

another, as follows: *Loligo* and butterfish moratorium permit, or *Illex* moratorium permit, and vessels issued a mackerel or squid/butterfish incidental catch permit that intend to transfer *Loligo*, *Illex*, or butterfish; vessels issued a NE multispecies or scallop permit that intend to transfer species other than regulated species; and NE multispecies vessels intending to transfer up to 500 lb (227 kg) of combined small-mesh NE multispecies per trip for use as bait.

Owners of charter/party vessels intending to fish in the Nantucket Lightship Closure Area must request an LOA from the Regional Administrator, with an estimated time of 5 minutes per request. Vessels fishing under Charter/Party regulations in Gulf of Maine (GOM) closed areas must obtain a Charter/Party Exemption Certificate for GOM Closed Areas, at an estimated 2 minutes per request.

Limited access sea scallop vessels wishing to participate in either the state waters DAS exemption program or the state waters gear exemption program must notify the Regional Administrator by VMS or call-in notification. Participants in the sea scallop state waters exemption programs using VMS notification must notify the Regional Administrator prior to the first trip in the exemption program and prior to the first planned trip in the EEZ, at an estimated 2 minutes per response. Participants in these exemption programs using the call-in system must notify the Regional Administrator at least 7 days prior to fishing under the exemption, at an estimated 2 minutes per call. If participants using the call-in system wish to withdraw from either state waters exemption program prior to the end of the 7-day designated exemption period requirement, they must also call the Regional Administrator to notify of early withdrawal, at an estimated 2 minutes per call.

Surfclam and ocean quahog vessel owners or operators are required to call the NMFS Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) nearest to the point of offloading prior to the departure of the vessel from the dock. It requires approximately 2 minutes for a vessel owner or operator to notify OLE of the vessel's departure from the dock to fish for surf clams or ocean quahogs in the EEZ.

In the American lobster fishery, initial lobster area designations are estimated to take 5 minutes, requests for additional tags is estimated to take 2 minutes, and notification of lost tags is estimated to take 3 minutes.

In the NE multispecies fishery, a request for change in permit category designation requires approximately 2

minutes, and a request for transit to another port by a vessel required to remain in the GOM cod trip limit takes 2 minutes.

In the gillnet fisheries for NE multispecies and monkfish, the burden estimate for calling out of the fishery is 3 minutes. Gillnet category designation, including initial requests for gillnet tags, requires approximately 10 minutes. Requests for additional tags require an estimated 2 minutes. Notification of lost tags and requests for replacement tag numbers also require an estimated 2 minutes. It will take approximately 1 minute to attach each gillnet tag.

Requests for state quota transfers in the bluefish and summer flounder fisheries are estimated to require 1 hour.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 20,212.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$1,348,473.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: November 19, 2003.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 112603B]

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

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

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notification of a proposal for EFPs to conduct experimental fishing; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, Northeast Region, NMFS (Assistant Regional Administrator) has made a preliminary determination that the subject EFP application contains all the required information and warrants further consideration. The Assistant Regional Administrator has also made a preliminary determination that the activities authorized under the EFP would be consistent with the goals and objectives of the Northeast (NE) Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP). However, further review and consultation may be necessary before a final determination is made to issue the EFP. Therefore, NMFS announces that the Assistant Regional Administrator proposes to recommend that an EFP be issued that would allow up to 60 commercial fishing vessels to conduct fishing operations that are otherwise restricted by the regulations governing the fisheries of the Northeastern United States. The EFP would allow for exemptions from the FMP as follows: The Georges Bank (GB) seasonal closure area; the Days-at-Sea (DAS) notification requirements; the effort-control program (DAS); and minimum fish size restrictions for the temporary retention of undersized fish for data collection purposes.

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 on this document must be received on or before December 19, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to Patricia A. Kurkul, Regional Administrator, NMFS, Northeast Regional Office, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope "Comments on Cod Tagging Study." Comments may also be sent via facsimile (fax) to (978) 281-9135.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Hooker, Fishery Management Specialist, phone (978) 281-9220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fishermen's Association submitted an application for an EFP to NMFS on November 13, 2003. The application was complete as received. The experimental fishing application requests authorization to

allow the catch, tag, and release of Atlantic cod using rod and reel only. The primary goal of the study is to provide high quality scientific data on the current distribution and movement patterns of Atlantic cod on GB. In the long term, it is hoped that the improved understanding of the cod stock that may result from this study would enable better and more effective management of the cod fishery.

The study proposes to catch, tag, and release 30,000 individual cod during 300 dedicated tagging trips, using up to 60 commercial fishing vessels. The participating vessels would catch cod using rod and reel, with treble hooks eliminated from the jigs, temporarily hold caught cod live in tanks aboard the vessel while processing and tagging the fish, and return the fish alive to the sea. Any other species caught would be released as soon as practicable. During the study, no fish of any species would be landed or retained for commercial sale. Cod would be tagged on dedicated tagging trips in four main areas: The Cape Cod/Chatham area; the Great South Channel area; the Nantucket Shoals area; and the Coxes Ledge area. The study would likely have minimal impacts to the target species in the area due to the use of rod and reel as the catch method and efforts to minimize trauma and release all specimens alive. Tagging program staff would be on board the vessel for training purposes and to observe 20 percent of the dedicated trips to assist with tagging operations.

The research study would occur between December 1, 2003, and June 15, 2004, in the area defined by straight lines connecting the points 42°00' N. lat. 70°00' W. long., the northern border of the Nantucket Lightship Closed Area at 70°00' W. long., the northern border of the Nantucket Lightship Closed Area at 69°00' W. long., the western border of Closed Area I at 69°00' W. long., 42°00' N. lat. at Loran C 13700, and then back to 42°00' N. lat. 70°00' W. long. This area excludes the NE multispecies year-round closed areas but includes the GB Seasonal Closure Area (May 1–May 31). The rationale for needing to access this seasonal closure area is to capture and tag fish from aggregating schools of spawning cod prior to their post-spawning migration.

Therefore, the EFP would allow for exemptions from the FMP as follows: the Georges Bank (GB) seasonal closure area specified at 50 CFR 648.81(n); the DAS notification requirements specified at § 648.10; the effort-control program (DAS) as specified at § 648.82(a); and minimum fish-size restrictions specified at § 648.83(a) for the temporary

retention of undersized fish for data collection purposes.

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

Dated: November 28, 2003.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Performance Review Board Membership for the Chief of Staff of the Army

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is given of the names of members of a Performance Review Board for the Department of the Army.

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 26, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Marilyn Ervin, U.S. Army Senior Executive Service Office, Assistant Secretary of the Army, Manpower & Reserve Affairs, 111 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310–0111.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 4314(c)(1) through (5) of Title 5, U.S.C., requires each agency to establish, in accordance with regulations, one or more Senior Executive Service performance review boards. The boards shall review and evaluate the initial appraisal of senior executives' performance by supervisors and make recommendations to the appointing authority or rating official relative to the performance of these executives.

The members of the Performance Review Board for the U.S. Army, Chief of Staff of the Army, are:

1. MG Lawrence R. Adair, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, G–1.

2. MG Dorian T. Anderson, Commanding General, United States Army Human Resources Command.

3. BG Harry B. Axson, Jr., Deputy Director for Operations, J–3, U.S. Central Command.

4. Mr. Brian Barr, Technical Director, U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command.

5. Ms. Jean M. Bennett, Director, Resources and Infrastructure, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–2.

6. Mr. Vernon M. Bettencourt, Jr., Technical Advisor to the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–3, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–3.

7. MG Robert W. Chesnut, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, G3 (Mobilization), Office of the Chief, Army Reserves.

8. MG Peter W. Chiarelli, Commanding General, 1st Cavalry Division.

9. LTG Claude V. Christianson, Deputy Chief of Staff, G–4.

10. Dr. Craig E. College, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Infrastructure Analysis), Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Environment).

11. Mr. William F. Crain, Technical Director, U.S. Army Center for Army Analysis.

12. BG Bruce Davis Deputy Director, Operations, Readiness, and Mobilization, National Guard Bureau.

13. MG B. Sue Dueitt, Director, Personnel Transformation.

14. Mr. Terrance M. Ford Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, G–2

15. MG James J. Grazioplene, Director, Force Development Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–8.

16. LTG Benjamin S. Griffin, Deputy Chief of Staff, G–8.

17. BG Dennis E. Hardy, Commanding General, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley.

18. MG David H. Huntoon, Jr., Commandant, U.S. Army War College.

19. BG Kenneth W. Hunzeker, Vice Director for Force Structure, Resources and Assessment, J–8, The Joint Staff.

20. BG Jerome Johnson, Director of Plans, Operations and Readiness, Office of the G–4.

21. LTG John M. Le Moyne, Deputy Chief of Staff, G–1.

22. Mr. Mark R. Lewis, Director of Plans, Resources, and Operations, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–1.

23. Ms. Maureen T. Lischke, Program Executive Officer for Information Systems and Chief Information Officer, National Guard Bureau.

24. MG James J. Lovelace, Jr., Director of the Army Staff.

25. Mr. Wendell Lunceford, Director, Army Model and Simulation Office, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–3.

26. LTG Charles S. Mahan, Jr., Deputy Chief of Staff, G–4.

27. BG Jesus A. Mangual, Director of Force Projection and Distribution, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–4.

28. Mr. John W. Matthews, Director, Army Declassification Activity, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–1.

29. MG David F. Melcher, Director, Program Analysis and Evaluation, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–8

30. Mr. William P. Neal, Associate Director, Force Projection and Distribution, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–4.

31. Mr. Mark J. O'Konski, Director of Research and Development, Directorate of Research and Development, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.