

existing products or services to commercial opportunities in the energy and infrastructure sectors in the LAC region.

- Suitability of the company's (or in the case of another organization, represented companies' or constituents') experience pursuing commercial opportunities in the LAC region.

- Suitability of the representative's position and biography to be able to engage in the conversation.

Dated: October 22, 2019.

Man Cho,

Deputy Director, Office of Energy and Environmental Industries.

[FR Doc. 2019-23463 Filed 10-25-19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Notice of Availability of a Draft Revised Management Plan for the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve

AGENCY: Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability of a draft revised management plan; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is soliciting comments from the public on a draft revised management plan for the North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve. The revision of the existing plan is necessitated by the applicable requirements of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System. The North Carolina Research Reserve revised plan is intended to replace the plan approved in 2009.

DATES: Comments must be received at the appropriate address (see **ADDRESSES**) on or before November 27, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the draft management plan can be downloaded or viewed on the internet at <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/coastal-management/nc-coastal-reserve/about-reserve/management-plans/review-2020>. The document is also available by sending a written request to the point of contact identified below (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**).

You may submit comments on this draft Management Plan by any of the following methods:

Electronic Submission: Submit all electronic public comments by email to Steph.Robinson@noaa.gov.

Mail: Submit written comments to Stephanie Robinson, Office for Coastal Management, 2234 South Hobson Avenue, Charleston, SC 29405.

Comments submitted by any other method or after the comment period may not be considered. All comments are a part of the public record and may be publicly accessible. Any personal identifying information (e.g., name, address) submitted voluntarily by the sender may also be accessible. NOAA will accept anonymous comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephanie Robinson of NOAA's Office for Coastal Management by email at Steph.Robinson@noaa.gov, phone at (843) 740-1174, or mail at Office for Coastal Management, 2234 South Hobson Avenue, Charleston, SC 29405.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to 15 CFR 921.33(c), a state must revise its reserve management plan at least every five years. The North Carolina National Estuarine Research Reserve revised plan will replace the plan previously approved in 2009.

The revised management plan outlines a strategic plan; administrative structure; research and monitoring, education, stewardship, wetland science, and training programs of the reserve; resource protection and manipulation plans; restoration management plan; public access and visitor use plan; consideration for future land acquisition; and facility development to support reserve operations. This plan will focus on inspiring target audiences to protect coastal and estuarine ecosystems through training and education programs; advancing understanding of coastal and estuarine ecosystems and informing coastal management through research and monitoring; contributing to the study and appreciation of coastal and estuarine ecosystems through the stewardship of protected sites; and gaining recognition of the reserve in coastal and estuarine ecosystem research, training, education, and stewardship through effective administration and communication strategies.

Since 2009, the reserve has completed its habitat map and added marsh vegetation and surface elevation monitoring; conducted a habitat vulnerability assessment to understand marsh vulnerability; led a number of research and training initiatives related to living shorelines; increased education programming at the Masonboro Island component of the reserve; begun

implementing Teachers on the Estuary (TOTE) training; expanded use of volunteers to conduct citizen science regarding sensitive species and site conditions; and implemented training focused on informing real estate professionals of coastal issues. The revised management plan will serve as the guiding document for the 10,568-acre research reserve for the next five years.

NOAA's Office for Coastal Management will conduct an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act on the proposed approval of the reserve's revised management plan. The public is invited to provide comment or information about any potential environmental impacts of the proposed action, and these comments will be used to inform NOAA's decision on whether to approve the revised management plan.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1451 *et seq.*

Keelin S. Kuipers,

Deputy Director, Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2019-23465 Filed 10-25-19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XV118

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's (Council) Ecosystem and Ocean Planning (EOP) Committee will hold a meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 13, 2019, from 9 a.m. through 12 p.m. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for agenda details.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place over webinar with a telephone-only connection option. Details on how to connect to the webinar by computer and by telephone will be available at: <http://www.mafmc.org>.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901;

telephone: (302) 674-2331; website: www.mafmc.org.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, telephone: (302) 526-5255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this meeting is for the EOP Committee to review and provide feedback on an updated draft summer flounder conceptual model, supporting data availability and draft management questions. The development of the summer flounder conceptual model is part of the Council's Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) decision framework and considers the high priority risk factors affecting summer flounder and its fisheries. The EOP Committee reviewed an earlier draft model in September 2019 and provided a number of recommendations for the technical workgroup to consider and address in a revised model. The EOP Committee will review these updates and develop recommendations for full Council consideration at the December 2019 Council meeting. A detailed agenda and background documents will be made available on the Council's website (www.mafmc.org) prior to the meeting.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid should be directed to M. Jan Saunders, (302) 526-5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: October 23, 2019.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2019-23447 Filed 10-25-19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment and Public Comment for a Proposed Boundary Expansion for the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve

AGENCY: Office for Coastal Management, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of proposed boundary expansion and availability of a draft

environmental assessment; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is considering a request to amend the boundary of the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (Elkhorn Slough NERR or the Reserve) and is soliciting comments from the public on the proposed boundary expansion. The public is also invited to comment on the draft environmental assessment for the proposed boundary expansion. Any person wishing to comment on the proposed boundary expansion or the environmental assessment may submit comments as described under **ADDRESSES** below.

DATES: Written comments must be received at the appropriate address (see **ADDRESSES**) on or before November 27, 2019.

ADDRESSES: The draft environmental assessment can be downloaded or viewed at coast.noaa.gov/czm/compliance/. The document is also available by sending a written request to the point of contact identified below (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**).

You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

Electronic Submission: Submit all electronic public comments by email to Elaine.Vaudreuil@noaa.gov.

Mail: Submit written comments to Elaine Vaudreuil, Office for Coastal Management, NOAA Ocean Service, 1305 East-West Hwy., N/OCM, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Comments submitted by any other method or after the comment period may not be considered. All comments are a part of the public record and may be publicly accessible. Any personal identifying information (e.g., name, address) submitted voluntarily by the sender may also be accessible. NOAA will accept anonymous comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Elaine Vaudreuil of NOAA's Office for Coastal Management, by email at Elaine.Vaudreuil@noaa.gov, phone at 240-533-0821, or mail at: 1305 East-West Hwy., N/OCM, Silver Spring, MD 20910

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife, as lead agency for managing the Elkhorn Slough NERR, has requested approval to expand the geographic boundary of the Reserve by adding nine new parcels to and removing a 13.98-acre area from the existing approved boundary. Pursuant to 15 CFR 921.33(a), NOAA may require

public notice, including notice in the **Federal Register** and an opportunity for public comment before approving a boundary or management plan change. In addition, boundary changes involving the acquisition of properties not listed in the reserve's original management plan or final environmental impact statement (EIS) require public notice and the opportunity for comment. Five of the new parcels were included in the reserve's original EIS (1979). However, since four of the new parcels were not evaluated in the original EIS, NOAA has developed an environmental assessment to analyze the potential effects of the requested change to the Reserve boundary and is publishing notice of the availability of this assessment for public review and comment on the proposed boundary expansion and associated environmental assessment.

II. NOAA Proposed Action and Alternatives

NOAA is releasing a draft environmental assessment, prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*, and the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508). NOAA's proposed action is to approve a change in the management boundary of the Elkhorn Slough NERR to add nine parcels (totaling 313.753 acres) acquired since 2007 and remove one 13.98-acre parcel from the approved boundary.

The draft environmental assessment identifies and assesses potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed boundary expansion, and identifies a preferred alternative and a no action alternative. The preferred alternative would add five parcels identified for future acquisition at the time of the reserve's designation in 1979, along with four additional parcels. It would also remove from the current Reserve boundary a 13.98-acre area containing a non-conforming use, which would result in a net increase in size of 299.773 acres. NOAA anticipates that the preferred alternative would (1) provide additional buffer around the reserve's core areas, (2) enable the reserve to manage the significant habitats on those properties, and where possible, restore habitats for the benefit of key species in the Elkhorn Slough watershed, and (3) expand research and education activities to the adjacent Moro Cojo Slough within the reserve's watershed. Therefore, NOAA prefers the proposed boundary expansion over the no action alternative.