

an effort to improve the quality, timeliness, objectivity, and integrity of stock assessments and other scientific information used in managing fishery resources in the Pacific Islands Region.

Meeting Agenda for WPSAR Review

The meeting schedule and agenda follow. The WPSAR panel will meet from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. The agenda order may change and the meeting will run as late as necessary to complete scheduled business.

Day 1 Monday June 25, 2018

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Background information—Objectives and Terms of Reference
3. Fishery operation and management
4. History of stock assessments and reviews
5. Data
 - a. State of Hawaii fishery data reporting system
 - b. Post-release mortality and sex ratio
6. Presentation and review of stock assessment
 - a. Life history
 - b. Catch (reported and unreported)
 - c. Catch per unit effort
 - d. Assessment model
 - i. Base case model and priors
 - ii. Base case results
 - e. Retrospective analysis
 - f. Sensitivities
 - g. Projections

Day 2 Tuesday June 26, 2018

7. Continue presentation and review of stock assessment

Day 3 Wednesday June 27, 2018

8. Continue review of stock assessment

Day 4 Thursday June 28, 2018

9. Continue review of stock assessment
10. Public comment period
11. Panel discussions (Closed)

Day 5 Friday June 29, 2018

12. Panel discussions (Closed)
13. Panel presents recommendations (afternoon)
14. Adjourn

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Please direct requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aides to Michael Seki, Director, PIFSC, tel (808) 725-5360, fax (808) 725-5360, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: May 30, 2018.

Jennifer M. Wallace,

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

[FR Doc. 2018-11977 Filed 6-4-18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XG249

Public Meeting on the Definition of Fish Aggregating Devices

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces a public meeting to seek input on the definition of fish aggregating devices (FADs) that could be applied for conservation measures by international fishery management organizations in which the United States participates.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Friday June 29, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. PDT.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the Pacific Conference Room (Room 300) at NMFS, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, 8901 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, California 92037-1508. Please notify Dawn Graham (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) by June 22, 2018, if you plan to attend the meeting in person or remotely. The meeting will be accessible by webinar—instructions will be emailed to meeting participants who provide notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rachael Wadsworth by email at rachael.wadsworth@noaa.gov, or by phone at (562) 980-4036; or Dawn Graham by email at dawn.graham@noaa.gov, or by phone at (858) 546-7081.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS would like to meet with interested members of the public to discuss and receive public input on the various definitions of FADs used in regional fishery management organizations (RFMOs) in which the United States participates. This could include the effect of the definitions on the management of FAD fishing, tropical tuna stock health, and U.S. fishing interests; whether NMFS should pursue efforts to adopt a common definition of FADs that could be applied across organizations; and if so, the scope and content of that definition. Additionally, NMFS requests public input on defining non-entangling FADs and active beacons on FADs. NMFS is also interested in any public input on alternative approaches to addressing stakeholder concerns related to the management of FAD fishing, tropical tuna stock health, and U.S. fishing

interests across RFMOs in which the United States participates.

Special Accommodations

The meeting location is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Dawn Graham (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) by June 15, 2018.

Dated: May 31, 2018.

Samuel D. Rauch, III,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2018-12029 Filed 6-4-18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The Department of Commerce will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Title: Fishery Capacity Reduction Program Buyback Requests.

OMB Control Number: 0648-0376.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular (extension of a currently approved information collection).

Number of Respondents: 1,000.

Average Hours per Response:

Implementation plan, 6,634 hours; referenda votes, bids, seller/buyer reports and annual fee collection reports, 4 hours each; completion of fish ticket, 10 minutes; monthly fee collection report, 2 hours; advising holder/owner of conflict with accepted bidders' representations, 1 hour; potentially 270 hours-state approval/review of plans.

Burden Hours: 15,579.

Needs and Uses: This request is for an extension of a current information collection.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) established programs to reduce excess fishing capacity by paying fishermen to surrender their vessels/permits. These fishing capacity reduction programs, or buybacks, are conducted pursuant to the Magnuson-

Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and the Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization Act (Pub. L. 109-479). The buybacks can be funded by a Federal loan to the industry or by direct Federal or other funding. Buyback regulations are at 50 CFR part 600.

The information collected by NMFS involves the submission of buyback requests by industry, submission of bids, referenda of fishery participants and reporting of collection of fees to repay buyback loans. For buybacks involving State-managed fisheries, the State may be involved in developing the buyback plan and complying with other information requirements. NMFS requests information from participating buyback participants to track repayments of the loans as well as ensure accurate management and monitoring of the loans. The recordkeeping and reporting requirements at 50 CFR parts 600.1013 through 600.1017 form the basis for the collection of information.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations; state, local or tribal government; individuals or households.

Frequency: Annually, monthly and on occasion.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

This information collection request may be viewed at reginfo.gov. Follow the instructions to view Department of Commerce collections currently under review by OMB.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent

within 30 days of publication of this notice to OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov or fax to (202) 395-5806.

Dated: May 31, 2018.

Sarah Brabson,
NOAA PRA Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2018-12025 Filed 6-4-18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XG233

Northeast Regional Stock Assessment Workshop and Stock Assessment Review Committee Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: NMFS and the Northeast Regional Stock Assessment Workshop (SAW) will convene the 65th SAW Stock Assessment Review Committee for the purpose of reviewing stock assessments of Sea Scallop and Atlantic Herring. The Northeast Regional SAW is a formal scientific peer-review process for evaluating and presenting stock assessment results to managers for fish stocks in the offshore U.S. waters of the northwest Atlantic. Assessments are prepared by SAW working groups and reviewed by an independent panel of stock assessment experts called the

Stock Assessment Review Committee, or SARC. The public is invited to attend the presentations and discussions between the review panel and the scientists who have participated in the stock assessment process.

DATES: The public portion of the Stock Assessment Review Committee Meeting will be held from June 26, 2018—June 29, 2018. The meeting will commence on June 26, 2018 at 10 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. Please see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for the daily meeting agenda.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the S.H. Clark Conference Room in the Aquarium Building of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: James Weinberg, 508-495-2352; email: james.weinberg@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For further information, please visit the NEFSC website at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov>. For additional information about the SARC meeting and the stock assessment review, please visit the NMFS/NEFSC SAW web page at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/saw/>.

Daily Meeting Agenda—SAW/SARC 65 Benchmark Stock Assessment for Sea Scallop and Atlantic Herring (Subject to Change; All times are approximate and may be changed at the discretion of the SARC Chair).

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

10 a.m.–10:30 a.m	Welcome Introductions	James Weinberg, SAW Chair; and SARC Chair (TBD).
10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m	Scallop Assessment Presentation	Dvora Hart.
12:30 p.m.–1:30 p.m	Lunch.	
1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m	Scallop Presentation (cont.)	Dvora Hart.
3:30 p.m.–3:45 p.m	Break	
3:45 p.m.–5:45 p.m	Scallop SARC Discussion	TBD, SARC Chair.
5:45 p.m.–6 p.m	Public Comment Period.	

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m	Herring Assessment Presentation	Jon Deroba.
10:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m	Break.	
10:45 a.m.–12:30 a.m	Herring presentation (cont.)	Jon Deroba.
12:30–1:30 p.m	Lunch.	
1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m	Herring SARC Discussion.	
3:30 p.m.–3:45 p.m	Public comments.	
3:45 p.m.–4 p.m	Break.	
4 p.m.–6 p.m	Revisit with Presenters (Scallop).	

Thursday, June 28, 2018

8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m	Revisit with Presenters (Herring).	
10:30 a.m.–10:45 a.m	Break.	