

From: NOAA Fisheries <laurel.bryant@noaa.gov>

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Subject: FishNews - July 9, 2014 - Dining on Invasives, Dolphin DNA, Loggerhead Critical Habitat, and More

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July 9, 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

EVENTS

July 9 and 28

Two **National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy** informational webinars.

July 15-17

Peer review of NOAA's Gulf of Maine Haddock and Sea Scallop stock assessments, open to the public, in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

July 24

National Town Hall on National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy in Silver Spring, Maryland.

July 29-31

Peer review of NOAA's Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Atka mackerel



How to Control Invasives? Put a Fork In Them

Do you think a fish as invasive and ugly as the northern snakehead could be yummy to eat? There's a grassroots movement to create a market demand to control the spread of this species.

DNA - Key to Understanding and Protecting Dolphins

A scientist at the NOAA Fisheries National Systematics Lab studies dolphins by analyzing their DNA to identify breeding populations. But first, she has to get hundreds of samples through fieldwork, museum collections, and help from colleagues around the world.

Agencies Establish Critical Habitat for Loggerheads

NOAA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced final rules designating critical habitat for threatened loggerhead sea

stock assessment, open to the public, in Seattle, Washington.

July-September

Three free **Atlantic Shark Identification Workshops** in Texas and Florida.

July-September

Six free **Protected Species Safe Handling, Release, and Identification Workshops** in Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts, South Carolina, Texas, New Jersey.

August-October

Public town hall meetings on **NOAA Fisheries' National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy**, held in conjunction with regional fishery management council meetings.

August 7

Public meeting prior to the 65th International Whaling Commission meeting in Silver Spring, Maryland.

August 11-14

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council meeting in Washington, DC.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

July 14

Letters of intent due for FY2014 federal funding opportunity
Understanding Climate Impacts on Fish Stocks and Fisheries to Inform

turtles. The Fish and Wildlife Service designated terrestrial critical habitat on beaches along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, and NOAA designated several marine habitats in the Atlantic Ocean, including floating *Sargassum*.

Alaska

Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Begin

The Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals project runs from July to October 2014, continuing a long-term monitoring effort that has taken place every year since 1979. The project is co-managed by NOAA and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. Daily reports of the surveys' findings are available online.

Southeast

NOAA Predicts Below-Average Brown Shrimp Harvest

NOAA predicts the harvest of brown shrimp in the western Gulf of Mexico will be slightly below the historical average due to below-normal rainfall and record low temperatures, which compromised optimal conditions for brown shrimp growth.

Pilot Study of Allocation-Based Management - Open for Public Comment

By **August 2**, submit your comments on an application for an exempted fishing permit from the Alabama Charter Fishing Association Cooperative. The cooperative proposes to test the efficiency of an allocation-based management system during a 2-year pilot study.

Commerce Announces Gulf Council Appointments

Last week, the U.S. Department of Commerce announced the appointment of three members to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. Meet these Council members and learn how they complement the Council's diverse interests and expertise.

Gulf Council Update - June 2014

During its June meeting, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council discussed a variety of issues, including red snapper allocation, the sector separation of the reef fish fishery, and Individual Fishing Quota share transfers, among other items.

Greater Atlantic

Reopening of Surfclam/Quahog Area - Open for Public

Sustainable Management.

July 14

Nominations due for 2014
Nancy Foster Habitat Conservation Award.

Comment

By **July 22**, submit your comments on a proposal to reopen the Northern Temporary Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning Closed Area to surfclam and quahog harvesting, at the request of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Testing shows the shellfish are safe for consumption as the area has been free from toxic algal bloom for several years.

FEDERAL REGISTER ACTIONS

[NOAA Fisheries](#) | laurel.bryant@noaa.gov

[Click here](#) for a list of only those actions open for public comment. Scroll search for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

For a list of all daily actions, check the Federal Register [online](#).

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