

meeting of its System Management Plan (SMP) Workgroup via webinar.

**DATES:** The SMP Workgroup will meet via webinar from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. on March 28, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held via webinar. The meeting is accessible to the public via webinar. Registration is required. Information regarding registration and other meeting information will be posted to the Council's website at: <http://safmc.net/safmc-meetings/> as it becomes available.

*Council address:* South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N Charleston, SC 29405.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer, SAFMC; phone: (843) 571-4366 or toll free (866) SAFMC-10; fax: (843) 769-4520; email: [kim.iverson@safmc.net](mailto:kim.iverson@safmc.net).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The SMP Workgroup is an advisory group for the Council that reviews actions items, evaluates protected areas, and reviews management of protected areas recommended by the Council. The Workgroup is holding a series of meetings to discuss components of SMPs created by the Council. The Workgroup is responsible for development of a report to the Council with recommendations. Components of the report include background information on managed areas; biological and habitat monitoring; socio-economic factors; enforcement and compliance; and outreach.

During this meeting the SMP Workgroup will focus on the Outreach component of the report, including the use on an online Story Map.

#### Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids should be directed to the council office (see **ADDRESSES**) 5 days prior to the public meeting.

**Note:** The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: March 8, 2019.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2019-04579 Filed 3-12-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XG858**

#### Caribbean Fishery Management Council; Public Hearings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public hearings.

**SUMMARY:** The Caribbean Fishery Management Council will hold public hearings to provide an overview of the island-based fishery management plan that pertains to the island at which we present. For Puerto Rico the audience will be presented with the "Comprehensive Fishery Management Plan for the Puerto Rico Exclusive Economic Zone"; for St. Thomas/St. John the audience will be presented with the "Comprehensive Fishery Management Plan for the St. Thomas/St. John Exclusive Economic Zone"; for St. Croix the audience will be presented with the "Comprehensive Fishery Management Plan for the St. Croix Exclusive Economic Zone." The audience will be provided with an overview of each plan, they will then be given the time and opportunity to comment on their island's plan.

**DATES:** See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for the dates of the public hearings.

**ADDRESSES:** See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for the locations of the public hearings.

**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:

##### Puerto Rico

*April 1, 2019, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.—*  
Doubletree Hotel, De Diego Avenue, Condado, San Juan, Puerto Rico;

*April 2, 2019, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.—*  
Corporación de Pescadores Unidos, Playa Húcares, Sector El Morillo, Carr. #3 Km. 65.9, Naguabo, Puerto Rico;

*April 3, 2019, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.—*  
Mayagüez Holiday Inn Hotel, Mayagüez Holiday Inn, 2701 Hostos Avenue, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico.

##### U.S. Virgin Islands

*April 3, 2019, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.—*  
Emerald Beach Resort, 8070 Lindbergh Bay, St. Thomas, USVI;

*April 4, 2019, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.—*The Buccaneer Hotel, 5007 Estate Shoys, Christiansted, St. Croix.

Written comments can be sent to Dr. Graciela García-Moliner by email at [graciela\\_cfm@yahoo.com](mailto:graciela_cfm@yahoo.com) or by regular mail to Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 270 Muñoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 401, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918, no later than April 15, 2019.

#### Special Accommodations

These hearings 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: March 8, 2019.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2019-04581 Filed 3-12-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XG867**

#### Fishing Capacity Reduction Program for the Southeast Alaska Purse Seine Salmon Fishery

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

**ACTION:** Notice of reduction payment tender and industry fee collection system effective date.

**SUMMARY:** In 2018 the Southeast Revitalization Association (SRA) conducted a bid selection process accepting 36 bids to remove Southeast Alaska Purse Seine salmon permits under a proposed second fishing capacity reduction loan program. In accordance with regulations, the SRA submitted a reduction plan to NMFS to implement the proposed second loan reduction program. From February 4, 2019 through March 6, 2019, NMFS conducted a referendum in which a majority of the fisheries 315 permit holders voted to approve a \$10,127,988 loan to remove 36 permits, which post reduction harvesters will repay in fees over a 40 year period. Accordingly, NMFS is preparing to tender reduction payments to the accepted bidders and

implement a fee-collection system to repay the second loan.

**DATES:** The public has until April 12, 2019 to inform NMFS of any holding, owning, or retaining claims that conflict with the representation of bids collected by the SRA. Fee collection will begin on the second loan on June 1, 2019. The first due date for fee payments on the second loan will be July 15, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Send questions about this notice to Michael A. Sturtevant, Acting Chief, Financial Services Division, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Elaine Saiz, (301) 427-8752 or [elaine.saiz@noaa.gov](mailto:elaine.saiz@noaa.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **I. Background**

The Southeast Alaska Purse Seine Salmon Fishery is a commercial fishery in Alaska State waters and adjacent Federal waters. It encompasses the commercial taking of salmon with purse seine gear and participation is limited to fishermen designated by the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC).

The Fishing Capacity Reduction Program was established under the Consolidations Act of 2005 (Section 209 of Title II of Division B of Public Law 108-447). This Federal law was subsequently amended by Section 121 of Pub. L. 109-479 (the Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization Act of 2006) codified at 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.* The authority for the SRA to conduct this program under Alaska law is AS 16.40.250.

Based on these Federal and state measures, the NMFS established regulations in the **Federal Register**, (76 FR 61986; October 6, 2011), to administer and implement the program.

The purpose of the program and this plan is to permanently reduce the number of limited entry fishing permits issued by the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission (CFEC) for the Fishery thereby promoting economic efficiency and improving the conservation and management of the Fishery.

Congress authorized a \$23.5 million dollar loan to finance a fishing capacity reduction program in the Southeast Alaska Purse Seine Salmon Fishery. NMFS published proposed program regulations on May 23, 2011 (76 FR 29707) and final program regulations on October 6, 2011 (76 FR 61986) to implement the reduction program.

In 2012, NMFS conducted a referendum to determine the remaining

fishermen's willingness to repay a \$13.1 million fishing capacity reduction loan to remove 64 permits. After a majority of permit holders approved the loan, NMFS disbursed payments to the successful bidders and began collecting fees to repay the loan. Since only \$13.1 million was expended from the total loan amount, \$10.4 million in funds remain available.

In 2018, the SRA informed NMFS that they wished to access the remaining loan amounts to undertake a second buyback. To implement this next buyback, the SRA, on behalf of the reduction fishery, was required to draft and submit a reduction plan to NMFS. On June 21, 2018, the SRA submitted a reduction plan to access \$10.1 million of the remaining \$10.4 million in funds to remove 36 permits. NMFS approved the proposed second fishing capacity reduction plan in November 2018.

NMFS published a notice of eligible voters on December 3, 2018 (83 FR 62302) informing the public of the permanent permit holders eligible to vote in the referendum and informing the eligible voters of the referendum voting period.

#### **II. Present Status**

NMFS conducted a referendum to determine the industry's willingness to purchase the permits identified in the second reduction plan. NMFS mailed ballots to the 315 holders of Southeast Alaska purse seine salmon permits designated as S01A by CFEC who were eligible to vote in the referendum. The voting period as announced in 83 FR 62302 was originally scheduled to open on January 15, 2019 and close on February 14, 2019. However, due to the government shutdown caused by lack of appropriations, the initial voting period was rescheduled. The voting period opened on February 4, 2019 and closed on March 6, 2019. NMFS received 206 timely and valid votes; 180 of which approved the fees. This exceeded the majority of permit holders (158) required for industry fee system approval.

The referendum was successful and permit holders approved the second loan industry fee system. Accordingly, the reduction contracts are in full force and effect and NMFS is preparing to tender and disburse the reduction payments to the selected bidders.

#### **III. Purpose**

NMFS publishes this notice to inform the public before tendering reduction payments to the 36 accepted bidders. Upon receiving notice from CFEC that the permits have been relinquished and are no longer valid, NMFS will tender

reduction payments on or about April 15, 2019. Once NMFS tenders a reduction payment to a selected bidder, the selected bidder must permanently stop all further fishing represented by each reduction permit the bidder has relinquished. The selected bidder, in accordance with section five of the relinquishment contract, must notify all creditors or other parties with security interests in the reduction permit that they have entered into the relinquishment contract.

This notice provides the public (Including creditors or other parties) 30 days from publication of this notice to inform NMFS in writing of any holding, owning, or retaining claims that conflict with the representations of bids as presented by the SRA. This document also establishes the second loan reduction fee's effective date in accordance with subpart M to 50 CFR 600.1107.

#### **IV. Selected Bidders and Permits**

The table below lists the 36 permit holders who will receive reduction payments when NMFS receives word from CFEC that the specific permits have been relinquished.

Last name	First name	Permit No.
Curry .....	Clyde .....	S01A55389F
Nagamine .....	Ross .....	S01A58246Z
Porter .....	Ronald .....	S01A55937
Jackinsky .....	Sara .....	S01A57345Q
Bueche .....	Jacob .....	S01A63230H
Peckham .....	John .....	S01A55481Z
Gilbertsen .....	Michelle .....	S01A55317K
Malich .....	John .....	S01A58564
Manning Jr .....	Edward .....	S01A57795
Peterman .....	Bruce .....	S01A59306P
Genther .....	Cynthia .....	S01A55457K
Lundquist .....	Loren .....	S01A58350B
Young .....	Mark .....	S01A58490B
Kohlhase .....	Jason .....	S01A57333J
Jensen .....	Jeremy .....	S01A55611H
Glenovich .....	James .....	S01A58476K
Kapp .....	Darrell .....	S01A55673E
Jurlin Jr .....	Nicholas .....	S01A60158F
Zuanich .....	Shirley .....	S01A58102
Nugent .....	Mark .....	S01A60509
Rabb .....	Ian .....	S01A58318Z
Piecuch .....	Charles .....	S01A56077U
Johnson .....	Hans .....	S01A57756Q
Granberg .....	Kevin .....	S01A59394
Carle .....	Arlene .....	S01A58580M
Good .....	Steven .....	S01A60710I
Briscoe Jr .....	Robert .....	S01A56014
Moller .....	Richard .....	S01A64994X
Puratch .....	Robert .....	S01A59736S
Denkinger .....	Troy .....	S01A56193F
Denkinger .....	Troy .....	S01A58973B
Carle .....	Jan .....	S01A60076N
Fogle .....	Charles .....	S01A58044W
Esquiro .....	George .....	S01A60721X
Blankenship .....	Jeffrey .....	S01A56268H
Murphy .....	Kevin .....	S01A55505U

**V. Fee System Effective Date**

This notice also establishes the second Southeast Alaska purse seine salmon fishery reduction loan fee's effective date in accordance with subpart M of 50 CFR 600.1107. The second Southeast Alaska Purse Seine Salmon Fishery reduction loan fee collection will begin on June 1, 2019. The first due date for fee payments on the second loan will be July 15, 2019. Starting on this date, all harvesters of Southeast Alaska purse seine salmon (Designated as S01A by CFEC) must pay the fee in accordance with the applicable regulations.

The initial fee applicable to the second Southeast Alaska Purse Seine Salmon Fishery reduction loan is 1% of the landed value and any subsequent bonus payments. Fish sellers and fish buyers must pay and collect the fee in the manner set out in 50 CFR 600.1107. All harvesters and fish buyers should read subpart L to 50 CFR 600.1013 to understand how fish harvesters must pay and fish buyers must collect the fee.

Dated: March 7, 2019.

**Brian Pawlak,**

*CFO/CAO Director, Office of Management and Budget, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2019-04565 Filed 3-12-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

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

**RIN 0648-XG886**

**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 (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Groundfish Advisory Panel 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:** This meeting will be held on Monday, April 1, 2019 at 9 a.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, 100 Boardman Street, Boston, MA 02129; telephone: (617) 561-0798.

*Council address:* New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Agenda**

The Groundfish Advisory Panel will consider the draft alternatives of Amendment 23/Groundfish Monitoring as revised by the Plan Development Team (PDT). They will also consider the PDT's revisions to the Council policy on gear standards to facilitate use of gear in accountability measures. The panel will also receive an update on the progress of priorities for 2019. Other business will be discussed as necessary.

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 Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date. This meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 U.S.C. 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

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

Dated: March 8, 2019.

**Tracey L. Thompson,**

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

[FR Doc. 2019-04589 Filed 3-12-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

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

**RIN 0648-XG835**

**Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting (webinar).

**SUMMARY:** The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Pacific Council) will convene a webinar meeting of its Groundfish Management Team (GMT) to discuss items on the Pacific Council's April 2019 meeting agenda. The meeting is open to the public.

**DATES:** The webinar meeting will be held Wednesday, April 3, 2019, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time. The scheduled ending time for GMT webinar is an estimate, the meeting will adjourn when business for the day is completed.

**ADDRESSES:** This meeting will be held via webinar. A public listening station is available at the Pacific Council office (address below). To attend the webinar: (1) Join the GoToWebinar by visiting this link <https://www.gotomeeting.com/webinar> (Click "Join a Webinar" in top right corner of page), (2) Enter the Webinar ID: 935-324-499 and (3) enter your name and email address (required). After logging into the webinar, you must use your telephone for the audio portion of the meeting. Dial this TOLL number 1-415-655-0052, enter the Attendee phone audio access code 196-258-262, and enter your audio phone pin (shown after joining the webinar). System Requirements: For PC-based attendees: Required: Windows® 10, 8, 7, Vista, or XP; for Mac®-based attendees: Required: Mac OS® X 10.5 or newer; for Mobile attendees: Required: iPhone®, iPad®, Android™ phone or Android tablet (See <https://www.gotomeeting.com/webinar/ipad-iphone-android-webinar-apps>). You may send an email to Mr. Kris Kleinschmidt or contact him at (503) 820-2280, extension 411 for technical assistance.

*Council address:* Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101, Portland, OR 97220.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Todd Phillips, Staff Officer; telephone: (503) 820-2426.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The primary purpose of the GMT webinar is to prepare for the Pacific Council's April 2019 agenda items. The GMT's task is to develop recommendations for consideration by the Pacific Council at its April 2019 meeting. The GMT will discuss items related to groundfish management and administrative Pacific Council agenda items. A detailed agenda for the webinar will be available on the Pacific Council's website prior to the meeting. The GMT may also address other assignments relating to groundfish