

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NOAA FISHERIES
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING OF THE
CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

The Caribbean Fishery Management Council (the Council), established by Section 302 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-265, as amended) known as the Magnuson-Stevens Act, will hold its 153rd regular meeting to discuss the topics included in the agenda below.

The Council will convene on Wednesday, August 19, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and on Thursday, August 20, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The meetings will take place at the Conference Room of the Mayagüez Holiday Inn Hotel.

A public hearing on new regulations for Abrir la Sierra/Bajo de Sico/Tourmaline will be held on August 20, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Simultaneous translation will be provided for this hearing and for the Council meeting as well.

The meetings are open to the public and will be conducted in English. Fishers and other interested persons are invited to attend and participate with oral or written statements regarding the agenda items presented below. Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

August 19, 2015

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

- Call to Order
- Adoption of Agenda
- Consideration of 152nd Council Meeting Verbatim Transcription
- Executive Director's Report
- SSC National Workshop Report – Dr. Richard Appeldoorn
- Island-Based Fishery Management-Choosing Species to be Included for Federal Management within each Island Group
 - Outcomes from the Panel of Experts and District Advisory Panel Meetings
 - participation
 - presentations
 - Review Draft List of Species Selected for Management
 - Puerto Rico
 - St. Croix
 - St. Thomas/St. John
 - Next Steps in Developing Island Based
 - Action 2 – Species Complexes
 - Action 3 – Reference Points
 - Other Needed Actions
- Comprehensive Amendment: Application of Accountability Measures in the Council Fishery Management Plans
 - Review Draft Comprehensive Amendment/Select Preferred Alternative
 - Final Action**/Revisit Codified Text,including:
 - Clarifying Queen Conch Minimum Size Limits
 - Addition of Accountability Measures-Based Closure Language

---PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD---
(5-minutes presentations)

5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

- Administrative Matters
- Budget Update FY 2015/16
- Other Administrative Business
- **Closed Session**

August 20, 2015

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

-ABT Public Hearing

10:45 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- Abrir/Bajo/Tourmaline: Revision of Management Regulations in Federal Portion of Each Area
 - Review Draft Amendment
 - HMS input on Requests from CFMC
 - Discuss Outcome of Public Hearings
- Final Action**
 - Review Codified Text, Including:
 - Coordinate-Based Definition of State/Federal Closure Boundaries
 - Timing of Accountability Measures Based- Closures Amendment
 - Review Public Hearing Draft Document/Select Preferred Alternatives
 - Schedule Public Hearings: Discuss Next Steps
- Saltonstall-Kennedy Funding Program: Caribbean Projects – Bonnie Ponwith
- Outreach and Education Report – Dr. Alida Ortíz
- Enforcement Issues:
 - Puerto Rico-DNER
 - U.S. Virgin Islands-DPNR
 - U.S. Coast Guard
 - NMFS/NOAA
- Meetings Attended by Council Members and Staff
- PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**-- – (5-Minute Presentations)
- Other Business
- Next Council Meeting

The established time for addressing items on the agenda may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the agenda items. To further accommodate discussion and completion of all items on the agenda, the meeting may be extended from, or completed prior to the date established in this notice.

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. For more information or requests for sign language interpretation and/or other auxiliary aids, please contact Mr. Miguel A. Rolón, Executive Director, Caribbean Fishery Management Council, 270 Muñoz Rivera Avenue, Suite 401, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918-1903, telephone: (787) 766-5926, at least five days prior to the meeting date.

Miguel A. Rolón
Executive Director