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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*

December 12, 2008

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

RE: Comments on the Revised UMES Monkfish EFP Proposal

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. 73, No. 240 dated December 12, 2008.

If you have any question please contact me.

Sincerely,

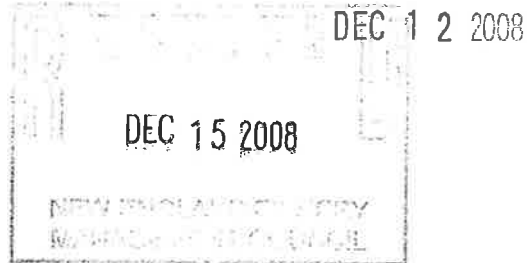
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul J. Howard". The signature is written in a cursive style.

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 Fishery 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 an application for experimental fisheries 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, we have attached the Federal Register notice that describes the activities proposed in the application submitted by the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, to amend a previously issued EFP for one vessel to conduct monkfish research funded through the monkfish Research Set-Aside Program. The reissued EFP would allow this vessel to be exempt from the Gulf of Maine Rolling Closure Area (RCA) I rather than RCA III and would continue to exempt the vessel from Northeast multispecies effort control measures, as in the original EFP.

Please respond to the following contact person with any comments you have on the experimental fishing proposal on or before **DEC 29 2008**.

CONTACT PERSON: Emily Bryant
Fishery Management Specialist
Sustainable Fisheries, Northeast Region
National Marine Fisheries Service
One Blackburn Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: (978) 281-9244
FAX: (978) 281-9135

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

George H. Darcy
Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries

Enclosure



Department”) to determine, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, whether any foreign government is providing a subsidy with respect to any article of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty, as defined in section 702(h) of the Act, and to publish an annual list and quarterly updates to the type and amount of those subsidies. We hereby provide the Department’s quarterly update of subsidies on articles of cheese that were imported during the period July 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008.

The Department has developed, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, information on subsidies

(as defined in section 702(h) of the Act) being provided either directly or indirectly by foreign governments on articles of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty. The appendix to this notice lists the country, the subsidy program or programs, and the gross and net amounts of each subsidy for which information is currently available. The Department will incorporate additional programs which are found to constitute subsidies, and additional information on the subsidy programs listed, as the information is developed.

The Department encourages any person having information on foreign government subsidy programs which

benefit articles of cheese subject to an in-quota rate of duty to submit such information in writing to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20230.

This determination and notice are in accordance with section 702(a) of the Act.

Dated: December 5, 2008.

David M. Spooner,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

APPENDIX

SUBSIDY PROGRAMS ON CHEESE SUBJECT TO AN IN-QUOTA RATE OF DUTY

Country	Program(s)	Gross Subsidy (\$/lb)	Net Subsidy (\$/lb)
27 European Union Member States	European Union Restitution Payments	\$ 0.00	\$0.00
Canada	Export Assistance on Certain Types of Cheese	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.33
Norway	Indirect (Milk) Subsidy	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
.....	Consumer Subsidy	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
.....	Total	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Switzerland	Deficiency Payments	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

[FR Doc. E8-29532 Filed 12-11-08; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510-DS-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XM08

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Adjustment to Exempted Fishing Permit

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 (Assistant Regional Administrator), has made a preliminary determination that an amendment to an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) application submitted by the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) contains all of the required information and warrants further consideration. The Assistant Regional Administrator has made a preliminary determination that the adjusted activities authorized under this amended EFP would be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Northeast (NE) Multispecies and Monkfish Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). However, further review and consultation may be

necessary before a final determination is made to reissue the EFP. Therefore, NMFS announces that the Assistant Regional Administrator proposes to recommend that an EFP be reissued that would allow one commercial fishing vessel to conduct fishing operations that are otherwise restricted by the regulations governing the fisheries of the Northeastern United States. This EFP, which would continue to enable researchers to study the effects of climate on the distribution and catch rates of monkfish, would adjust the exemptions from the NE multispecies regulations as follows: Gulf of Maine (GOM) Rolling Closure Area (RCA) I, rather than RCA III. The exemption from NE multispecies effort control measures will remain the same as with the original EFP. 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 December 29, 2008.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments by any of the following methods:

- Email: DA8-272@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line “Comments on Revised UMES Monkfish EFP .”

- Mail: Patricia A. Kurkul, Regional Administrator, NMFS, NE Regional Office, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the

envelope “Comments on UMES monkfish EFP, DA8-272.”

- Fax: (978) 281-9135.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Emily Bryant, Fishery Management Specialist, 978-281-9244.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

An application for an EFP amendment was submitted on October 15, 2008, by Andrea K. Johnson, Ph.D., Research Assistant Professor at UMES, for a project funded under the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils’ Monkfish Research Set-Aside (RSA) Program. The primary goal of this study is to investigate the influence of temperature on monkfish distribution and abundance, as well as determine age and growth patterns, spawning frequency, feeding rates, and cannibalism. This information will provide information on the biology of monkfish that could be used to enhance the management of this species.

The original EFP granted an exemption for one vessel to fish for monkfish using gillnets inside the GOM RCA III during May 2008. The vessel originally issued the EFP later decided not to participate in this project and a new vessel was issued the EFP on October 14, 2008. With this change to a new vessel, the research area was revised to reflect the new vessel owner’s familiarity with monkfish fishing grounds. This EFP revision would grant an exemption for the new vessel to fish in 30-minute square number 122, rather than 137, inside the GOM RCA I during

March 2009. Fishing activity is currently taking place through December 2008 and researchers would like to continue in March 2009, but will need this revised exemption to do so. It is expected that this location, within the RCA, would provide access to large monkfish and would avoid gear interactions between the research gillnet gear and trawl gear. The need to switch RCA exemptions is due to the change in location and vessel from the original research proposal. Allowing an exemption in RCA I rather than RCA III will provide consistency with the rest of the research that is being conducted in that area and will avoid further delays in the project.

The applicant may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the year. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and have minimal impacts that do not change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request. Any fishing activity conducted outside the scope of the exempted fishing activity would be prohibited.

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

Dated: December 5, 2008.

Emily H. Menashes

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. E8-29441 Filed 12-11-08; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XM13

U.S. Climate Change Science Program Draft Unified Synthesis Product: Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of revision of the production schedule for the U.S. Climate Change Science Program Unified Synthesis Product.

SUMMARY: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration publish this notice to announce plans to add a second public comment period for the U.S. Climate Change Science Program Unified Synthesis Product (USP). The peer review and first public comment period that ended on August 14, 2008 produced a large number of suggestions for improvements in the scientific

completeness and readability of the USP. These comments have resulted in substantial revisions to the document, and a second draft is now being prepared for release in January 2009 for a 45-day public comment period. Another **Federal Register** Notice will be published announcing the start of the public comment period and will provide detailed instructions for accessing the revised document and submitting comments.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The CCSP was established by the President in 2002 to coordinate and integrate scientific research on global change and climate change sponsored by 13 participating departments and agencies of the U.S. Government. The CCSP is charged with preparing information resources that promote climate-related discussions and decisions, including scientific synthesis and assessment analyses that support evaluation of important policy issues.

Dated: December 8, 2008.

William J. Brennan,

Acting Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and Director, Climate Change Science Program.

[FR Doc. E8-29495 Filed 12-11-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-12-S

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Corporation for National and Community Service.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Corporation for National and Community Service (hereinafter the "Corporation"), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirement on respondents can be properly assessed.

Currently, the Corporation is soliciting comments concerning the proposed renewal of its Volunteer Service Hour Tracking Tool (Record of Service). The Record of Service was

established in 2002 as a tool to help Americans answer President Bush's call to service and keep track of their volunteer service hours.

Copies of the information collection requests can be obtained by contacting the office listed in the address section of this notice.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted to the individual and office listed in the **ADDRESSES** section by February 10, 2009.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by the title of the information collection activity, by any of the following methods:

(1) *By Mail sent to:* Corporation for National and Community Service; Attention Shannon Maynard, Executive Director President's Council on Service and Civic Participation; 1201 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20525.

(2) *By hand delivery or by courier to the Corporation's mailroom at Room 8100 at the mail address given in paragraph (1) above, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.*

(3) *By fax to:* (202) 606-3460, Attention Shannon Maynard, Executive Director President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

(4) *Electronically through the Corporation's e-mail address system:* smaynard@cns.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Shannon Maynard, (202) 606-6713, or by e-mail at smaynard@cns.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Corporation is particularly interested in comments that:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Corporation, including whether the information will have practical utility;

- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are expected to respond, including the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology (e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses).

Background

In January of 2002, in his State of the Union Address, President Bush called