



New England Fishery Management Council

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 29, 2005

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New England Fishery Council To Hold MPA Workshops

Newburyport, MA The New England Fishery Management Council has scheduled two workshops that will focus on the use of marine protected areas (MPAs) as a tool for managing fisheries. During the course of the facilitated public meetings scheduled for May 5-6, 2005 in West Greenwich, RI and May 10-11, 2005 in Ogunquit, ME, the Council will seek information to be used in drafting its own MPA policy.

MPAs have been established in many regions of the country. In the Northeast, the New England Council has implemented many area closures to address a variety of management objectives, and soon will be considering closing areas specifically to conduct habitat research. These previous actions, however, were done incrementally as needed, but were not guided by any over-arching policy. As a first step in a comprehensive approach, the Council is seeking input from the public on the development of an MPA policy while also providing background on basic ecology, the role of habitat in fisheries and the science of marine protected areas.



The general public is encouraged to attend the workshops, although seating is limited to about 60 participants and pre-registration is required. There are also a limited number of rooms reserved for conference attendees on a first-come, first-serve basis. Details about registration are provided on the reverse side of this announcement.

Photo Credit: Photo from "An Underwater Tour of Oceanographer Canyon" (produced by National Undersea Research Center / University of Connecticut, Avery Point, CT). Permission to reprint courtesy of Dr. Peter J. Auster.

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**Marine Protected Areas
Outreach and Education Workshops
REGISTRATION FORM**

Thank you for your interest in the Council's workshops. They are being held on **May 5-6, 2005 at the Whispering Pines Conference Center, Alton Jones Campus, URI, W. Greenwich, RI and May 10-11, 2005 at the Cliff House Resort, Ogunquit, ME.**

Marine protected areas (MPAs) serve many different purposes and are established for a variety of reasons. The term MPA has been used in many ways as well. Those impacted by or interested in MPAs have varying perceptions on their value. The Council is seeking input from the public on the development of a Council MPA policy to help guide future fishery management actions. The Council also wishes to involve stakeholders in this process by providing general information on basic ecology, the role of habitat in fisheries and the science of marine protected areas.

Registration

The general public is invited and encouraged to attend these free workshops, although pre-registration is required. Please provide the information requested below and mail, fax or e-mail it to the Council office prior to April 20, 2005. If you prefer to register by phone, please call the Council office from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Ms. Woneta Cloutier
New England Fishery Management Council
50 Water Street, Mill 2
Newburyport, MA 01950
Phone: (978) 465-0492 • Fax: (978) 465-3116
email: wcloutier@nefmc.org

Workshop 1

Thursday & Friday, May 5-6, 2005
Whispering Pines Conference Center
401 Victory Highway, W. Greenwich, RI 02817
Day 1: noon-5pm; Day 2: 8:30am-5:00pm
Complimentary evening social on May 5
Room Rate: \$89.00/night (no tax)

Workshop 2

Tuesday & Wednesday, May 10-11, 2005
Cliff House Resort & Spa
Shore Road, Ogunquit, ME 03907
Day 1: noon-5pm; Day 2: 8:30am-5:00pm
Complimentary evening social on May 10
Room Rate: \$79.00/night (plus 7% tax)

*****Please return this sheet to the Council office on or before Wednesday, April 20, 2005*****

Name: _____

Workshop attending (please circle one): Workshop 1 or Workshop 2

Organization: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Room Block and Discount

There are a limited number of rooms reserved for conference attendees for the first night of the workshops (May 5 and May 10) in the respective locations. They are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. A credit card is required to guarantee the room reservation. By providing this information, you are authorizing the Council to secure a reservation using this account.

Check-in date: _____ Check-out date: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Credit Card Expiration Date: _____