



NMFS Requests Nominations for the Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is soliciting nominations for the Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Advisory Panel (AP). NMFS consults with, and considers the comments and views of the HMS AP when preparing and implementing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) or FMP amendments for Atlantic tunas, swordfish, billfish, and sharks. Nominations for the HMS AP will be accepted to allow representation from Atlantic HMS recreational and commercial fishing interests, the environmental community, and the scientific community. HMS AP Members serve three-year terms, with approximately one-third (11) of the total HMS AP members' terms expiring on December 31 of each year.

Individuals with definable interests in the recreational and commercial fishing and related industries, environmental community, academia, and non-governmental organizations will be considered for membership in the HMS AP. Nominations are invited from all individuals and constituent groups. Nomination packages should include:

1. The name of the applicant or nominee and a description of his/her interest or expertise in HMS or in particular species of sharks, swordfish, tunas, or billfish;
2. A statement of background and/or qualifications;
3. A written commitment that the applicant or nominee shall actively participate in good faith in the meetings and tasks of the HMS AP; and
4. A list of outreach resources that the applicant has at his/her disposal to communicate HMS issues to various interest groups.

NMFS seeks to fill 5 commercial, 4 recreational, and 2 environmental vacancies by December 31, 2010 (Table 1). NMFS will seek to fill vacancies based primarily on maintaining the current representation from each of the sectors, and secondarily by species expertise and/or representation from the regions. The species expertise listed in the Table indicates the current makeup on the HMS AP and does not necessarily indicate a requirement for expertise in that particular species.

Each sector must be adequately represented, and the intent is to have a group that, as a whole, reflects an appropriate and equitable balance and mix of interests given the responsibilities of the HMS AP. Criteria for membership include one or more of the following: (1) experience in the HMS recreational fishing industry; (2) experience in the HMS commercial fishing industry; (3) experience in fishery-related industries (e.g., marinas, bait and tackle shops); (4) experience in the scientific community working with HMS; and/or (5) representation of a private; non-governmental; regional, national, or international organization representing marine fisheries; environmental, governmental, or academic interests dealing with HMS.

This notice is a courtesy to Atlantic HMS fisheries interests to keep you informed about the fishery. Official notice of Federal fishery actions is made through filing such notice with the Office of the Federal Register. For further information, contact Brian Parker or Craig Cockrell at (301) 713-2347.

Emily Menashes

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OCT 21 2010

Date

Table 1. Current representation on the HMS AP by sector and species. Terms that are expiring are in bold.

Sector	Species	Date Appointed	Date Term Expires
Academic	HMS	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Academic	Tuna	1/1/2010	12/31/2012
Academic	Shark	1/1/2010	12/31/2012
Academic	HMS	1/1/2010	12/31/2012
Commercial	Swordfish/Tuna	1/1/2008	12/31/2010
Commercial	HMS	1/1/2008	12/31/2010
Commercial	Tuna	1/1/2008	12/31/2010
Commercial	Swordfish	1/1/2008	12/31/2010
Commercial	HMS	1/1/2008	12/31/2010
Commercial	HMS	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Commercial	HMS	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Commercial	HMS	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Commercial	Tuna	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Commercial	HMS	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Commercial	Shark	1/1/2010	12/31/2012
Commercial	Swordfish/Tuna	1/1/2010	12/31/2012
Environmental	HMS	1/1/2008	12/31/2010
Environmental	HMS	1/1/2008	12/31/2010
Environmental	HMS	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Environmental	Shark	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Recreational	HMS	1/1/2008	12/31/2010
Recreational	HMS	1/1/2008	12/31/2010
Recreational	HMS	1/1/2008	12/31/2010
Recreational	Billfish	1/1/2008	12/31/2010
Recreational	HMS	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Recreational	HMS	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Recreational	Tuna	1/1/2009	12/31/2011
Recreational	Swordfish	1/1/2010	12/31/2012
Recreational	HMS	1/1/2010	12/31/2012
Recreational	HMS	1/1/2010	12/31/2012
Recreational	Billfish	1/1/2010	12/31/2012
Recreational	HMS	1/1/2010	12/31/2012
ICCAT Chair	HMS		

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