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New England Fishery Management Council

50 WATER STREET | NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 01950 | PHONE 978 465 0492 | FAX 978 465 3116
John Pappalardo, *Chairman* | Paul J. Howard, *Executive Director*

September 3, 2009

Ms. Patricia A. Kurkul
Regional Administrator
NMFS, Northeast Regional Office
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930

RE: Comments on the SNE Flatfish Discard Mortality EFP Request

Dear Pat:

The New England Fishery Management Council has no objection to the exempted fishery permit for the above-mentioned study as described in the *Federal Register* Vol. 74, No. 161 dated August 21, 2009.

If you have any question please contact me.

Sincerely,

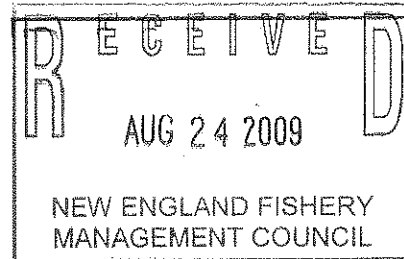
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul J. Howard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul J. Howard
Executive Director



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST REGION
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

Paul J. Howard, Executive Director
New England Fishery Management Council
50 Water Street, Mill 2
Newburyport, MA 01950



Re: Experimental Fishing Permit Proposal

Dear Paul:

The regulations on exempted experimental fishing activities at 50 CFR 600.745(b)(3) require that the Regional Administrator forward copies of experimental fishing permit applications to the Regional Fishery Management Council(s), the U.S. Coast Guard, and the appropriate fishery management agencies of affected states, accompanied by the following information: (A) The effect of the proposed Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) on the target and incidental species, including the effect on any Total Allowable Catch; (B) a citation of the regulation or regulations that, without the EFP, would prohibit the proposed activity; and (C) biological information relevant to the proposal, including appropriate statements of environmental impacts, including impacts on marine mammals and threatened or endangered species. Therefore, in addition to the experimental fishery application, we have attached the Federal Register notice that describes the activities proposed by the applicant.

Please respond to the following contact person with any comments you have on the experimental fishing proposal within 15 days of your receipt of this letter.

CONTACT Melissa Vasquez
Sustainable Fisheries Division, Northeast Region, NMFS
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: (978) 281-9166
FAX: (978) 281-9135

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

George H. Darcy
Assistant Regional Administrator
for Sustainable Fisheries



0866, e-mail address:
webmastersupport@ita.doc.gov.

Dated: August 14, 2009.

John M. Andersen,
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Antidumping and Countervailing Duty
Operations.

[FR Doc. E9-20139 Filed 8-20-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XQ40

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits

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

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Regional
Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries,
Northeast Region, NMFS, has made a
preliminary determination that the
subject exempted fishing permit (EFP)
application contains all the required
information and warrants further
consideration. Therefore, NMFS
announces that the Assistant Regional
Administrator proposes to recommend
that an EFP be issued that would allow
commercial fishing vessels to conduct
fishing operations that are otherwise
restricted by the regulations governing
the fisheries of the Northeastern United
States. Regulations under the
Magnuson-Stevens Fishery
Conservation and Management Act
require publication of this notification
to provide interested parties the
opportunity to comment on applications
for proposed EFPs.

DATES: Comments must be received on
or before September 8, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be
submitted by email to
NERO.EFP@noaa.gov. Written
comments should be sent to Patricia A.
Kurkul, Regional Administrator, NMFS,
Northeast Regional Office, 55 Great
Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930.
Mark the outside of the envelope
"Comments on the SNE Flatfish Discard
Mortality EFP." Comments may also be
sent via facsimile (fax) to (978) 281-
9135.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Melissa Vasquez, Fishery Management
Specialist, (978) 281-9166, fax (978)
281-9135.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An EFP is
being requested for eight vessels
participating in the Southern New
England (SNE) Flatfish Discard
Mortality Study conducted by the
NOAA/University of Massachusetts
Dartmouth School for Marine Science
and Technology (SMAST) Cooperative
Marine Education and Research
program. The primary objective of this
study is to assess the effects of different
stressors on the mortality of flatfish
discarded in the SNE and Mid-Atlantic
trawl fisheries. The researchers would
conduct field and lab observations of
flatfish captured during regular
commercial fishing operations for Reflex
Action Mortality Predictors (RAMP)
under different stressors to assess the
discard mortality rates of five flatfish
species: SNE yellowtail flounder; SNE
winter flounder; summer flounder;
northern windowpane flounder; and
southern windowpane flounder. In
addition, the applicants would use the
results of their study to assess the use
of RAMP in estimating the mortality of
each species within the flatfish
complex.

The study would be conducted aboard
eight commercial fishing vessels in the
SNE and Mid-Atlantic mixed trawl
fishery beginning the date of issuance of
the EFP and continuing for a full year.
All vessels would utilize otter trawl gear
with gear configuration and mesh size
dictated by current fishery regulations.
NOAA/University of Massachusetts
technicians and/or commercial
fishermen would collect 100 fish of each
species per month, during regular
commercial fishing operations, for a
maximum catch of 6,000 fish over the
course of the 12-month study (Table 1).
Fish would be landed and transported
live to the SMAST seawater lab facility
for testing and would not be sold. The
applicants have requested an exemption
from NE multispecies possession
restrictions for SNE yellowtail flounder,
SNE winter flounder, and northern
windowpane flounder, specified at
§§ 648.86(g)(1), 648.86(n)(1), and
648.86(n)(2), respectively, in order to
land the live specimens in excess of
possession limits. The applicants have
also requested an exemption from NE
multispecies minimum fish sizes
specified at § 648.83 and the summer
flounder minimum fish size at
§ 648.103(a) in order to test a
representative sample of the age
composition of discarded flatfish.

TABLE 1: ESTIMATED SAMPLE SIZE

Species	#fish/month	#fish total
SNE Yellowtail Flounder	100	1200
SNE Winter Flounder	100	1200
Summer Flounder	100	1200
Northern Window- pane Floun- der	100	1200
Southern Window- pane Floun- der	100	1200

For the field-based portion of the
study, technicians would observe a
minimum of 100 fish of each species on
commercial fishing trips for RAMP
before they are discarded at-sea. The
applicants would require a temporary
exemption from the summer flounder
commercial minimum fish size
restriction at § 648.103(a), the NE
multispecies minimum fish size
restrictions at § 648.83, and the NE
multispecies possession restrictions at
§§ 648.86(g)(1), 648.86(n)(1), and
648.86(n)(2), for the time period when
trained technicians or crew are
sampling fish. To ensure that monthly
sampling is not disrupted, the
applicants have also requested vessels
be exempt from the summer flounder
closure specified at § 648.101(a) for the
purposes of collecting the 100 live
specimens of each species each month.

The applicants may request minor
modifications and extensions to the EFP
throughout the course of research. EFP
modifications and extensions may be
granted without further public notice if
they are deemed essential to facilitate
completion of the proposed research
and result in only a minimal change in
the scope or impacts of the initially
approved EFP request.

In accordance with NAO
Administrative Order 216-6, a
Categorical Exclusion or other
appropriate National Environmental
Policy Act document would be
completed prior to the issuance of the
EFP. Further review and consultation
may be necessary before a final
determination is made to issue the EFP.
After publication of this document in
the *Federal Register*, the EFP, if
approved, may become effective
following the public comment period.

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

Dated: August 17, 2009.

Kristen Koch,

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

[FR Doc. E9-20096 Filed 8-20-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XR02

New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of a public meeting.

SUMMARY: The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a joint public meeting of its Whiting Committee and Advisory Panel in September, 2009 to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Monday, September 14, 2009 at 10 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, 31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield, MA 02048; telephone: (508) 339-2200; fax: (508) 339-1040.

Council address: New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Oversight Committee and Advisory Panel will begin developing draft alternatives for Amendment 17, which would revise regulations for small mesh groundfish (whiting and red hake). Included in the amendment will be alternatives for annual catch limits (ACLs) and accountability measures (AMs), limited access, catch allocations, and possibly measures to minimize bycatch. A report from the Whiting PDT will be given. Other related issues may be discussed.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice

that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Paul J. Howard, Executive Director, at (978) 465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: August 18, 2009.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. E9-20097 Filed 8-20-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List: Additions and Deletion

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Additions to and deletion from Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action adds to the Procurement List products and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and deletes from the Procurement List a service previously furnished by such agencies.

DATES: Effective Date: 9/21/2009.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Jefferson Plaza 2, Suite 10800, 1421 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22232-3259.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barry S. Lineback, Telephone: (703) 603-7740, Fax: (703) 603-0655, or e-mail CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additions

On 6/19/2009 (74 FR 29187-29189) and 6/26/2009 (74 FR 30531-30532), the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices of proposed additions and deletion to the Procurement List.

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the products and services and impact of

the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the products and services listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46-48c and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the products and services to the Government.

2. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the products and services to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the products and services proposed for addition to the Procurement List.

End of Certification

Accordingly, the following products and services are added to the Procurement List:

Products

NSN: 7510-00-NIB-0877—Binder, 3 D-Ring, 100% Recycled 1" Black
NSN: 7510-00-NIB-0879—Binder, 3 D-Ring, 100% Recycled 2" Black
NSN: 7510-00-NIB-0880—Binder, 3 D-Ring, 100% Recycled 3" Black
NSN: 7510-00-NIB-0885—Binder, 3 D-Ring, 100% Recycled 1" Dark Green
NSN: 7510-00-NIB-0887—Binder, 3 D-Ring, 100% Recycled 2" Dark Green
NSN: 7510-00-NIB-0888—Binder, 3 D-Ring, 100% Recycled 3" Dark Green
Coverage: A-List for the total Government requirement as aggregated by the General Services Administration.
NSN: 7510-00-NIB-0878—Binder, 3 D-Ring, 100% Recycled 1.5" Black
NSN: 7510-00-NIB-0881—Binder, 3 D-Ring, 100% Recycled 1" Blue
NSN: 7510-00-NIB-0882—Binder, 3 D-Ring, 100% Recycled 1.5" Blue
NSN: 7510-00-NIB-0883—Binder, 3 D-Ring, 100% Recycled 2" Blue
NSN: 7510-00-NIB-0884—Binder, 3 D-Ring, 100% Recycled 3" Blue
NSN: 7510-00-NIB-0886—Binder, 3 D-Ring, 100% Recycled 1.5" Dark Green
Coverage: B-List for the broad Government requirement as aggregated by the General Services Administration.
NPA: South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind, Corpus Christi, TX
Contracting Activity: Federal Acquisition

