

1980 at 10:00 a.m.: Federal Building, Room 200, 1000 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222.

For further information, please contact Mr. Robert Boulden at (412) 722-5882.

Dated: December 15, 1980.

Luis G. Encinias,  
Regional Director.

[FR Doc. 80-39350 Filed 12-17-80; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-21-M

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### Discussion of Implementation of the Emergency Striped Bass Study; Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA.

**SUMMARY:** The National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will hold a joint meeting to discuss implementation of the Emergency Striped Bass Study as authorized by the amended Anadromous Fish Conservation Act (Pub. L. 96-118).

**DATE:** The meeting will convene on Monday, January 19, 1981 at 10 a.m. and will adjourn at approximately 5 p.m. The meeting is open to the public, however space is limited.

**ADDRESS:** National Marine Fisheries Service, Room 401, Page Building No. 2, 3300 Whitehaven Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20235.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Richard H. Schaefer, State/Federal Division, Office of Resource Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service, Washington, D.C. 20235. Telephone: (202) 634-7454.

Dated: December 4, 1980.

Robert K. Crowell,

Deputy Executive Director, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 80-39367 Filed 12-17-80; 8:45 am]

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#### Announcement of Three Areas Off Puerto Rico as Active Candidates for Marine Sanctuary Designation

**AGENCY:** Office of Coastal Zone Management (OCZM), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The waters around Mona and Monita Islands, the area off southwest Puerto Rico known as La Parguera and the waters around Culebra/Culebrita Islands and the Cordillera reef chain located off northwest Puerto Rico were included in the list of recommended

areas published in the Federal Register (Vol. 44, No. 212, 10/31/79) and have been selected as active candidates for designation as one or more sanctuaries. An Issue Paper will be distributed and workshops scheduled. This announcement has no applicability to OMB Circular A-95 regarding State and local clearinghouse review of Federal and federally assisted programs and projects.

**Discussion:** The Department of Natural Resources, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (DNR) recommended six sites off the coast of Puerto Rico for marine sanctuary status pursuant to Title III of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1431-1434, (the Act). The sites were the waters around Mona/Monito Islands, Culebra Island/Cordillera Reef, Vieques (Bioluminescent Bay), Caja de Muertas, La Parguera, Desecheo Island. These sites were reviewed by OCZM and were determined to have met the criteria for inclusion on the list of recommended areas (LRA) in accordance with Section 922.21 (Analyses of Recommendations) of OCZM's procedures for designating marine sanctuaries (15 CFR Part 922).

In accordance with § 922.23(b), preliminary consultation has taken place with relevant Federal agencies, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico officials, the Caribbean Regional Fishery Management Council, and other interested persons. In response to this consultation, the Acting Assistant Administrator for OCZM has selected three of the recommended sites as active candidates. The sites are the waters around the Islands of Mona/Monita, the waters of La Parguera, and waters around the Cordillera Reefs/Culebra/Culebrita Islands.

The sites meet the requirements of § 922.23(a) of the regulations and should be selected as Active Candidates for designation as marine sanctuaries on the basis of the following evaluation:

(1) *The significance of the ecological, geological, recreational, and research and educational resources identified during review for listing under 922.21(b) on the List of Recommended Areas (922.23(a)(1)).* All three sites, Mona/Monito, La Parguera, and Cordillera/Culebra/Culebrita represent marine ecosystems of exceptional productivity. The Cordillera reef chain is a fringing reef which has a high diversity of coral species including star coral (*Monastrea annularis*) and Elkhorn coral (*Acropora palmata*). The reef habitat supports a rich fish and shellfish population which significantly contributes to the fisheries of the region. The proximity of the San

Juan metropolitan area makes the site an important recreational area.

La Parguera, located off the southwest coast of Puerto Rico, contains some of the most diverse and ecologically valuable marine habitats found in Puerto Rico. The area includes extensive coral reefs (including black coral), mangrove forest, shallow channels and lagoons, sandy beaches, seagrass beds, and two bioluminescent bays. The sunken reefs at Bahia Monito are considered one of the most spectacular reef systems in Puerto Rico. Margarita Reef is one of the few pseudo-barrier reefs in the Western Hemisphere. The waters around Mona and Monito are noted for their submarine landscape and off the west and east coasts of the island are two large spur and groove coral systems. Mona is frequently described by scientists as the "mini-Galapagos of the Caribbean." South of Carabinero where the shelf drops precipitously from 10 to 76 m, are numerous caves and caverns which have been described as the most extensive and unusual coral cave formation in the world.

Over 270 species of fish are known to exist in the surrounding Mona waters. Numerous ship wrecks at Mona Island make the site an area of exceptional recreational value.

These three sites are also known to provide important habitats for several endangered species. The hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), the green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), the hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), and the loggerhead (*Careta careta*) are all found within the proposed sites. Mona Island and Culebrita have been proposed as Critical Habitat areas by the Fish and Wildlife Service. The Brown pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) and the peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) are known to occur as visitors or breeders on Mona Island. Further studies may reveal existence of other endangered or threatened species.

(2) *The ability of the Sanctuary Programs Office to support full review within the time specified in Section 922.24 (922.23(a)(2)).* OCZM can prepare an Issue Paper, hold workshops and undertake an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the sites as required. OCZM and the Commonwealth DNR are ready to undertake the Issue Paper. A contract for an EIS has been arranged in the event that the proposal moves to the DEIS stage.

(3) *The following additional factors (922.23(a)(3)). (i) Existing and potential threats to the resources—*The major threat to the area is heavy recreational use and consequential damage to coral

and other resources from anchoring, fishing activities, and coral collecting.

(ii) *The ability of existing regulatory mechanisms to protect the value of the sanctuary*—The sites are all within the territorial jurisdiction of the Commonwealth. If fully implemented, existing Federal and Commonwealth regulatory mechanisms likely could protect the resources of the sites. However, designation will significantly increase protection for the area and ensure long term protection by making available additional management and enforcement funds and by providing a) a comprehensive management framework to monitor, assess and act on information concerning the cumulative effects of human uses; b) a mechanism to coordinate and encourage research to improve the effectiveness of management decisions; and c) a public education/interpretive program focused on understanding fragility, significance and wise use of these resources. These aspects of a conservation effort are not provided under existing mechanisms.

(iii) *The significance of the area to research opportunities on a particular type of ecosystem:*

All three sites offer exceptional, and in some cases unique, opportunities for research. The bioluminescent bays at La Parguera are a rare natural occurrence and the University of Puerto Rico operates the Institute of Marine Sciences at La Parguera. The isolated location of Mona/Monito presents an opportunity to conduct research in biologically unusual areas.

(iv) *The value of the area in complementing other areas of significance to public or private programs with similar objectives, including approved Coastal Zone Management programs.* The three sites are all adjacent to or a part of special planning areas or Natural Reserves as designated by the approved Puerto Rico Coastal Zone Management Plan.

(v) *The esthetic qualities of the area.* As indicated above, the sites offer unusual and unique aesthetic opportunities, particularly the submerged caves at Mona and the bioluminescent Bays at La Parguera.

(vi) *The type and estimated economic value of the natural resources and human uses within the area which may be foregone as a result of marine sanctuary designation; and*

(viii) *The economic benefits to be derived from protecting or enhancing the resources within the sanctuary.* Although a thorough analysis of economic impacts will not occur until a DEIS is developed, it appears unlikely that any significant economic impacts would result from potential designation.

The preliminary consultation and discussions indicate that none of the sites is an area where major commercial fishing operations take place. Consequently, it is unlikely that this user group would be heavily impacted. On the other hand, it is probable that businesses oriented toward nonconsumptive water use recreation may derive economic gains from added resource protection and management.

An Issue Paper will be prepared by OCZM in conjunction with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Department of Natural Resources, describing the distinctive resources of the potential sites, the present and prospective uses, existing government programs aimed at protecting those resources, alternative boundaries, management activities, and activities that might be regulated within a marine sanctuary. As required in § 922.24 (Review of Active Candidates), OCZM will conduct one or more public workshops in the area within 6 months of the effective date of this publication. The Issue Paper and the workshop(s) are designed to solicit views which will aid OCZM in determining whether any of the sites should be further considered for designation, and whether any modifications of the recommendation may be appropriate. The workshop(s) are in addition to the public hearings required under Section 302(e) of the Act should an EIS be prepared. These workshops are part of the scoping process to determine issues to be addressed in the event that an Environmental Impact Statement is subsequently issued.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Dr. Nancy Foster, Deputy Director, Sanctuary Programs Office, Office of Coastal Zone Management, NOAA, 3300 Whitehaven Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20235, (202) 634-4236.

Dated: December 11, 1980.

Donald W. Fowler,  
*Acting Assistant Administrator for Coastal Zone Management.*

[FR Doc. 80-39104 Filed 12-17-80; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-08-M

#### Marine Mammals; Receipt of Application for General Permit

Notice is hereby given that the following application has been received to take marine mammals incidental to the pursuit of commercial fishing operations within the U.S. fishery conservation zone, as authorized by the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361-1407) and the regulations thereunder.

Hochseefischerei Nordstern AG, Bremerhaven, West Germany has applied for a Category 1: "Towed or Dragged Gear" general permit to incidentally take 60 Otariid seals, 60 Phocid seals, and 60 Cetaceans within the U.S. fishery conservation zone in 1981.

The application is available for review in the Office of the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, 3300 Whitehaven Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Interested parties may submit written views on the application within 30 days of the date of this notice to the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Washington, D.C. 20235.

Dated: December 8, 1980.

R. B. Brumsted,

*Acting Director, Office of Marine Mammals and Endangered Species, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 80-39246 Filed 12-17-80; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-M

#### THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

##### Notice of Meeting

The Commission of Fine Arts will next meet in open session on Tuesday, January 13, 1981, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission's offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006 to discuss various projects affecting the appearance of Washington, D.C.

Inquires regarding the agenda and requests to submit written or oral statement should be addressed to Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary, Commission of Fine Arts, at the above address.

Dated in Washington, D.C., December 11, 1980.

Charles H. Atherton,  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 80-39290 Filed 12-17-80; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6330-01-M

#### COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

##### Amending the Import Restraint Levels for Certain Cotton, Wool and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products From the Republic of Korea

December 12, 1980.

**AGENCY:** Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

**ACTION:** Applying swing, shift and carryforward, variously, to the levels of restraint established for textile products