongoing and New Habitat Issues

D. Groundfish Management

1. Status of NMFS Research Programs and Other Nonregulatory Activities
2. Exempted Fishing Permit Applications
3. Future Groundfish Management Process and Schedule
4. Implementation of the Groundfish Strategic Plan
5. Groundfish Informational Reports

E. Highly Migratory Species Management

1. International Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Discussions and Actions
2. First Draft of the HMS Fishery Management Plan

F. Pacific Halibut Management

1. Halibut Informational Reports
2. Proposed 2001 Incidental Catch Regulations for the Troll Salmon Fishery

G. Administrative and Other Matters

1. Status of Legislation
2. Appointments of Remaining Vacancies to Advisory Bodies for 2001 Through 2003

3. April 2001 Council Meeting Agenda

4. Council Staff Workload Priorities

SCHEDULE OF ANCILLARY MEETINGS

MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2001

Council Secretariat
 Scientific and Statistical
 Salmon Advisory Subpanel
 Salmon Technical Team
 Tribal Policy Group
 Tribal/Washington Technical
 Habitat Steering Group
 Strategic Plan Oversight
 Enforcement Consultants
 Klamath Fishery Management

7 a.m. Wallowa Room
 8 a.m. Deschutes Room
 8 a.m. Umatilla Room
 8 a.m. Tualatin Room
 8 a.m. Wilson Room
 8 a.m. Santiam Room
 9 a.m. Yakima Room
 10 a.m. Nestucca Room
 2 p.m. Umpqua Room
 As Needed Rogue Room

TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2001

Council Secretariat
 California State Delegation
 Oregon State Delegation
 Washington State Delegation
 Scientific and Statistical
 Tribal Policy Group
 Tribal/Washington Technical
 Highly Migratory Species
 Enforcement Consultants
 Klamath Fishery Management
 Salmon Advisory Subpanel
 Salmon Technical Team

7 a.m. Wallowa Room
 7 a.m. Umatilla Room
 7 a.m. Deschutes Room
 7 a.m. Yakima Room
 8 a.m. Deschutes Room
 8 a.m. Wilson Room
 8 a.m. Santiam Room
 10:30 a.m. Nehalem Room
 5:30 p.m. Umpqua Room
 As Needed Rogue Room
 As Needed Umatilla Room
 As Needed Tualatin Room

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2001

Council Secretariat
 California State Delegation
 Oregon State Delegation
 Washington State Delegation
 Highly Migratory Species
 Tribal Policy Group
 Tribal/Washington Technical
 Enforcement Consultants
 Klamath Fishery Management
 Salmon Technical Team
 Salmon Advisory Subpanel

7 a.m. Wallowa Room
 7 a.m. Umatilla Room
 7 a.m. Deschutes Room
 7 a.m. Yakima Room
 8 a.m. Nehalem Room
 8 a.m. Wilson Room
 8 a.m. Santiam Room
 As Needed Umpqua Room
 As Needed Rogue Room
 As Needed Tualatin Room
 As Needed Umatilla Room

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2001

Council Secretariat
 California State Delegation
 Oregon State Delegation
 Washington State Delegation
 Tribal Policy Group
 Tribal/Washington Technical
 Enforcement Consultants
 Klamath Fishery Management
 Salmon Technical Team
 Salmon Advisory Subpanel

7 a.m. Wallowa Room
 7 a.m. Umatilla Room
 7 a.m. Deschutes Room
 7 a.m. Yakima Room
 8 a.m. Wilson Room
 8 a.m. Santiam Room
 As Needed Umpqua Room
 As Needed Rogue Room
 As Needed Tualatin Room
 As Needed Umatilla Room

FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2001

Council Secretariat
 California State Delegation
 Oregon State Delegation
 Washington State Delegation
 Tribal Policy Group
 Tribal/Washington Technical
 Salmon Technical Team
 Salmon Advisory Subpanel

7 a.m. Wallowa Room
 7 a.m. Umatilla Room
 7 a.m. Deschutes Room
 7 a.m. Yakima Room
 8 a.m. Wilson Room
 8 a.m. Santiam Room
 As Needed Tualatin Room
 As Needed Umatilla Room

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issues may not be the subject of formal Council action during this meeting. Council 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 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

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Ms. Carolyn Porter at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

February 2, 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. 020201B]

Endangered Species; Permits

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

ACTION: Receipt of application to modify permits (1254); issuance of permits (1268, 1209, 1251).

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following actions regarding permits for takes of endangered and threatened species for the purposes of scientific research and/or enhancement: NMFS has received an application for permit modification from Mr. Martin Daley, Dynegy Northeast Generation (Dynegy) (1254); NMFS has issued permit 1268 to Mr. James Anderson, of National Aquarium in Baltimore (NAB) (1268); NMFS has issued permit 1251 to Mr. Steven Fields, of Magnolia Springs State Park - GADNR (GADNR) (1251), NMFS has issued permit 1209 to Mr. Ken Alfieri, of Cypress Gardens (CG) (1209).

DATES: Comments or requests for a public hearing on any of the new applications or modification requests must be received at the appropriate address or fax number no later than 5 p.m. eastern standard time on March 12, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on any of the new applications or modification requests should be sent to the appropriate office as indicated below. Comments may also be sent via fax to the number indicated for the application

or modification request. Comments will not be accepted if submitted via e-mail or the Internet. The applications and related documents are available for review in the indicated office, by appointment:

For permits 1254, 1209, 1251, 1268: Office of Protected Resources, Endangered Species Division, F/PR3, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (ph: 301-713-1401, fax: 301-713-0376).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Terri Jordan, Silver Spring, MD (phone: 301-713-1401, fax: 301-713-0376, e-mail: Terri.Jordan@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority

Issuance of permits and permit modifications, as required by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) (ESA), is based on a finding that such permits/modifications: (1) are applied for in good faith; (2) would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species which are the subject of the permits; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits. Permits and modifications are issued in accordance with and are subject to the ESA and NMFS regulations governing listed fish and wildlife permits (50 CFR parts 222-226).

Those individuals requesting a hearing on an application listed in this notice should set out the specific reasons why a hearing on that application would be appropriate (see **ADDRESSES**). The holding of such hearing is at the discretion of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA. All statements and opinions contained in the permit action summaries are those of the applicant and do not necessarily reflect the views of NMFS.

Species Covered in This Notice

The following species is covered in this notice:

Fish

Shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*)

Modification Requests Received

Permit 1254: The applicant currently possesses a scientific research permit to conduct a monitoring study as part of an incidental take permit for the operation of the Roseton and Danskammer Point power plants. The applicant will be collecting larvae, juvenile and adult shortnose sturgeon in various location in the Hudson River between the

estuary and River mile 65. On January 30, 2001, NMFS was notified that Dynegy had purchased the two power plants from Hudson Central Gas and Electric Company (HCGE) and current co-permittee on permit 1254, and requesting that HCGE be removed from the permit as a holder.

Permits Issued

Permit 1209

Notice was published on March 25, 1999 (64 FR 14432) that Mr. Ken Alfieri, of Cypress Gardens applied for an enhancement permit (1209). The aquarium proposes to maintain a population of up to eight (8) juvenile shortnose sturgeon in a captive environment for educational purposes. The sturgeon will be captive sturgeon received from the USFWS Bear's Bluff hatchery and have been classified as "non-releasable" by NMFS. In addition the fish will be placed on display, incidental to the research, for public education purposes. Permit 1209 was issued on January 26, 2001, authorizing take of listed species. Permit 1209 expires January 31, 2006.

Permit 1251

Notice was published on October 30, 2000 (65 FR 64685) that Mr. Steven Fields, of Magnolia Springs State Park - GADNR, applied for an enhancement permit (1251). The applicant requests an enhancement permit to maintain two five-year old shortnose sturgeon in captivity for educational purposes. The applicant currently possesses two adult shortnose sturgeon received from the US Fish and Wildlife Service hatchery at Bears Bluff, South Carolina in February 1997 under scientific research permit 986. Permit 986 expired on December 31, 2000 and the permit holder did not renew the enhancement aspects of permit 986. Permit 1251 was issued on January 26, 2001, authorizing take of listed species. Permit 1251 expires January 31, 2006.

Permit 1268

Notice was published on November 2, 2000 (65 FR 65840) that Mr. James Anderson, of National Aquarium in Baltimore applied for an enhancement permit (1268). The applicant requested a five year permit to continue to maintain one (1) adult shortnose sturgeon in captivity for enhancement purposes. The applicant currently possesses an adult shortnose sturgeon received from the US Fish and Wildlife Service hatchery at Bears Bluff, South Carolina in February 1997 under scientific research permit 986. Permit 986 expired on December 31, 2000 and