

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, Greater Atlantic Region, NMFS, has made a preliminary determination that an Exempted Fishing Permit application from the Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation contains all of the required information and warrants further consideration. Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed Exempted Fishing Permits.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before August 16, 2021.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments by the following method:

- *Email: nmfs.gar.efp@noaa.gov.*

Include in the subject line "Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation N-Viro Dredge EFP."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Shannah Jaburek, Fishery Management Specialist, *shannah.jaburek@noaa.gov*, (978) 281-9135.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation (CFRF) submitted a complete application for an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) to conduct commercial fishing activities that the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan regulations would otherwise restrict. This EFP would exempt the participating vessels from: Observer program requirements at 50 CFR 648.11; days-at-sea (DAS) requirements at § 648.53; crew size restrictions at § 648.51(c); scallop fishing restrictions in Closed Area II—East at § 648.59(b)(2) and (g)(1); scallop trawl and dredge gear restrictions at § 648.51; and minimum size and possession restrictions for onboard sampling and scallop transplanting in § 648 subparts B and D through O.

The project was funded as part of the 2021 Atlantic Sea Scallop Research Set-Aside (RSA) Program, and is the second phase of a project funded by the 2019 Scallop RSA Program. This project would compare scallop catch rates, bycatch rates, and fuel savings from new designs of the N-Viro dredge to the standard New Bedford style dredge, as well as the version of the N-Viro dredge used in the 2019 study.

Experimental fishing will take place on four limited access general category (LAGC) vessels and one limited access (LA) scallop vessel. The LAGC vessels will target a total of 90 60-minute tows

using the N-Viro dredge in Statistical Areas 537, 539, and 611 over approximately 12 days of fishing. The LA vessel will conduct one, 6-day trip in Closed Area II—East. This area has a large population of small scallops and would allow for testing the effects of the N-Viro dredge on small scallop bycatch. The LA vessel will conduct 90 paired tows using the N-Viro dredge and a standard New Bedford dredge. Forty-five tows will be at the optimal speed for the N-Viro dredge, and 45 tows at the optimal speed for the New Bedford dredge.

The N-Viro dredge design will vary slightly between the LAGC and LA vessels participating in the project. For the LAGC vessels, the dredge will consist of a tow bar with four small dredges attached, while the LA vessel will use six small dredges attached to a tow bar. CFRF may test several modifications to the small dredge on the LAGC, including: (1) Increasing the number of tines on each frame from 9 to 12; (2) adding a pressure plate to the frame opening; (3) substituting a cutting bar in place of the adjustable tine bar on the dredge frames; (4) changing the twine top hang ration and attachment points; (5) moving a set of float cans to the front of the bag; (6) removing chain links between tow bar and individual frames to change frame tow angles; and (7) adding rubber chafing gear. Two of the small dredges will be standard. Results from the LAGC portion of the research will inform the design of the dredge used on the LA vessel.

Researchers from CFRF would accompany each trip taken under the EFP and direct all sampling activities. On all vessels, catch will be sorted into baskets after each tow. On LAGC vessels, catch from the standard and modified N-Viro dredges will be kept separate. On the LA vessel, catch from the N-Viro dredge and New Bedford dredge will be kept separate. The total number and weight of scallops and rocks will be recorded. Sub-legal scallops will then be separated from legal scallops, and both categories will be counted and weighed. A random subsample of each will be measured. All incidental catch will be identified to the species level, and will be counted, weighed, and measured.

On the LAGC trips, scallop catch would be kept for sale in accordance with current regulations. On the LA trips, catch would not be landed for sale unless the vessel has used 2021 Scallop RSA quota.

If approved, the applicant may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the year. EFP modifications and extensions

may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and have minimal impacts that do not change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request. Any fishing activity conducted outside the scope of the exempted fishing activity would be prohibited.

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

Dated: July 27, 2021.

Jennifer M. Wallace,

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

[FR Doc. 2021-16292 Filed 7-29-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Tornado Watch/Warning Post-Event Evaluation

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on January 15, 2021, (86 FR 3998) during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

Agency: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

Title: Tornado Watch/Warning Post Event Evaluation.

OMB Control Number: 0648-XXXX.

Form Number(s): None.

Type of Request: Regular (New information collection).

Number of Respondents: 1,500.

Average Hours per Response: 0.1hrs.

Total Annual Burden Hours: 150.

Needs and Uses: This is a request for a new collection of information.

Each year over 1000 tornadoes affect communities across the United States, yet very little is known about how individuals receive, interpret, and respond to information from NOAA

relating to this hazard. In fact, only a small sample of tornadoes ever receive study, and most often those are only the largest tornadoes. No generalizable information on tornado warning response after real-world events exists. The National Weather Service (NWS) and National Severe Storms Laboratory have designed this data collection instrument to allow for more routine collection of this information. Respondents will include members of the U.S. public who have recently (within the previous 30 days) been in or near a tornado, and they will be asked questions about the ways they received, understood, and responded to NWS watch/warning information. The information would be collected by NWS forecasters using their Damage Assessment Tool (DAT) and also by members of the public who voluntarily access a web tool developed by the National Severe Storms Laboratory. The information will be used as part of a pilot study to explore methods for more systematically collecting post-event data in support of program evaluation for NOAA's tornado watch/warning system.

Affected Public: Individual Households.

Frequency: Whenever a tornado impacts an individual anywhere within the United States of America.

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

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

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function and entering the title of the collection.

Sheleen Dumas,

Department PRA Clearance Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Commerce Department.

[FR Doc. 2021-16217 Filed 7-29-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-KE-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XB281]

New England 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 New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its Groundfish Committee via webinar 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 webinar will be held on Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. Webinar registration URL information: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5983603167717034766>.

ADDRESSES: 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 Committee will meet to discuss development of draft Framework Adjustment 63/ Specifications and Management Measures: Set 2022 total allowable catches for US/Canada management units of Eastern Georges Bank (GB) cod and Eastern GB haddock, and 2022-23 specifications for the GB yellowtail flounder stock: Set 2022-24 specifications for GB cod and Gulf of Maine (GOM) cod, and possibly adjust 2022 specifications for GB haddock and GOM haddock. They will adjust 2022 specifications for white hake based on the rebuilding plan. They will adopt additional measures to promote stock rebuilding, and develop alternatives to the current default system. Also on the agenda is discussion of progress on 2021 Council priorities for groundfish. There will be a preliminary discussion of possible 2022 Council priorities for groundfish. Other business will be discussed as necessary.

Although non-emergency issues not contained on the agenda may come before this Council for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal 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. The public also should be aware that the meeting will be recorded. Consistent with 16 U.S.C. 1852, a copy of the recording is available upon request.

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.

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

Dated: July 27, 2021.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2021-16272 Filed 7-29-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XB230]

Determination of Overfishing or an Overfished Condition

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This action serves as a notice that NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), has found that Southern Atlantic gag is now subject to overfishing and is now overfished; Southern Atlantic snowy grouper and Gulf of Mexico greater amberjack are now subject to overfishing and are still overfished; Klamath River fall-run Chinook salmon, Queets coho salmon, Strait of Juan de Fuca coho salmon, Northwestern Atlantic Coast ocean pout, Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank Atlantic wolffish, and Pribilof Island blue king crab are still overfished; Southern Atlantic red snapper is still subject to overfishing and overfished; and Hood Canal coho salmon is now approaching