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Subject: FishNews - January 21, 2015 - National Standard Guidelines Revisions, Draft Climate Science Strategy, Guide for Shellfish Growers, Proposed Atlantic Shark Measures, and More

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January 21, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

EVENTS

January 22

Free **Atlantic Shark Identification Workshop** in Kenner, Louisiana.

January 23

Public meeting in Falmouth, Massachusetts, to update American lobster permit holders about the upcoming **trap allocation transfer program**.

January 26-29

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council meeting in Point Clear, Alabama.

January 27

QUEST Webinar: "How Fishermen Balance Incentives and Why It



National Standard Guidelines Revisions - Open for Public Comment

By **June 30**, [submit your comments](#) on a proposal to revise the guidelines for [National Standards 1, 3, and 7](#) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The proposed revisions improve and streamline the guidelines for preventing overfishing, rebuilding overfished stocks, achieving optimum yield, and identifying stocks that require conservation and management.

Making the Connection Between Climate and Fisheries

Learn what NOAA Fisheries scientist Jon Hare has to say about how fish are responding to changing ocean temperatures and what we need to do about it.

Matters for Fisheries Management."

January 27

Public hearing for South Atlantic **Snapper-Grouper Amendment 35** in Georgetown, South Carolina.

January 27-29

New England Fishery Management Council meeting in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

January 28 - February 26

Five public hearings on **proposed critical habitat for arctic ringed seal** in five locations in Alaska.

February 2-10

North Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting in Seattle, Washington.

February 4

Public scoping meeting for South Atlantic **Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 26** by webinar.

February 9

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's **spiny lobster review panel**, open to the public, in Key West, Florida.

February 10-12

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina.

NOAA Fisheries Draft Climate Science Strategy - Open for Public Comment

By **March 31**, submit your comments on NOAA Fisheries' draft Climate Science Strategy. We and our partners need additional information and tools to track and respond to a changing climate and changing ocean conditions. This draft strategy aims to increase the production and availability of climate-related information to resource managers, resource users, and stakeholders.

New Informational Guide for Shellfish Growers

The Interagency Working Group on Aquaculture released a [new guide](#) that provides information to help shellfish growers navigate the permit process in the United States. This guide is one of several tools being developed by federal agencies to support more efficient permitting processes for shellfish aquaculture and to bolster wild and cultured shellfish populations in coastal waters.

Proposed Rule for Atlantic Shark Management - Open for Public Comment

By **April 3**, [submit your comments](#) on a proposed rule to implement draft Amendment 6 to the 2006 Consolidated Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan. The proposed rule considers management measures for Atlantic shark fisheries that provide flexibility to adapt to the challenges facing the fisheries while also achieving optimum yield, rebuilding overfished shark stocks, and ending overfishing.

2015 Shark Research Fishery Request for Applications

NOAA Fisheries seeks applications for the 2015 shark research fishery from commercial shark fishermen who are fishing or plan to fish in the Gulf of Mexico fishing region. The shark research fishery allows the agency to collect fishery-dependent and biological data needed for stock assessments.

Did you find what you were looking for?

NOAA Fisheries wants to know how we can improve our website to better serve your needs. We are partnering with ForeSee to randomly survey visitors about your experience on our website.

If you decline, the survey will not bother you again. If you choose to help us by completing this short survey, please know that we appreciate your time.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 23

Applications due for

West Coast

Citizen Science Reveals Positive News for Puget

Coastal Management Fellowships.

January 28

Pre-proposals due for **Maryland Sea Grant** research funding.

January 29

Applications due for the **2015 NOAA Fisheries/Sea Grant Fellowships in [Marine Resources Economics](#) and [Population and Ecosystem Dynamics](#)**.

January 30

Letters of Intent due for **RESTORE Act funding**.

February 3

Proposals due for grants to support management objectives of **three Pacific Marine National Monuments**.

February 4

Pre-proposals due for **Mid-Atlantic Regional Sea Grant** research funding.

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](#).

Sound Shorebirds

A new analysis of seven years of bird sightings by volunteer birdwatchers from the Seattle Audubon Society found positive trends for several Puget Sound seabird species whose populations have historically been in decline. The study offers a model for how citizen observations can provide important data for wildlife agencies with limited budgets.

Soil Mixture Removes Effects of Toxic Stormwater

According to a new study by NOAA Fisheries and partners, a simple column of common soil types can remove the toxic effects of urban runoff that otherwise kill young coho salmon and the insects they eat. This study is part of a longer-term research effort to develop inexpensive and effective clean water technologies.

Southwest Science Center Seeks Website Feedback

To improve user experience, a random sample of visitors to the [Southwest Fisheries Science Center website](#) will be prompted to fill out a survey on the site's content and usability. The survey is voluntary and anonymous.

Southeast

Gulf Red Snapper Recreational Sub-Quotas - Open for Public Comment

By **March 17**, submit your comments on proposed Amendment 40 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico. The amendment proposes establishing sub-quotas for federally permitted for-hire vessels and private anglers who fish for red snapper, providing increased flexibility and reducing the chance for recreational quota overruns.

Greater Atlantic

Northeast Standardized Bycatch Reporting - Open for Public Comment

By **February 20**, [submit your comments](#) on proposed regulations implementing an omnibus amendment to the fishery management plans of the northeastern United States. The amendment would establish a standardized bycatch reporting methodology for all 13 fishery management plans in the region.

River Herring Project Funding Announced

NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission announced their decision to award \$250,000 to two research projects aimed at improving our understanding of river herring (blueback and alewife) populations. These

projects will support the continued development of a coast-wide river herring conservation plan.

Studying Weaned Gray Seal Pups on Two Islands

Researchers from the Northeast Fisheries Science Center and several partner institutions conducted an 8-day field study of gray seal pups on Muskeget Island off Nantucket and on Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge near Cape Cod. In addition to collecting general biological data needed for population assessment, researchers hope to learn more about the influenza A virus present in the gray seal population.

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