

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Docket: NOAA-NMFS-2012-0080

Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for a Control Date in the Monkfish Fishery

Comment On: NOAA-NMFS-2012-0080-0001

Monkfish Fishery: Control Date to Limit Excessive Accumulation of Control, Qualifying Landings History, and Referendum Eligibility

Document: NOAA-NMFS-2012-0080-0004

Comment from Gregory DiDomenico

Submitter Information

Name: Gregory DiDomenico

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Organization: Garden State Seafood Association

General Comment

Comments on: ANPR for Control Date To Limit Excessive Accumulation of Control, Qualifying Landings History, and Referendum Eligibility in the Monkfish Fishery (FR 77, pages 27175-27176)
Dear Mr. Morris:

Please accept these comments on behalf of the Garden State Seafood Association (GSSA). GSSA is comprised of commercial fishermen, shore-based processors, commercial dock facilities, seafood markets, restaurants, and various industry support businesses from New Jersey. We also provide these comments on behalf of the Monkfish Defense Fund (MDF). The MDF is an ad hoc group of concerned directed monkfish fishermen and seafood dealers. Our two comments on the ANPR are as follows.

First, we support the implementation of a May 9, 2012 as a firm "control date" for future management actions in the monkfish fishery. The development of FMP Amendment 6 has precipitated a noticeable redistribution of fishing effort, an increase in directed effort, and changes in fishing practices that appear to be based upon speculation of future quota-based management actions. These are not beneficial activities for the majority of the fishing industry or the resource and adoption of such a control date will hopefully discourage this behavior.

Second, we also request NOAA/NMFS address the issue of requiring a two-thirds majority referendum in each management area for all permitted fishermen as a prerequisite for adoption of an individual, quota-based management alternative. We support a formal referendum requirement and request it apply to the application of any individual (or group)-based catch share-type system be it termed a LAPP, catch share, sector, exempted fishing permit, community or association-based quota system, as well as any similar RFMC action pursuant to MSA Section 302. We feel a referendum vote for fully-

informed, permitted fishermen with monkfish landings in 3 of the 5 years preceding the control date is the best way to reflect the true needs of the fishery participants.

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Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for a Control Date in the Monkfish Fishery

Comment On: NOAA-NMFS-2012-0080-0001

Monkfish Fishery: Control Date to Limit Excessive Accumulation of Control, Qualifying Landings History, and Referendum Eligibility

Document: NOAA-NMFS-2012-0080-DRAFT-0002

Comment from Robert Odlin

Submitter Information

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Scarborough, ME,

General Comment

the monkfishery is not overfished. leave it alone. it dose not need to be a catch share LAPP fishery.

NMFS dosent have the money to add new catch shares. ITQ's are illegal unless they are submitted to all permit holders and a referendum process is held.

leave it alone, don't ruin another fishery , so a few lucky boats get rich and everyones starves

if you move to catch shares for monk than this is pure corruption and you all know it

PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for a Control Date in the Monkfish Fishery

Comment On: NOAA-NMFS-2012-0080-0001

Monkfish Fishery: Control Date to Limit Excessive Accumulation of Control, Qualifying Landings History, and Referendum Eligibility

Document: NOAA-NMFS-2012-0080-DRAFT-0001

Comment from Jon Bleshenski

Submitter Information

Name: Jon Matthew Bleshenski

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Midland, Michigan,

Organization: Delta College

General Comment

I think the quota catch for the monkfish fishery should be divided between fishing vessels, boats. There should be an opportunity for all fishermen to make a living and not have to be concerned with the possibility of being put out of business. Determining the quota for each ship could be done by using the ship size. This way the larger ships as well as the smaller boats could turn a profit.