

Table 1 -- Current Representation on the HMS AP by Sector, Region, and Species

Sector	Fishing Region	Species	Date Appointed	Date Term Expires	Member Status
Academic	All	Swordfish/Tuna	1/1/2018	12/31/2020	Active
Academic	All	Tuna	1/1/2019	12/31/2021	Active
Academic	Gulf of Mexico/Southeast	Shark	1/1/2019	12/31/2021	Active
Academic	Southeast	Swordfish/HMS	1/1/2019	12/31/2021	Active
Commercial	Mid-Atlantic	HMS/Shark	1/1/2017	12/31/2019	Expiring
Commercial	Mid-Atlantic	Swordfish/Tuna	1/1/2017	12/31/2019	Expiring
Commercial	Gulf of Mexico	Shark	1/1/2017	12/31/2019	Expiring
Commercial	Southeast	Shark	1/1/2018	12/31/2020	Active
Commercial	All	HMS	1/1/2018	12/31/2020	Active
Commercial	Northeast	Tuna	1/1/2018	12/31/2020	Active
Commercial	Gulf of Mexico/Southeast	Swordfish/Tuna	1/1/2018	12/31/2020	Active
Commercial	Northeast	Tuna	1/1/2018	12/31/2020	Active
Commercial	Northeast	Tuna	1/1/2018	12/31/2020	Active
Commercial	Southeast	Shark	1/1/2019	12/31/2021	Active
Commercial	Southeast	Swordfish/Tuna	1/1/2019	12/31/2021	Active
Commercial	Northeast	Swordfish/Tuna	1/1/2019	12/31/2021	Active
Environmental	All	Tuna	1/1/2017	12/31/2019	Expiring
Environmental	All	HMS	1/1/2017	12/31/2019	Expiring
Environmental	All	Shark	1/1/2018	12/31/2020	Active
Environmental	Caribbean	HMS	1/1/2019	12/31/2021	Active
Recreational	Northeast	HMS	1/1/2017	12/31/2019	Expiring
Recreational	Mid-Atlantic	Tuna	1/1/2017	12/31/2019	Expiring
Recreational	Mid-Atlantic	HMS	1/1/2017	12/31/2019	Expiring
Recreational	Southeast	Billfish	1/1/2017	12/31/2019	Expiring
Recreational	Gulf of Mexico	HMS	1/1/2017	12/31/2019	Expiring
Recreational	All	Billfish	1/1/2018	12/31/2020	Active
Recreational	Mid-Atlantic	Shark	1/1/2018	12/31/2020	Active
Recreational	Mid-Atlantic	Tuna/Billfish	1/1/2018	12/31/2020	Active
Recreational	Northeast	Tuna/Shark	1/1/2019	12/31/2021	Active
Recreational	Gulf of Mexico/Southeast	HMS	1/1/2019	12/31/2021	Active
Recreational	Mid-Atlantic	HMS	1/1/2019	12/31/2021	Active
Recreational	Southeast	Billfish/HMS	1/1/2019	12/31/2021	Active

Note: Terms that are expiring or for whom current members are stepping down are identified in bold and marked as “Expiring”. NMFS tries to maintain diversity and balance in representation among fishing regions and species.

The intent is to have a group that, as a whole, reflects an appropriate and equitable balance and mix of interests given the responsibilities of the HMS AP.

Five additional members on the HMS AP include one member representing each of the following Councils: New England Fishery Management Council, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, and the Caribbean Fishery Management Council. The HMS AP also includes 22 ex-officio participants: 20 representatives of the coastal states and two representatives of the interstate commissions (the Atlantic States Marine

Fisheries Commission and the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission).

NMFS will provide the necessary administrative support, including technical assistance, for the HMS AP. However, NMFS will not compensate participants with monetary support of any kind. Depending on availability of funds, members may be reimbursed for travel costs related to the HMS AP meetings.

C. Meeting Schedule

Meetings of the HMS AP will be held as frequently as necessary but are routinely held twice each year—once in the spring, and once in the fall. The meetings may be held in conjunction with public hearings.

Dated: October 25, 2019.

Jennifer M. Wallace,

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

[FR Doc. 2019–23689 Filed 10–29–19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XV113

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a webinar-based meeting with the public to provide information on options available to commercial fishing operators for electronically submitting required Vessel Trip Reports (VTRs) in the Greater Atlantic Region. This is in support of the Council's joint action with the New England Fishery Management Council that could require electronic reporting of VTRs by operators holding commercial fishing permits for species managed by either council that require the submission of VTRs.

DATES: The meeting will be held Wednesday, November 20, 2019, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., EST.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via webinar (http://mafmc.adobeconnect.com/evtr_publicmtg/) with a telephone audio connection (provided when connecting). Audio only access via conference phone number: 1-800-832-0736; Room Number: 5765379.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N State St., Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674-2331.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; telephone: (302) 526-5255. The Council's website, www.mafmc.org also has details on the proposed agenda, webinar access, and briefing materials.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council is considering requiring electronic reporting of commercial fishery VTRs in a joint action with the New England Fishery Management Council. This action would change the method of transmitting VTRs—the required data elements would not change. Existing regulations requiring that VTRs be completed before arriving at the dock would not change, but the timeline for submitting electronic reports may change. This meeting will provide a review of approved electronic VTR applications, initial steps that would be necessary for commercial operators to begin reporting electronically, and a demonstration of two of the most popular electronic reporting applications (with limited time for questions) to convey information on the process involved for commercial operators to report VTRs electronically.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aid should be directed to M. Jan Saunders, (302) 526-5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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

Dated: October 24, 2019.

Tracey L. Thompson,

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

[FR Doc. 2019-23609 Filed 10-29-19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO-C-2019-0038]

Request for Comments on Intellectual Property Protection for Artificial Intelligence Innovation

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO”) is gathering information about the impact of artificial intelligence (“AI”) technologies on intellectual property law and policy. To assist in gathering this information, on August 27, 2019, the USPTO published questions related to the impact of artificial intelligence inventions on patent law and policy and asked the public for written comments. Those questions cover a variety of topics, including whether revisions to intellectual property protection are needed. The present notice extends this inquiry to copyright, trademark, and other intellectual property rights impacted by AI.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before December 16, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent by email to AIPartnership@uspto.gov. Comments may also be submitted by postal mail addressed to the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. Although comments may be submitted by postal mail, the USPTO prefers to receive comments via email.

Because written comments and testimony will be made available for public inspection, information that a respondent does not desire to be made public, such as a phone number, should not be included in the testimony or written comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Coke Stewart, Office of the Under Secretary and Director of the USPTO, (571) 272-8600.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies are increasingly becoming important across a diverse spectrum of technologies and businesses. AI poses unique challenges in the sphere of intellectual property law. At a January 31, 2019 conference on “Artificial Intelligence: Intellectual Property Policy Considerations,” USPTO explored a number of those challenges.¹ On August 27, 2019, the USPTO published a request for comment regarding AI's impacts on patent law and policy. As a continuation of this work, the USPTO is also considering the impact of AI on other intellectual property rights.

Issues for Comment: The USPTO seeks comments on the copyright, trademark, and other intellectual property rights issues that may be impacted by AI. The questions enumerated below are a preliminary guide to aid the USPTO in collecting relevant information to evaluate whether further guidance is needed and to assist in the development of any such guidance with respect to intellectual property policy and its relationship with AI. The questions should not be taken as an indication that the USPTO has taken a position, or is predisposed to any particular views. The USPTO welcomes comments from the public on any issues that they believe are relevant to this topic, and is particularly interested in answers to the following questions:

1. Should a work produced by an AI algorithm or process, without the involvement of a natural person contributing expression to the resulting work, qualify as a work of authorship protectable under U.S. copyright law? Why or why not?

2. Assuming involvement by a natural person is or should be required, what kind of involvement would or should be sufficient so that the work qualifies for copyright protection? For example, should it be sufficient if a person (i) designed the AI algorithm or process that created the work; (ii) contributed to the design of the algorithm or process; (iii) chose data used by the algorithm for training or otherwise; (iv) caused the AI algorithm or process to be used to yield the work; or (v) engaged in some specific combination of the foregoing

¹ A videotape of the entire conference, along with the agenda and an overview of the conference, are available at <https://www.uspto.gov/about-us/events/artificial-intelligence-intellectual-property-policy-considerations>.