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Subject: FishNews - November 5, 2014 - Sea Turtle Skeletons, Marine Aquaculture around the U.S., Chambered Nautilus, Atlantic Shark Research Fishery, and More

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November 5, 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

EVENTS

November 6

Public hearing hosted by the South Atlantic Council on **Snapper Grouper Amendment 22**, conducted by webinar.

November 13-19

Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting in Costa Mesa, California.

November 17

Last day to submit entries to annual **"Keep the Sea Free of Debris" Art Contest**.

November 17-20

New England Fishery Management Council meeting in Newport, Rhode Island.



Photo credit: Mike Beauregard/Creative Commons

Sea Turtle Skeletons Hold Clues for Conservation

The bones of sea turtles have annual rings like those found in trees. Chemical markers within the rings can give scientists a detailed view of the animal's life history.

Marine Aquaculture in the U.S. - Growing our Seafood

NOAA works with our partners and collaborators to support the development of sustainable U.S. marine aquaculture, creating jobs and providing safe and sustainable seafood to meet the growing demand. Check out what's going on in your region with our interactive story map.

November 20

QUEST Webinar on the **Dids, Dos, Don'ts, and Developments of Data-Limited Catch Limits.**

November-December

Four free **Protected Species Safe Handling, Release, and Identification Workshops** in North Carolina, Florida, Louisiana, and New York.

November-December

Two free **Atlantic Shark Identification Workshops** in South Carolina and Florida.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**November 7**

Proposals due for FY 2015 **Species Recovery Grants** to States.

November 13

Proposals due for **river herring research and conservation efforts.**

November 17

Proposals due for **Community-based Marine Debris Prevention and Removal Grants.**

December 1

Proposals due for 2015 **National Wetlands Awards.**

December 15

Proposals due for FY 2014/ 2015 **Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Competition.**

Meet a Scientist Studying Nautilus, "Living Fossils"

Chambered nautilus have been around for 500 million years, long before dinosaurs came and went. Meet Gregory Barord, a scientist in New York studying nautilus far from their natural habitat.

Atlantic Shark Research Fishery - Call for Applications

By **December 1**, commercial shark fishermen with directed or incidental shark limited access permits can apply for the 2015 Atlantic shark research fishery, which allows for data collection to meet scientific objectives. Only vessels participating in the research fishery are authorized to land sandbar sharks.

West Coast**West Coast Ecosystem Survey Spots Unusual Sights**

An ongoing NOAA Fisheries marine mammal and ecosystem survey off the West Coast has sighted several surprising species of tropical marine mammals and birds never before documented so far north. The animals were likely attracted by the unusually warm Pacific Ocean waters.

Rebuilding Pacific Bluefin Tuna Populations

During the latest meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, the United States, Mexico, and Japan developed a joint proposal to reduce the catch limit of Pacific bluefin tuna in the eastern Pacific Ocean in 2015 and 2016.

Restored Habitat Improves Idaho Chinook Survival

Habitat restoration on Little Springs Creek, which feeds into the Lemhi River in east-central Idaho, has been strikingly successful in increasing juvenile salmon and steelhead survival in the tributary.

Southeast**RESTORE Act Draft Plan - Open for Public Comment**

By **December 15**, [submit your comments](#) on the draft science plan for the NOAA RESTORE Act Science Program, which supports research in the Gulf of Mexico on long-term sustainability of the ecosystem and its fisheries. The draft plan outlines 10 research priorities to guide how the program will invest its funds.

Gulf of Mexico King Mackerel, Spanish Mackerel, Cobia - Open for Public Comment

By **December 16**, [submit your comments](#) on an amendment to the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico. Amendment 20B would make

January 15

Aquaculture solicitations
Proposals due for **2015**
Small Business
Innovation Research.

**FEDERAL REGISTER
ACTIONS**

[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](#).

changes to management measures for king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, and cobia.

Finding: Queen Conch Does Not Warrant Listing

NOAA Fisheries announced a 12-month finding and listing determination on a petition to list queen conch (*Strombus gigas*) as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Based on the information available, we have determined that the species does not warrant listing at this time.

Reminder: South Atlantic Advisory Panel Open Seats

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council is soliciting applications for seats currently available on five advisory panels. Advisory panel members are appointed by the Council and serve for a 3-year period. The application deadline is tomorrow, **November 6**.

Greater Atlantic**Celebrating a Milestone in Fish Passage**

Last week, NOAA Fisheries and partners celebrated the completion of a fish bypass channel and accompanying public park around Tigue Dam on Connecticut's Naugatuck River. The fishway will allow American eel and several species of river herring to access 30 additional miles of spawning habitat.

NOAA in the North Atlantic Newsletter

The quarterly newsletter from NOAA's North Atlantic Regional Team provides an update on all NOAA activities that take place in that region. The fall issue includes stories about a collaborative citizen science project at [Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary](#), ecological forecasting, and the NOAA-University of New Hampshire Joint Hydrographic Center.

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