

(3) Hold an earned doctoral degree in a chemical, physical, biological, or clinical laboratory science from an accredited institution and—

(i) On or after January 1, 2003, be certified and continue to be certified by a board approved by HHS;

(ii) Before January 1, 2003, must have served or be serving as director of a laboratory performing high complexity testing and must have at least—

(A) Two years of laboratory training or experience, or both; and

(B) Two years of experience directing or supervising high complexity testing; or

(iii) Have at least 6 years of laboratory training or experience, or both; including 2 years experience directing or supervising high complexity testing.

\* \* \* \* \*

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.778, Medical Assistance Program)

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.773, Medicare—Hospital Insurance; and Program No. 93.774, Medicare—Supplementary Medical Insurance Program)

Dated: July 23, 2001.

**Jeffrey P. Koplan,**

*Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*

Dated: August 30, 2001.

**Thomas A. Scully,**

*Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.*

Dated: October 11, 2001.

**Tommy G. Thompson,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 01-31722 Filed 12-27-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120-01-P

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Parts 54 and 69

[CC Docket Nos. 00-256, 96-45; DA 01-2916]

#### Multi-Association Group (MAG) Plan for Regulation of Interstate Services of Non-Price Cap Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers and Interexchange Carriers; Limited Extension of Time for Filing Comments and Replies in Rate-of-Return Access Charge Reform Proceeding

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; extension of time.

**SUMMARY:** In this document, the Commission extends the time by 45 days for filing comments and reply

comments in the Rate-of-Return Access Charge Reform proceeding. Certain members of the Multi-Association Group (MAG) requested an extension of time for filing comments. This proceeding seeks additional comment on proposals for incentive regulation, proposed changes to the “all-or-nothing” rule, pricing flexibility for rate-of-return carriers, and merging the Long Term Support mechanism into the new Interstate Common Line Support mechanism.

**DATES:** Comments are due on or before February 14, 2002, and reply comments are due on or before March 18, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Parties who choose to file comments by paper should send comments to Magalie Roman Salas, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th St., SW; TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. Comments filed through the Commission’s Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Marvin F. Sacks at (202) 418-2017 (Common Carrier Bureau).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

On November 8, 2001, the Commission released the Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“FNPRM”) in CC Docket Nos. 00-256 and 96-45, FCC 01-304, published at 66 FR 59761, November 30, 2001. Certain members of the Multi-Association Group (MAG) requested an extension of time for filing comments in the FNPRM. This proceeding seeks additional comment on proposals for incentive regulation, proposed changes to the “all-or-nothing” rule, pricing flexibility for rate-of-return carriers, and merging the Long Term Support mechanism into the new Interstate Common Line Support mechanism. When filing comments and reply comments, parties should reference CC Docket Nos. 00-256 and 96-45, and conform to the filing procedures contained in this FNPRM. The complete text is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC, and also may be purchased from the Commission’s copy contractor, Qualex International, 445 12th Street, SW, CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554. The FNPRM is also available via the Internet at [http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/FCC-01-304A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-01-304A1.pdf).

Federal Communications Commission.

**Jack Zinman,**

*Deputy Division Chief, Competitive Pricing Division.*

[FR Doc. 01-31864 Filed 12-27-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

#### 50 CFR Part 17

RIN 1018-AH96

#### Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Proposed Designation of Critical Habitat for the Northern Great Plains Breeding Population of the Piping Plover; Reopening of Public Comment Period and Notice of Availability of Draft Economic Analysis

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; reopening of public comment period and notice of availability of economic analysis.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announce the availability of the draft economic analysis for the proposal to designate critical habitat for the northern Great Plains breeding population of the piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*), under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. We also are providing notice of the reopening of the public comment period for the proposal to designate critical habitat for this species, and the associated draft environmental assessment, to allow all interested parties to comment. Comments previously submitted need not be resubmitted as they have already been incorporated into the public record and will be fully considered in the final rule. Comments submitted during this comment period also will be incorporated into the public record and will be fully considered in the final rule.

**DATES:** The comment period is opened and will close on January 28, 2002. Any comments that are received after the closing date may not be considered in the final decision on this proposal.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit written comments and information to Piping Plover Comments, South Dakota Ecological Services Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 420 South Garfield Avenue, Suite 400, Pierre, South Dakota 57501, or by facsimile to 605-224-9974.

You may hand-deliver written comments to our South Dakota Field Office at the address given above.

You may send comments by electronic mail (e-mail) to FW6\_PipingPlover@fws.gov. See the Public Comments Solicited section below for file format and other information on electronic filing.

Copies of the draft economic analysis, draft environmental assessment, and proposed rule for designation of critical habitat for the northern Great Plains breeding population of the piping plover are available from the aforementioned address or on the Internet at <http://mountain-prairie.fws.gov/pipingplover>.

You may view comments and materials received, as well as supporting documentation used in the preparation of this proposed rule, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nell McPhillips, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at the above address or at 605-224-8693, extension 32.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

We published a proposed rule to designate critical habitat for the northern Great Plains breeding population of the piping plover in the *Federal Register* (66 FR 31760, June 12, 2001). Section 4(b)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) requires that we designate or revise critical habitat based upon the best scientific and commercial data available and after taking into consideration the economic impacts, and any other relevant impact, of specifying any particular area as critical habitat. We may exclude an area from critical habitat if we determine that the benefits of excluding the area outweigh the benefits of including the area as critical habitat, provided such exclusion will not result in the extinction of the species.

The proposed designation includes 11 areas of prairie alkali wetlands and reservoir lakes in 5 counties in Montana, 18 counties in North Dakota, and 1 county at Lake-of-the-Woods, Minnesota, totaling approximately 196,576.5 acres [79,553.1 hectares]. It also includes five areas of portions of four rivers in the States of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska, totaling approximately 1,338 miles [2,152.9 kilometers] of river. If this proposal is made final, section 7 of the Act would prohibit destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat by any activity funded, authorized, or carried out by any Federal agency.

**Public Comments Solicited**

We will accept written comments and information during this comment period. If you wish to comment, you

may submit your comments and materials concerning this proposal by any one of several methods (see **ADDRESSES**). If you would like to submit comments by electronic format, please submit them in ASCII file format and avoid the use of special characters and encryption. Please include your name and return e-mail address in your e-mail message. Please note that the e-mail address will be closed out at the termination of the public comment period. If you do not receive confirmation from the system that we have received your message, contact us directly by calling our South Dakota Field Office at 605-224-8693.

Comments and materials received, as well as supporting documentation used in preparation of the proposal to designate critical habitat, will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above address. Copies of the draft Environmental Assessment are available on the Internet at <http://mountain-prairie.fws.gov/pipingplover> or by writing to Pete Gober, Field Supervisor (see **ADDRESSES**).

**Author**

The primary authors of this notice are the South Dakota Field Office staff (see **ADDRESSES** section).

**Authority**

The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Dated: November 30, 2001.

**John A. Blankenship,**

*Deputy Regional Director, Denver, Colorado.*

[FR Doc. 01-31586 Filed 12-27-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-55-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**50 CFR Part 648**

[I.D. 122001A]

**New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting**

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

**ACTION:** Public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a 3-day Council meeting on January 15 through 17, 2002, to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the U.S. exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, January 15, 16, and 17, 2002. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. on Tuesday and 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott, 1000 Market Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801; telephone (603) 436-2121. Requests for special accommodations should be addressed to the New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950; telephone (978) 465-0492.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council, (978) 465-0492.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Tuesday, January 15, 2002**

Following introductions, the Council will receive a briefing on the status of the U.S./Canada shared resources agreement. The Enforcement Committee will discuss its recommendations concerning the Council's Enforcement Policy in view of the 9/11 attacks because of United States Coast Guard (USCG) redirection of USCG resources to national security. The Enforcement Committee may possibly discuss Enforcement Committee progress on reviewing Amendment 10 to the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and Framework Adjustment 1 to the Monkfish FMP. Later in the morning, there will be a Stock Assessment Public Review Workshop during which an advisory report on the status of monkfish, Georges Bank winter flounder, and Loligo squid developed at the 34th Stock Assessment Workshop will be presented. The Council will then begin consideration of monkfish management issues. It intends to approve final action on Framework Adjustment 1 to the Monkfish FMP.

Options under consideration include, but are not limited to: (1) taking no action and allowing the FMP Year 4 default measures to take effect (and eliminating the directed fishery); (2) postponing the Year 4 default measures for one year and adjusting trip limits and days-at-sea allocations to achieve fishing year 2000 landings levels (after accounting for the court-ordered adjustment to the gillnet trip limits) (the preferred alternative); and (3) adjusting management measures to reduce catches to the Years 2 and 3 total allowable catch (TAC) targets. The Council also will consider scoping comments on