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Subject: FishNews - March 4, 2015 - Budget Briefing, NOAA Career Guide, Aerial Surveys in Antarctica, and More

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March 4, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

EVENTS

March 6

NOAA Fisheries' **FY 2016 Budget Briefing** for Constituents.

March 6

Last day of **South Atlantic Fishery Management Council meeting** in St. Simons Island, Georgia.

March 6-12

Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting in Vancouver, Washington.

March 10-12

Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel meeting in Bethesda,



NOAA Fisheries Career Guide for Students

Our Northwest Fisheries Science Center's new career booklet aims to match student interests and skills with real jobs in NOAA Fisheries. Thirteen employees are profiled in this illustrated guide.

Constituent Briefing on Fisheries' FY 2016 Budget set for Friday, March 6

NOAA Fisheries will host a briefing on the FY 2016 budget with Assistant Administrator Eileen Sobeck **this Friday, March 6**, from 3-4 pm EST. The briefing will be a combination conference call/webinar and Eileen will take your questions by phone following the briefing. The call-in and webinar require separate sign in procedures. They are:

Maryland, open to the public.

March 10-24

Seven scoping workshops held by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council throughout the Gulf states to discuss a **proposed amendment modifying the Red Snapper Individual Fishing Quota Program**.

March 10-31

Science seminar series by the Alaska Fisheries Science Center.

March 17

Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council's **Fishers Forum on Stock Assessments** in Honolulu-- a free, family-friendly event.

March 25

Public meeting to solicit comments on the proposed **revisions to the National Standard Guidelines** of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

March 30-April 2

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 13

Applications due for **Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Advisory Panel** openings.

March 20

- To call in, dial 1-888-282-0432 or 517-308-9211 (international) and use the passcode 1071826.
- To view the slides, please link to the webinar via this URL: <https://noaaevents3.webex.com/noaaevents3/onstage/g.php?d=994490178&t=a>

The event password for the webinar is "NOAA."

Flightless Bird and Manless Flight

NOAA Fisheries scientists are using unmanned aerial vehicles to survey penguins and other antarctic predators from the air. The aerial counts allow better coverage of Antarctic islands and are safer for humans, and less disruptive to animals, than land counts.

Finding on Petition to List Thresher Sharks - Open for Public Comment

NOAA Fisheries announced a 90-day finding on a petition to list the common thresher shark (*Alopias vulpinus*) under the Endangered Species Act. We found that the petition presented sufficient evidence to warrant a status review. Please submit scientific and commercial information relating to this species by **May 4**.

Proposed Rule to List Coelacanth - Open for Public Comment

By **May 4**, please submit your comments on NOAA Fisheries' determination to list the Tanzanian Distinct Population Segment of the African coelacanth (*Latimeria chalumnae*) as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Because the species is found entirely outside U.S. jurisdiction, we are not proposing any critical habitat designations.

Alaska

Highlighting Alaska Fisheries Science Seminar Series

The Alaska Fisheries Science Center's Seminar Series, now approaching its 10th year, is designed to highlight interdisciplinary, collaborative research and to spur innovative cross-cutting research in the future.

West Coast

NOAA Science in the Studio Awards

Following the success of a 2013 partnership between NOAA Fisheries and the Pacific Northwest College of Arts, NOAA Fisheries is joining the Environmental Protection Agency to establish the *Science in the Studio Awards*. Read about the recipients of the inaugural 2015 Science in the Studio Awards.

Pacific Islands

Nominations due for
**Marine Mammal
Scientific Review
Groups.**

March 24

Applications due for **2015
Pacific Coastal Salmon
Recovery Fund Grants.**

April 27

Applications due for 2015
NOAA Sea Grant
**Aquaculture Extension
and Technology Transfer**
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**.

**Nation's Fishery Scientists Tackle Climate, Ecosystem,
Uncertainty Issues**

The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council hosted a meeting of scientists from throughout the United States last month to explore ways of incorporating climate, ecosystem, and other areas of uncertainty into the sustainable management of the nation's fisheries. The scientists included 40 representatives from the Scientific and Statistical Committees that advise the eight Regional Fishery Management Councils.

**NOAA Fisheries Supports Survey of Pacific Islands Marine
National Monuments**

In January, NOAA launched a 103-day mission on NOAA Ship *Hi'ialakai* to conduct ecosystem monitoring and research in American Samoa and the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument. This cruise included several scientists from the Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center's Coral Reef Ecosystem Division. Data collected will help scientists better understand the status and trends of the nation's coral reef ecosystems and will complement long-term coral reef monitoring efforts of local agencies.

Southeast

Launch of Lionfish Web Portal

NOAA has partnered with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute to launch a new **web portal** to provide managers, researchers, and the public the latest information on the lionfish invasion in the Atlantic. Introduced to the southeast Atlantic in the 1980s, lionfish are now firmly established in reefs ranging from North Carolina to South America.

Spring Issue of Gulf Fishery News Available

The latest issue of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's newsletter is now available. Topics include red snapper harvest limits, electronic monitoring and reporting, advisory panel openings, and information on upcoming meetings and opportunities for public input.

Greater Atlantic

A Winter to Remember

The winter of 2015 has been one of the coldest and snowiest in recent weather history at the various laboratories of the Northeast Fisheries Science Center. Check out images of the snow and ice surrounding our facilities from Maine to New Jersey.

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