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Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

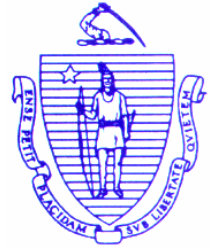
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Marine Fisheries Advisory

NOAA FISHERIES SERVICE ANNOUNCES HARBOR PORPOISE TAKE REDUCTION PLAN OUTREACH AND EDUCATION MEETINGS

NOAA Fisheries' Northeast Region Protected Resources Division staff has planned a series of outreach and education meetings related to the Gulf of Maine and Mid-Atlantic components of the Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Plan (HPTRP). These meetings will occur between October 2006 and January 2007.

At these meetings, NOAA Fisheries Northeast Region Protected Resources Division staff will review the current HPTRP regulations for both the Gulf of Maine and Mid-Atlantic regions. These meetings will also include pinger certification training and/or a pinger training refresher course (for the New England meetings only), as well as the distribution of new outreach materials durable enough to be kept on board your vessel. NOAA Fisheries' goal is to meet with industry in an informal setting and raise awareness of the HPTRP.

The HPTRP outreach meetings will take place at the following dates, locations, and times:

Tuesday, October 3, 2006 – 6 P.M.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
Annisquam River Marine Fisheries Field Station
30 Emerson Avenue
Gloucester, MA 01930

Thursday, October 5, 2006 – 6 P.M.

Urban Forestry Center
45 Elwyn Road
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Wednesday, November 1, 2006 – 6 P.M.

Corliss Auditorium
University of Rhode Island Narragansett Bay
Campus
South Ferry Road
Narragansett, RI 02882

Thursday, November 2, 2006 – 6 P.M.

Hampton Inn New Bedford/Fairhaven
1 Hampton Way
Fairhaven, MA 02719

Thursday, November 9, 2006 – 6 P.M.

Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's
Association
210-E Orleans Road
North Chatham, MA 02650

Wednesday, November 15, 2006 - 5:30 P.M.

(Following adjournment of the New England
Fishery Management Council meeting)
Tavern on the Harbor
30 Western Avenue
Gloucester, MA 01930

Tuesday, January 30, 2007 – 6 P.M.

Ferrara's Restaurant
518 Arnold Avenue
Point Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742

For more information about the Gulf of Maine and Mid-Atlantic HPTRP outreach meetings, including directions and topics to be covered, please visit the HPTRP web site at

http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/porptrp and click on the link under "What's New" or contact one of the NMFS Northeast Region's Protected Resources staff members: Amanda Johnson at (978) 281-9300 extension 6513, John Higgins (Northeast liaison) at (207) 677-2316, or Glenn Salvador (Mid-Atlantic liaison) at (757) 414-0128.