

*hmspg.html*, or by contacting Karyl Brewster-Geisz, Heather Stirratt, or Chris Rilling at (301) 713-2347 or Greg Fairclough at (727) 570-5741.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Karyl Brewster-Geisz, Heather Stirratt, or Chris Rilling at (301) 713-2347 or Greg Fairclough at (727) 570-5741.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Atlantic shark fisheries are managed under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Tunas, Swordfish, and Sharks, finalized in 1999, is implemented by regulations at 50 CFR part 635. Complete descriptions of the measures, as well as the purpose and need for the proposed actions, are contained in the proposed rule (August 1, 2003, 68 FR 45196 and Amendment 1) and are not repeated here.

The public is reminded that NMFS expects participants at the public hearings to conduct themselves appropriately. At the beginning of each public hearing, a NMFS representative will explain the ground rules (e.g., alcohol is prohibited from the hearing room; attendees will be called to give their comments in the order in which

they registered to speak; each attendee will have an equal amount of time to speak; and attendees should not interrupt one another). The NMFS representative will attempt to structure the hearing so that all attending members of the public will be able to comment, if they so choose, regardless of the controversial nature of the subject(s). Attendees are expected to respect the ground rules, and, if they do not, they will be asked to leave the hearing.

**Schedule of Public Hearings**

The dates, times, and locations of the meetings are scheduled as follows:

1. *Tuesday, August 26, 2003 - New Orleans, LA, 7-9 p.m.*

New Orleans Airport Hilton Hotel, 901 Airline Drive, Kenner, Louisiana

2. *Thursday, September 4, 2003 - Madeira Beach, FL, 7-9 p.m.*

City of Madeira Beach, 300 Municipal Dr., Madeira Beach, FL 33708

3. *Monday, September 8, 2003 - Montauk, NY, 7-9 p.m.*

Montauk Fire House, 12 Flamingo Avenue, Montauk, NY 11954

4. *Wednesday, September 17, 2003 - Pawleys Island, SC, 7-9 p.m.*

Waccamaw Neck Branch Library, 24 Commerce Dr., Pawleys Island, SC 29585

5. *Monday, September 22, 2003 - Manteo, NC, 7-9 p.m.*

North Carolina Aquarium, Roanoke Island, Airport Road, Manteo, NC 27954

6. *Thursday, September 25, 2003 - Atlantic Beach, FL, 7-9 p.m.*

City of Atlantic Beach, Atlantic Beach City Chambers, 800 Seminole Rd., Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

**Special Accommodations**

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Heather Stirratt, (301) 713-2347, at least 7 days prior to the hearing in question.

Dated: August 7, 2003.

**Richard W. Surdi,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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