

2011 REPORT TO CONGRESS
ON APPORTIONMENT OF MEMBERSHIP
ON THE
REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCILS

PURSUANT TO SECTION 302(b)(2)(B) OF THE
MAGNUSON-STEVENS FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT

PREPARED BY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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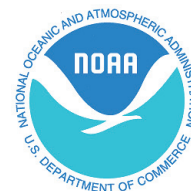


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A. BACKGROUND

Section 302(b)(2)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) requires the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) to report annually to Congress on the achievement, to the extent practicable, of a “fair and balanced apportionment, on a rotating or other basis, of the active participants (or their representatives) in the commercial and recreational fisheries under the jurisdiction of [each] Regional Fishery Management Council [RFMC].”

There are 114 voting members on the eight Councils. The voting members of each Council include the principal State official (or the official’s designee) with marine fishery management responsibility and expertise in each constituent State, who is appointed by the Governor; the regional administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for the geographic area concerned (or the regional administrator’s designee); and members required to be appointed by the Secretary in accordance with Sections 302(b)(2) and (5) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. In addition, non-voting members represent the United States Coast Guard, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of State, and the Marine Fisheries Commissions.

This report is the 20th in a series related to the status of voting members appointed to the RFMCs by the Secretary.^{1/} In addition to assessing the annual apportionment of RFMC membership, this report discusses significant fishery management issues and related actions for 2012.

B. FAIR AND BALANCED RFMC MEMBERSHIP

The consideration of balance and fairness between commercial and recreational fishing sectors is an important element in the Secretary’s appointments. Equally important is the stewardship responsibilities of RFMCs and the appointment of individuals who can work collectively with other members to achieve the conservation standards under the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Successful nominees, therefore, are those who are qualified in accordance with the provisions at 50 CFR 600.215 and who will best contribute to the stewardship of marine fishery resources.^{2/}

Generally, the most qualified nominees are those whose records indicate they:

1. Have achieved a level of leadership in promoting stewardship of the marine fishery resources under the jurisdiction of the RFMCs to which they would be appointed; and
2. Participate in, or represent commercial fishermen participating in, one or more commercial fisheries under the RFMCs’ jurisdictions; or

^{1/}The initial report assessed the RFMC membership in 1991 and 1992, and was submitted to Congress on September 1, 1992.

^{2/}The qualifications for appointment are derived from Section 302(b)(2)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act and are also included in regulations contained at 50 CFR 600.215.

3. Participate in, or represent recreational fishermen participating in, one or more recreational fisheries under the RFMCs' jurisdictions; or
4. Are otherwise experienced and/or knowledgeable in leadership of organizations whose members participate in a fishery or in management and conservation of natural resources, or are representatives of consumers, teachers, journalists, writers, consultants, lawyers, or marine fishery researchers.

Standard for Apportionment

Before evaluating each RFMC with respect to fairness and balance, the Secretary must first have a standard for such judgments. Unfortunately, the amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Act and legislative history do not provide specific guidance for judging whether the Secretary's appointments meet the statutory standard. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) NMFS, however, has addressed the requirement by reasoning that, in the ideal case, voting members should be individuals with prescribed qualifications related to commercial or to recreational fishing within the RFMC's area of jurisdiction, or individuals with qualifications in one of the "other" (See preceding paragraph 4) related fishing interest categories, who are personally committed to meeting the RFMC's trusteeship responsibilities for living marine resources. This continues to be the yardstick for judging whether an individual member of a RFMC will strive towards the conservation and management of fisheries resources.

Over the past decade, fishery management issues have become increasingly complex. Therefore, RFMC members who possess the necessary background and abilities to address complex issues are critical to the ultimate success of the RFMCs. A significant consideration in appointing members is their specific knowledge of the conservation and management issues and fisheries in which each RFMC is expected to be involved. Also important is the level of nominees' participation in the fishery management process, and the support for the nominees from the fishing sector communities and other individuals, largely through endorsement letters to the Secretary.

For the purposes of this Report, three general fishing interest sectors are discussed: the commercial fishing sector, the recreational fishing sector, and an "other" sector. The "other" sector is made up of appointed members with knowledge of and experience in biological, economic, or social sciences; environmental or ecological matters; consumer affairs; and associated fields.

Nominees may be categorized as participating in more than one of the three general fishing interest sectors. In these cases, NMFS' determination about a nominee's primary interest sector is the result of NMFS' interpretation of: (1) supporting background information provided by the nominating governor; (2) background information provided by the nominee, reflecting the nominee's demonstrated principal participation; and (3) other supplemental information provided.

C. APPORTIONMENT OF RFMC MEMBERSHIP

RFMC members are appointed from among qualified individuals nominated by the governors of the RFMCs' constituent states and, in the case of tribal representation on the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC), from among Indian representatives nominated by the appropriate Tribal Governments. Appointed members serve 3-year terms and can be reappointed to serve three consecutive terms. A major factor in meeting the requirement to balance membership is the cooperation of the governors of the constituent states in nominating qualified individuals who are knowledgeable regarding conservation and management of the commercial or recreational harvest of fishery resources. The process works best when governors provide the Secretary with a variety of highly qualified nominees who meet the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

For governor-nominated seats, the Secretary will select an appointee for an obligatory seat (state-specific) from the list of qualified nominees submitted by the governor of that state. In filling expiring at-large seats (regional), the Secretary will select an appointee from the list of all qualified candidates submitted by constituent state governors.

In 2011, the Secretary announced the appointment or reappointment of 22 voting obligatory and at-large RFMC members. Table 1 shows the current totals in the distribution of Secretary-appointed RFMC voting members by interest sector for 2009, 2010, and 2011 (page 6). In June 2011, 9 members were appointed from the commercial fishing sector, 5 members were appointed from the recreational fishing sector, and 8 members were appointed from the "other" sector.

Because of the limited number of RFMC seats, not all sectors and localities can be represented on each RFMC. In addition, the Secretary's appointments are constrained by the nominations submitted by the governors. Within these parameters, the Secretary aims to select appointees who possess the breadth of knowledge and experience to collectively provide a balance on each RFMC, and who pursue their RFMC roles as stewards and trustees of living resources. To the extent practicable, the appointments also seek to rotate membership, thereby distributing participation among all sectors of the fisheries-specific actions. The distribution of representation on each RFMC are also adjusted, where possible, to achieve a balance of interest sectors or to provide needed experience to address changing priorities.

Where sector or gear components are not represented on a RFMC, membership on the various RFMC advisory panels and committees is also crucial to providing those sectors with representation during RFMC deliberations, as well as with a voice on specific issues of interest.

Women and Minority Representation

Eight women currently serve on the RFMCs. Governors are encouraged to nominate qualified female and minority candidates.

D. RFMC MEMBERSHIP VACANCIES DURING 2011

Table 2, page 7, lists the 31 RFMC members whose terms will expire on August 10, 2012. Table 3, page 8, sorts the 31 RFMC members into the three general fishing sector categories.

The Magnuson-Stevens Act prohibits the reappointment of RFMC members to a fourth consecutive term. As a result, 10 of the 31 members whose terms expire in 2012 will be ineligible to be renominated at this time.

TABLE 1: APPOINTED RFMC MEMBERS SORTED NUMERICALLY BY FISHING SECTOR INTERESTS (2009-2011)

	Year	Commercial	Recreational	“Other”	Total
NEFMC	2009	7	3	2	12
	2010	7	3	2	12
	2011	8	3	1	12
MAFMC	2009	5	3	5	13
	2010	4	4	5	13
	2011	4 ^{3/}	3	5	12
SAFMC	2009	3	4	1	8
	2010	3	4	1	8
	2011	3	4	1	8
GMFMC	2009	4	4	3	11
	2010	4	5	2	11
	2011	4	4	3 ^{4/}	11
CFMC	2009	2	1	1	4
	2010	2	1	1	4
	2011	2	1	1	4
PFMC	2009	3	4	2	9
	2010	3	4	2	9
	2011	2	3	4 ^{5/}	9
NPFMC	2009	6	1	0	7
	2010	6	1	0	7
	2011	5	1	1 ^{6/}	7
WPFMC	2009	2	3	3	8
	2010	2	3	3	8
	2011	2	3	3	8
ALL RFMCs	2009	32	23	17	72
	2010	31	25	16	72
	2011	31	22	19	71

^{3/}In October 2011, an out of cycle vacancy occurred on the Mid-Atlantic Council.

^{4/}In 2011, fishing sector changes occurred for Robert Shipp from the recreational sector to the “other” sector.

^{5/} This total includes the Tribal representative, who, for the purposes of this table, is counted as a representative of the “other” sector.

^{6/}In 2011, fishing sector changes occurred for John Henderschedt from the commercial sector, to the “other” sector.

TABLE 2: RFMC MEMBERS' TERMS EXPIRING AUGUST 10, 2012
GROUPED BY OBLIGATORY OR AT-LARGE APPOINTMENT

OBLIGATORY MEMBERS	APPT. DATE	CONSEC. TERMS SERVED	AT-LARGE MEMBERS	APPT. DATE	CONSEC. TERMS SERVED
<u>New England</u> MA: R. Avila/C	2003	**3	G. Libby/ME (C)	2009	1
RI: D. Preble/R	2006	2			
CT: S. McGee/O	2003	**3			
ME: J. Odlin/C	2003	**3			
<u>Mid-Atlantic</u> NJ: C. Zeman/O	2009	1	S. Schafer/NY (C)	2009	1
VA: P. deFur/O	2009	1	P. Pate/NC (O)	2009	1
<u>South Atlantic</u> GA: C. Harris/R	2003	**3	B. Currin/NC (R)	2003	**3
FL: B. Hartig/C	2009	1	C. Phillips/GA (C)	2009	1
<u>Gulf of Mexico</u> FL: R. Gill/C	2006	2	H. Pearce/LA (C)	2006	2
LA: D. McKnight/R	2009	1	T. McIlwain/MS (O)	2006	2
AL: J. Greene/R	2009	1			
<u>Caribbean</u> VI: C. Farchette/O	2009	1	M. Hanke/PR (R)	2003	**3
<u>Pacific</u> CA: D. Crabbe/C	2009	1	D. Myer/WA (C)	2006	2
OR: D. Lowman/O	2009	1	W. Brizendine/CA (R)	2009	1
WA: D. Sones (Tribal Seat)	2006	2			
<u>North Pacific</u> WA: D. Benson/C	2003	**3	There are no at-large seats on the North Pacific Council.		
AK: H. Hull/C	2009	1			
AK: R. Dersham/R	2008	*1			
<u>Western Pacific</u> GU: M. Duenas/C	2003	**3	There are no at-large seats on the Western Pacific Council in 2012.		
AS: S. Haleck/R	2003	**3			
HI: S. Martin/C	2003	**3			
21 Obligatory Members					
10 At-Large Members					

C = Commercial Sector

R = Recreational Sector

*This member replaced another member who left office during a term. In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act, any term in which an individual is appointed to replace a member who left office during a term shall not be counted in determining the number of consecutive terms served by that Council member.

**These members have served three consecutive terms; therefore, they are ineligible by law for reappointment to a fourth consecutive term.

TABLE 3: RFMC MEMBERS' TERMS EXPIRING AUGUST 10, 2012
GROUPED BY GENERAL FISHING SECTOR CATEGORIES

COMMERCIAL	RECREATIONAL	OTHER	TOTAL
<u>New England</u> Rodney M. Avila James A. Odlin Glen A. Libby	David E. Preble	Sally E. McGee	5
<u>Mid-Atlantic</u> Steven F. Schafer		Peter L. deFur Preston P. Pate Christopher J. Zeman	4
<u>South Atlantic</u> Benjamin C. Hartig III Charles M. Phillips	Benjamin M. Currin Charles D. Harris		4
<u>Gulf Council</u> Robert P. Gill Harlon H. Pearce	John R. Greene Jr. Damon P. McKnight	Thomas D. McIlwain	5
<u>Caribbean</u>	Marcos R. Hanke	Carlos F. Farchette	2
<u>Pacific</u> David M. Crabbe Dale D. Myer	William L. Brizendine II	Dorothy M. Lowman David B. Sones (Tribal representative)	5
<u>North Pacific</u> David W. Benson Howard D. Hull	Robert E. Dersham		3
<u>Western Pacific</u> Manuel P. Duenas II Sean C. Martin	Stephen Haleck		3
TOTAL 14	TOTAL 9	TOTAL 8	TOTAL 31

Removal of Members

On occasion, after appointments have been made, RFMC constituents have advised the Secretary of concerns about (or indicated disagreement with) some of the Secretarial appointment decisions. In some cases, constituents have called for the revocation of particular appointments. All such concerns are noted. However, in accordance with Section 302(b)(6) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the removal of a Council member is limited to the following circumstances:

- a) The Secretary may remove for cause any Secretarially appointed RFMC member only when the RFMC concerned first recommends removal of the member by not less than two-thirds of the RFMC voting members, and the RFMC submits such removal recommendation to the Secretary in writing, together with a statement of the basis for the recommendation; or
- b) After notice and an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with Section 554 of Title 5, United States Code, the member is found by the Secretary to have committed an act prohibited by Section 307(1)(O) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, which pertains to compliance with financial disclosure requirements.
- c) A Council member's appointment is conditional until such time as the member's background investigation has been favorably adjudicated. The Secretary will revoke the member's appointment if that member receives an unfavorable background investigation.

E. THE SECRETARY'S 2011 APPOINTMENTS/2012 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of the annual appointments announced on June 2, 2011, 21 members were seated on August 11, 2011. In addition, the Secretary announced the reappointment of John McMurray on the MAFMC who was seated on October 9, 2011, for a total of 22 voting obligatory and at-large RFMC members whose 3-year terms will expire on August 10, 2014.

The following sections update RFMC appointment rosters, specify apportionment totals for RFMC members, discuss fishery management issues and challenges being addressed by each RFMC, and make Secretarial recommendations for future nomination and appointment considerations. The latter reflects information included in letters sent to the constituent State governors requesting nominees, consistent with regulations at 50 CFR 600.215. The governors are required to submit their nominees by March 15 of each year.

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1. New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Four NEFMC members’ terms expired in 2011. As a result of the 2011 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives is eight commercial, three recreational, and one “other,” which reflects a change from seven commercial, three recreational, and two “other.” The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of at-large seats on the NEFMC remains unchanged. The appointees and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

Peter T. Kendall/commercial
 Laura F. Ramsden/commercial
 Thomas D. Dempsey/commercial

Mary Beth Nickell-Tooley

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Michael P. Leary/commercial
 James J. Fair Jr./ “other”
 John W. Pappalardo/commercial (ineligible, by law, for a fourth consecutive term)
 Reappointment

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the NEFMC:

2011 NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (12 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	AVILA, RODNEY M.	MA	2012	C
O	PREBLE, DAVID E.	RI	2012	R
O	GOETHEL, DAVID T.	NH	2013	C
O	MCGEE, SALLY E.	CT	2012	O
O	ODLIN, JAMES A.	ME	2012	C
A	CUNNINGHAM, COLIN M. JR.	MA	2013	R
A	KENDALL, PETER T.	NH	2014	C
A	RAMSDEN, LAURA F.	MA	2014	C
A	DEMPSEY, THOMAS D.	MA	2014	C
A	LIBBY, GLEN A.	ME	2012	C
A	BLOUNT, FRANCIS W. JR.	RI	2013	R
A	NICKELL-TOOLEY, MARY BETH	ME	2014	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2012:

1. Rodney M. Avila – commercial fishing sector – Massachusetts' obligatory seat; by

law, Mr. Avila, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.

2. David E. Preble – recreational fishing sector – Rhode Island’s obligatory seat
3. Sally E. McGee – “other” sector – Connecticut’s obligatory seat; by law, Ms. McGee, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.
4. James A. Odlin – commercial fishing sector – Maine’s obligatory seat; by law, Mr. Odlin, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.
5. Glen A. Libby – commercial fishing sector – at-large seat (Maine)

2012 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

The stocks within the NEFMC’s geographical area that are managed by the Council are primarily associated with commercial fisheries. Of the seven members whose terms do not expire in 2012, five are from the commercial harvesting sector and two are from the recreational fishing sector. Members from the commercial harvesting sector have experience in the groundfish, scallop, herring, and monkfish fisheries, utilizing gillnet, trawl, dredge, purse seine, and longline gear. The recreational fishing sector members are rod-and-reel fishermen and/or involved in charter/party fishing.

The five upcoming vacancies include three outgoing members from the commercial sector, one from the recreational sector, and one from the “other” sector. Governors are encouraged to nominate qualified nominees from the commercial and recreational fishing sectors. Also, governors are encouraged to nominate nominees from the “other” sector, including people with knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources and their habitats, and ecosystem approaches to management.

DISCUSSION:

The NEFMC is responsible for six Fishery Management Plans (FMPs): Northeast (NE) Multispecies, Atlantic Sea Scallop, Atlantic Herring, Deep-sea Red Crab, Northeast Skates, and Atlantic Salmon. In addition, the NEFMC and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) are jointly responsible for two FMPs (Spiny Dogfish and Monkfish). The NEFMC has the lead responsibility for the Monkfish FMP, while the MAFMC has the lead responsibility for the Spiny Dogfish FMP.

The species managed by the NEFMC are primarily commercial; however, the multispecies fishery has an important recreational component (party/charter and private vessels). The Atlantic salmon fishery is considered recreational, although possession of Atlantic salmon is prohibited in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) under the Atlantic Salmon FMP, and there is no

commercial or recreational fishery for Atlantic salmon in the EEZ. Management of all of the fisheries must take into consideration effects of the fisheries on habitat, and must consider ways to minimize bycatch. Fishing gear technology and selectivity are areas of great interest—to allow healthy stocks to be harvested at or near their optimum yields while protecting overfished and rebuilding stocks, particularly in the multispecies fishery. Also of concern are measures protecting marine mammals, threatened and endangered species.

In 2011, the Council's management actions included:

- **Northeast (NE) Multispecies**
The Council completed Framework 45 to modify the Georges Bank yellowtail flounder rebuilding schedule and issues regarding Transboundary Resource Assessment Committee quota-setting; Framework 46, which revised the haddock cap in the herring fishery; and Amendment 17, to assist the states in establishing and operating permit banks, which help local fishermen remain active in the groundfish fishery. The Council also initiated development of Framework 47, which will set catch limits for the 2012-2013 fishery; Amendment 18, which will consider accumulation caps in the groundfish fishery; and Amendment 19, which will establish Annual Catch Limits/Accountability Measures (ACLs/AMs) for the small-mesh groundfish stocks (whiting and red hake).
- **Atlantic Sea Scallops**
The Council completed Amendment 15, which implemented ACL/AM measures and revised the scallop overfishing definition. The Council also completed Framework 22, which set specifications for the 2011-2012 fishery. The Council initiated development of Framework 23, which will require gear changes to protect sea turtles and make changes to the Northern Gulf of Maine scallop fishery.
- **Atlantic Herring**
The Council completed Amendment 4, which added ACLs/AMs to the FMP; and continued development of Amendment 5, which will address monitoring and bycatch issues in the fishery, including catch of river herring.
- **Monkfish**
The Council completed development of Amendment 5, which added ACLs/AMs to the FMP and set specifications for the 2011-2013 fishing years, and began development of Amendment 6, which will consider new catch share programs for this fishery. The Council also completed Framework 7, which set catch limits for the Northern Management Area, and adjusted trip limits and days-at-sea based on new scientific information.
- **Skates**
The Council completed Framework 1 to adjust possession limits and triggers to extend the fishery, and developed specifications for the 2012-2013 fishery.
- **Deep-sea Red Crab**

The Council completed Amendment 3, which added ACLs/AMs to the FMP and set specifications for the 2011-2013 fisheries.

- **Habitat**

The Council continued development of an omnibus habitat amendment, which will amend the essential fish habitat (EFH) designations in the Council's FMPs and provide additional measures to protect habitat. Phase I, to better define EFH, has been completed, and work on Phase II, to develop management measures to protect EFH, is continuing.

Council priorities for 2012 include:

- Continue development of Phase II of a two-part omnibus amendment to address issues regarding EFH across all of the Council's FMPs;
- Initiate an action to address how to manage the sub-ACL of yellowtail flounder allocated to the scallop fishery;
- Continue development of Amendment 6 to the Monkfish FMP to consider sectors and/or Individual Transferable Quotas (ITQs) for the monkfish fishery;
- Complete Amendment 19 to the NE Multispecies FMP, to add ACLs/AMs for the small-mesh groundfish stocks and to set specifications for fishing years 2011-2013;
- Complete Herring Amendment 5, to address monitoring and bycatch issues in the fishery, including catch of river herring;
- Complete Herring Specifications for 2013-2015 using new stock assessment information;
- Complete Scallop Framework 23, which will require gear changes to protect sea turtles and make changes to the Northern Gulf of Maine scallop fishery;
- Initiate an action to better control bycatch of groundfish in the scallops fishery;
- Complete Scallop Framework 24 to set ACLs and specifications for fishing years 2013-2014;
- Continue development of NE Multispecies Amendment 18 to consider accumulation caps and fleet diversity issues;
- Complete NE Multispecies Framework 47, to set ACLs and other specifications for the 2012-13 fishery;
- Develop an action to adjust the ACLs for nine stocks of groundfish after assessment results are received, and to consider measures to help the fishery achieve optimum yield, including adjustments to the carryover provisions;
- Develop an action to adjust ACLs for the recreational groundfish if warranted by new data;
- Initiate an action to consider a limited access program for the whiting fishery;
- Initiate an omnibus action to implement a standardized bycatch reporting methodology for all managed fisheries; and
- Initiate an omnibus amendment to revise and simplify vessel baseline regulations.

2. Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Five MAFMC members’ terms expired in 2011. As a result of the 2011 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives was five commercial, three recreational, and five “other,” which represents a change from four commercial, four recreational, and five “other.” Due to an out of cycle vacancy in October 2011, the composition of fishing representatives is four commercial, three recreational, five “other” and one vacancy. The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of at-large seats on the MAFMC remains unchanged. The appointees and reappointees are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

John G. McMurray/recreational
 G. Warren Elliott/recreational
 Jule D. Wheatly/commercial
 Howard J. King III/ “other”
 Laurie A. Nolan/ “other”

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Reappointment
 Eugene J. Kray/recreational
 Reappointment
 Reappointment
 Patrick H. Augustine/recreational
 (ineligible, by law, for a fourth consecutive term)

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the MAFMC:

2011 MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (13 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	MCMURRAY, JOHN G.	NY	2014	R
O	ZEMAN, CHRISTOPHER J.	NJ	2012	O
O	ELLIOTT, G. WARREN	PA	2014	R
O	DEFUR, PETER L.	VA	2012	O
O	WHEATLY, JULE D.	NC	2014	€
O	KING, HOWARD J. III	MD	2014	O
O	ANDERSON, LEE G.	DE	2013	O
A	SCHAFFER, STEVEN F.	NY	2012	C
A	ROBINS, RICHARD B. JR.	VA	2013	C
A	BERG, ERLING A.	NJ	2013	C
A	LINHARD, STEPHEN E.	MD	2013	R
A	PATE, PRESTON P. JR.	NC	2012	O
A	NOLAN, LAURIE A.	NY	2014	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2012:

1. Christopher J. Zeman – “other” sector – New Jersey’s obligatory seat
2. Peter L. deFur – “other” sector – Virginia’s obligatory seat
3. Steven F. Schafer – commercial fishing sector – at-large seat (New York)
4. Preston P. Pate Jr. – “other” sector – at-large seat (North Carolina)

2012 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Of the eight members whose terms do not expire in 2012, three are from the commercial sector, three are from the recreational sector, and two are from the “other” sector. The remaining commercial sector members’ experiences include harvesting, processing, and seafood marketing, while the recreational members are all rod-and-reel fisherman.

The four upcoming vacancies include one outgoing member from the commercial sector and three from the “other” sector. Governors are encouraged to nominate individuals from both the commercial sector and the recreational sector. Also, governors are encouraged to nominate individuals from the “other” sector, including people with knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources and their habitats, and ecosystem approaches to management.

DISCUSSION:

The MAFMC is exclusively responsible for five existing FMPs: Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish; Surfclam and Ocean Quahog; Tilefish; and Atlantic Bluefish. In addition, the MAFMC and the NEFMC are jointly responsible for two other FMPs (Spiny Dogfish and Monkfish). The MAFMC has the lead responsibility for the Spiny Dogfish FMP, and the NEFMC has the lead responsibility for the Monkfish FMP.

Some of these fisheries are primarily commercial (e.g., surfclam, ocean quahog, tilefish, spiny dogfish, monkfish, squid, Atlantic mackerel, and butterfish); others have significant recreational components (bluefish, summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass). Management of all fisheries must take into consideration effects of the fisheries on habitat, and must consider ways to minimize bycatch.

In 2011, the Council’s management actions included:

- **Summer Flounder/Scup/Black Sea Bass**

The Council developed annual specifications and recreational measures for these three fisheries for 2012.

- **Surfclams/Ocean Quahogs**

The Council continued development of Amendment 15 to the FMP to define excessive shares in the ITQ portion of the fishery, to develop a cost-recovery program for the ITQ fishery, and to update EFH.

- **Squid/Mackerel/Butterfish**

The Council developed annual specifications for these fisheries for 2012. The Council also completed Amendment 11, which established a limited access program for Atlantic mackerel, and continued development of Amendment 14, which will improve monitoring of the fishery and add measures to reduce bycatch of river herring.

- **Spiny Dogfish**

The Council developed the 2011 specifications for this fishery. The Council also continued development of Amendment 3 to consider a male-only fishery, timing issues in the management of the fishery, and other issues.

- **Atlantic Bluefish**

The Council developed specifications for the 2012 recreational and commercial Atlantic bluefish fisheries.

- **Omnibus ACLs/AMs**

The Council completed an omnibus amendment to add ACLs/AMs to all of its FMPs in order to comply with new requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Council priorities for 2012 include:

- Complete Amendment 14 to the Atlantic Mackerel/Squid/Butterfish FMP, which will improve monitoring and add measures to reduce bycatch of river herring and shad;
- Continue development of Surfclam/Ocean Quahog Amendment 15, which will define excessive shares, provide a cost recovery system for the fishery, and update EFH;
- Complete Amendment 3 to the Spiny Dogfish FMP, which may provide for a male-only fishery and address timing issues in the management of the fishery, among other issues;
- Complete specifications for the summer flounder/scup/black sea bass (commercial and recreational), mackerel/squid/butterfish, spiny dogfish, surfclam/ocean quahog, and bluefish fisheries, including research set-asides, as warranted;
- Continue development of Amendment 17 to the Summer Flounder/Scup/Black Sea Bass FMP to provide for state-by-state or regional management options for black sea bass;
- Initiate an omnibus action to implement a standardized bycatch reporting methodology for all managed fisheries; and
- Initiate an omnibus amendment to revise and simplify vessel baseline regulations.

- Continuing a visioning project to develop objectives for future management of Mid-Atlantic fisheries.

3. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Two SAFMC members’ terms expired in 2011. As a result of the 2011 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives remains unchanged at three commercial, four recreational, and one “other.” The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of at-large seats on the SAFMC remains unchanged. The appointee and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

David M. Cupka/ “other”
John W. Jolley/recreational

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Reappointment
George J. Geiger/recreational (ineligible, by law, for a fourth consecutive term)

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the SAFMC:

2011 SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (8 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	HARRIS, CHARLES D.	GA	2012	R
O	HARTIG, BENJAMIN C. III	FL	2012	C
O	BURGESS, THOMAS E.	NC	2013	C
O	SWATZEL, THOMAS L. III	SC	2013	R
A	CURRIN, BENJAMIN M.	NC	2012	R
A	CUPKA, DAVID M.	SC	2014	O
A	JOLLEY, JOHN W.	FL	2014	R
A	PHILLIPS, CHARLES M.	GA	2012	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2012:

1. Charles D. Harris – recreational fishing sector – Georgia’s obligatory seat; by law, Mr. Harris, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.
2. Benjamin C. Hartig III – commercial fishing sector – Florida’s obligatory seat
3. Benjamin M. Currin – recreational fishing sector – at-large seat (North Carolina); by

law, Mr. Currin, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.

4. Charles M. Phillips – commercial fishing sector – at-large seat (Georgia)

2012 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Of the four members whose terms do not expire in 2012, one is from the commercial sector, two are from the recreational sector, and one is from the “other” sector. The commercial member’s experience includes harvesting, while the recreational members are rod-and-reel fishermen. The governors are encouraged to nominate nominees from both the commercial and recreational sectors so that the Secretary can achieve a balance between these two interest groups. While nominees to help balance the commercial and recreational sectors are important, the governors are also encouraged to nominate nominees from the “other” sector, including people with knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources and their habitats, and ecosystem approaches to management.

DISCUSSION:

The SAFMC has prepared FMPs and amendments for the following fisheries or living marine resources in the South Atlantic EEZ: shrimp (penaeid and rock); coral, coral reef, and live/hard bottom habitats; golden crab; dolphin/wahoo; *Sargassum*; and the snapper-grouper species complex. The SAFMC and the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council have prepared joint FMPs for spiny lobster and coastal migratory pelagic (CMP) species in the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico.

In 2011, the Council’s management actions included:

- **Snapper-Grouper**

Snapper-Grouper Amendment 17A, which would end red snapper overfishing and rebuild red snapper.

Snapper-Grouper Amendment 17B, which would reduce bycatch of deepwater species and establish ACLs and AMs for eight snapper-grouper species experiencing overfishing.

Snapper-Grouper Amendment 18A, which would limit effort in the black sea bass pot sector of the snapper-grouper fishery; and improve data reporting.

Snapper-Grouper Amendment 18B, which changes the golden tilefish fishing year and limit effort in the golden tilefish commercial sector.

Snapper-Grouper 18C, which would extend the management range of snapper-grouper north of the Council’s current jurisdiction.

Snapper-Grouper Amendment 20A, which would distribute inactive wreckfish in the Individual Transferable Quota (ITQ) program for wreckfish to active shareholders.

Snapper-Grouper Amendment 20B, which would bring the ITQ program into compliance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Snapper-Grouper Amendment 21, which would consider a catch share program for some snapper-grouper species.

Snapper-Grouper Amendment 22, which would consider long-term management measures for red snapper as the stock rebuilds.

Snapper-Grouper Amendment 24, which would consider a rebuilding program for red grouper.

Regulatory Amendment 9, which would consider trip limits for vermilion snapper, gag, and greater amberjack, and a change in the bag limit for black sea bass.

Regulatory Amendment 10, which would eliminate a closure for snapper-grouper species approved in Amendment 17A.

Regulatory Amendment 11, which would eliminate the deep water closure for six snapper-grouper species approved in Amendment 17B.

- **Coastal Migratory Pelagics**

Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 18, which would include ACLs and AMs for king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, and cobia.

Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 19, which would eliminate bag limit sales for species in the FMP.

Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 20, which would modify boundaries for Gulf migratory group king mackerel and change the opening date for Gulf migratory group king mackerel in the Western Zone.

- **Comprehensive ACL**

Comprehensive ACL Amendment, which would establish ACLs and AMs for species in FMPs that are not experiencing overfishing.

- **Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment (CE-BA) 2**

CE-BA 2, which would specify status determination criteria, ACLs and AMs for octocorals in the South Atlantic; remove octocorals off Florida from the Coral FMP; modify management of South Carolina special management zones; and amend Council FMPs as needed to designate new (or modify existing) EFH and EFH-habitat of particular concern.

- **Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 3**

CE-BA 3, which would consider actions to protect speckled hind and warsaw grouper, expand or establish new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), consider a prohibition on the use of powerheads off North Carolina, and assess the impacts of the wreckfish sector on bottom habitat.

- **Spiny Lobster**

Spiny Lobster Amendment 10, which would modify the tailing permit; modify the federal 50 short rule that allows use of undersized spiny lobster as attractants; allow the public to remove trap line, buoys, or otherwise make unfishable, any spiny lobster gear found in the EEZ off Florida; and specify ACLs and AMs.

Spiny Lobster Amendment 11, which would limit spiny lobster fishing in certain areas in the EEZ off Florida to address Endangered Species Act (ESA) concerns for staghorn and elkhorn corals, and require gear markings so all spiny lobster trap lines in the EEZ off Florida are identifiable.

- **Golden Crab**

Golden Crab Amendment 6, which would consider a limited access privilege program for golden crab.

- **Shrimp**

Shrimp Amendment 9, which would modify the protocol for states to request concurrent closure of the EEZ during severe weather and revise the definition of minimum stock size threshold for pink shrimp.

- **Other Council Actions**

Administered and actively participated in the Southeast Data Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process for South Atlantic black sea bass and South Atlantic golden tilefish.

Continued to support NMFS, by participating in activities of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) Advisory Committee and the Highly Migratory Species (HMS) and Billfish Advisory Panels.

Council priorities for 2012 include:

- Submit Snapper-Grouper Amendment 18A to the Secretary;
- Submit Snapper-Grouper Amendment 18B to the Secretary;
- Submit Snapper-Grouper Amendment 24A to the Secretary;
- Submit Snapper-Grouper Amendment 20A to the Secretary;
- Submit Spiny Lobster Amendment 11 to the Secretary;
- Submit Golden Crab Amendment 6 to the Secretary;
- Submit Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 19 to the Secretary
- Continue development of Snapper-Grouper Amendment 22;
- Continue development of Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 20;
- Continue development of CE-BA 3;
- Continue development of Shrimp Amendment 9; and

- Participate in the SEDAR process for South Atlantic Spanish mackerel and cobia.

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4. Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Three GMFMC members' terms expired in 2011. As a result of the 2011 appointments, and fishing sector change for Robert L. Shipp from recreational to "other sector, the composition of fishing sector representatives is four commercial, four recreational, and three "other," which represents a change from four commercial, five recreational, and two "other." The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of at-large seats on the GMFMC remains unchanged. The appointees and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

Robert L. Shipp/ "other"
 Pamela L. Dana/recreational
 Patrick Riley/commercial

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Reappointment/ "recreational"
 Edward W. Sapp/recreational
 Joseph P. Hendrix Jr./commercial
 (ineligible, by law, for a fourth consecutive term)

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the GMFMC:

2011 GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (11 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	BOYD, DOUGLASS W.	TX	2013	R
O	GILL, ROBERT P.	FL	2012	C
O	MCKNIGHT, DAMON P.	LA	2012	R
O	WILLIAMS, HAROLYN K.	MS	2013	C
O	GREENE, JOHN R. JR.	AL	2012	R
A	SHIPP, ROBERT L.	AL	2014	O
A	DANA, PAMELA L.	FL	2014	R
A	RILEY, PATRICK F.	TX	2014	C
A	ABELE, LAWRENCE G.	FL	2013	O
A	PEARCE, HARLON H.	LA	2012	C
A	MCILWAIN, THOMAS D.	MS	2012	O

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2012:

1. Robert P. Gill – commercial fishing sector – Florida's obligatory seat
2. Damon P. McKnight – recreational fishing sector – Louisiana's obligatory seat

3. John R. Greene Jr. – recreational fishing sector – Alabama’s obligatory seat
4. Harlon H. Pearce – commercial fishing sector – at-large seat (Louisiana)
5. Thomas D. McIlwain – “other” sector – at-large seat (Mississippi)

2012 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Of the six members whose terms do not expire in 2012, two are from the commercial sector, two are from the recreational sector, and two are from the “other” sector. The two remaining commercial members’ experience includes harvesting, processing and seafood marketing, while the two recreational members are rod-and-reel fishermen.

The five Council members whose terms expire in 2012 include two outgoing members from the commercial sector, two from the recreational sector, and two from the “other” sector. The reauthorized Magnuson-Stevens Act requires a governor of a state submitting a list of names of individuals for appointment by the Secretary to the GMFMC to include at least one nominee each from the commercial, recreational, and charter fishing sectors, and at least one other individual who is knowledgeable regarding the conservation and management of fisheries resources in the jurisdiction of the Council.

DISCUSSION:

The GMFMC has prepared FMPs and amendments for the following fisheries or living marine resources in the Gulf of Mexico EEZ: reef fish, shrimp, coral and coral reefs, red drum, and stone crab. The GMFMC and the SAFMC have prepared joint FMPs for the spiny lobster fishery and CMP species in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic. In June 2011, the Council repealed its Stone Crab FMP, determining continued federal management is not needed. Without this FMP, Florida (where almost all stone crabs are harvested) can extend its regulations into federal waters of the Gulf. Rulemaking to repeal this FMP is effective October 24, 2011.

In 2011, the Council’s management actions included:

- **FMP Amendments and Associated Rulemaking**
Greater Amberjack Accountability Measures (AMs) and Commercial Quota Closure: NMFS published a rule on April 29, 2011, adjusting the recreational and commercial quotas for greater amberjack. Both sectors exceeded their quotas for 2010; therefore established payback AMs were enacted. In addition, NMFS announced that it projected the commercial sector would meet its quota and should close at 12:01 a.m. local time, June 18, 2011. Based on updated commercial landings for both 2010 and 2011 that indicated less of the quota had been harvested, NMFS reopened the commercial sector from September 1 through October 30, 2011.

Red Snapper Regulatory Amendment: The GMFMC approved, and NMFS implemented a regulatory amendment on April 29, 2011, increasing the commercial and recreational red snapper quotas in the Gulf of Mexico from 3.542 and 3.403 million pounds (mp) to 3.66 and 3.525 mp in 2011, respectively. Additionally, the rule set the 2011 recreational red snapper season from June 1, 2011, through July 18, 2011.

Greater Amberjack Recreational Seasonal Closure: The GMFMC approved and NMFS implemented rulemaking, effective May 31, 2011, establishing a June 1 through July 31 seasonal closure for recreational harvest of greater amberjack in or from the Gulf of Mexico federal waters. The intended effect of the rule is to reduce the likelihood of exceeding the recreational quota for greater amberjack.

Gag Interim Rule: Until the GMFMC could complete the development of Amendment 32 to the Reef Fish FMP, the GMFMC requested NMFS publish a temporary rule, which became effective June 1, 2011, to reset the commercial quota of gag at 430,000 pounds (lbs), continue the suspension of the use of red grouper multi-use IFQ commercial allocation, and set a gag recreational season from September 16 through November 15. NMFS extended the effective date of the interim rule to June 2, 2012, to allow the sufficient time for NMFS to approve Reef Fish Amendment 32 and publish a final rule implementing that amendment.

Spiny Lobster Amendment 10: At its June 2011 meeting, the GMFMC and SAFMC approved their jointly developed Amendment 10, and submitted it for Secretarial review on July 20, 2011. The amendment identifies species that are in continued need of federal management and those that do not need management, establishes standardized mechanisms by which to set ACLs and AMs, and establishes those ACLs and AMs. NMFS announced the availability of the amendment on September 2, 2011, and published a proposed rule to implement the actions on September 23, 2011. A final rule was published on December 2, 2011, and it became effective on January 3, 2012.

Red Snapper Secondary Recreational Quota Increase: Based on updated recommendations by its Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), the GMFMC requested that NMFS publish an emergency rule raising the recreational red snapper quota by 345,000 lbs for the 2011 fishing year and providing the agency with the authority to reopen the recreational red snapper season later this year, if appropriate. This rule became effective September 12, 2011; however, preliminary projections indicate that even the increased quota was exceeded by the July 19 initial closure date.

Red Grouper Regulatory Amendment: Based on results of an updated stock assessment for red grouper, the GMFMC's SSC recommended total allowable catch (TAC) increases for the red grouper stock for each year from 2011 through 2015. The Council submitted a regulatory amendment making these TAC adjustments on August 31, 2011. NMFS published a proposed rule on September 21, 2011, with the comment period ending October 6, 2011. The rule became effective November 2, 2011; it adjusts red grouper catch levels through 2015, adjusts "other shallow-water group" allocations accordingly, and raises the recreational bag limit from 2 fish to 4 fish in the 4-fish aggregate bag limit.

Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 18: At their respective August 2011 meetings, the GMFMC and SAFMC approved their jointly developed Amendment 18. The amendment identifies species that are in continued need of federal management and those that do not need management, establishes standardized mechanisms by which to set ACLs and AMs, and establishes those ACLs and AMs. The GMFMC and SAFMC submitted the amendment for Secretarial review on September 23, 2011. NMFS announced the availability of the amendment for public review and comment on September 29, 2011. The final rule published on December 29, 2011.

Generic ACLs Amendment: At its August 2011 meeting, the GMFMC approved its Generic Amendment. The amendment identifies species that are in continued need of federal management and those that do not need management, establishes standardized mechanisms by which to set ACLs and AMs, and establishes those ACLs and AMs. The GMFMC submitted the amendment for Secretarial review on September 9, 2011. NMFS announced the availability of the amendment for public review and comment on September 26, 2011. The proposed rule published on October 25, 2011. The final rule published on December 29, 2011.

Reef Fish Amendment 32: At its August 2011 meeting, the GMFMC approved Amendment 32. The amendment would slightly increase gag catch levels from those currently established through interim rule (see above), adjust ACLs, catch targets, and AMs for gag and red grouper, and establish a gag recreational fishing season. The GMFMC submitted the amendment for Secretarial review on September 12, 2011. NMFS announced the availability of the amendment for public comment on October 27, 2011, and published a proposed rule to implement the actions in the amendment on November 2, 2011. NMFS approved Amendment 32 on January 24, 2012. NMFS plans to publish the final rule in February 2012.

- **Other Council Actions**

Actively participated in the SEDAR process for South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico spiny lobster; Greater Amberjack; and Vermillion Snapper and Gray Triggerfish.

Continued to support NMFS by participating in activities of the ICCAT Advisory Committee and the Highly Migratory Species (HMS) and Billfish Advisory Panels.

Council members and/or staff participated in the following meetings:

- Outreach and Education Meetings
- Communities and Catch Shares
- American Fisheries Society
- Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Foundation
- Sea Grant In-Service Training
- College of Marine Science Seminar
- Toxic Oils in Gulf Seminar
- Coral Reef Fisheries Workshop
- Cortez Commercial Seafood Festival

- Gulf of Mexico Living Marine Resources
- Gainesville Fishing Club Meeting
- SAFMC
- Artificial Reef Meeting
- Gulf Spill Recreational Fishing Meeting
- ICCAT Advisory Committee
- Tampa Tribune Outdoor Expo
- Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC)
- NOAA Fish Smart Barotrauma Workshop
- Underwater Research Symposium
- Marine Recreational Initiative Program Outreach
- Marine and Estuarine Goal Setting for South Florida
- HMS Advisory Panel
- International Symposium on Circle Hooks
- Council Coordination Meetings
- Beyond Horizons
- Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review Steering Committee
- Gulf of Mexico Marine Protected Areas
- National Coastal Marine Spatial Planning Meeting
- Interdisciplinary Planning Teams – Red Snapper, Spiny Lobster, Mackerel, Annual Catch Limits and Reef Fish
- Council Member Orientation
- Great American Seafood Cookoff
- Southeast Outdoor Press Association

Council priorities for 2012 include:

- Finalize development of a Regulatory Amendment for Red Snapper Alternate Seasons/TAC;
- Finalize development of Amendment 19 to the CMP FMP to address Bag Limit Sales, Trip Limits, Transit, and Latent Gill Net Permits for Mackerel;
- Finalize development of Amendment 11 to the Spiny Lobster FMP to address ESA requirements;
- Finalize development of Amendment 34 to the Reef Fish FMP to address crew size limits and income requirements;
- Finalize development of Amendment 35 to the Reef Fish FMP for Greater Amberjack to adjust the rebuilding plan;
- Finalize development of Amendment 36 to the Reef Fish FMP to Restrict Red Snapper IFQ transfer;
- Finalize development of Amendment 37 to the Reef Fish FMP – Red Snapper IFQ 5-Year Review;
- Continue discussing allocation issues;
- Consider actions to implement sector separation in the reef fish fishery;
- Consider actions to address dealer permits and electronic reporting; and

- Participate in SEDAR benchmark assessments for Cobia and Spanish Mackerel, standard assessment for red snapper, and finalize the update assessment for Vermilion Snapper and Gray Triggerfish.

5. Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

One CFMC member’s term expired in 2011. As a result of the 2011 appointment, the composition of fishing sector representatives remains the same at two commercial, one recreational, and one “other.” The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of at-large seats on the CFMC remains unchanged. The appointee is as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector
Nelson R. Crespo/commercial

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector
Eugenio Piñero-Soler/commercial
(ineligible, by law, for a fourth consecutive term)

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the CFMC:

2011 CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (4 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	FARCHETTE, CARLOS F.	VI	2012	O
O	CRESPO, NELSON R.	PR	2014	C
A	HANKE, MARCOS R.	PR	2012	R
A	LEDEE, WINSTON J.	VI	2013	C

EXPIRING TERM:

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2012:

1. Carlos F. Farchette – “other” – U.S. Virgin Islands’ (USV) obligatory seat
2. Marcos R. Hanke – recreational fishing sector – at-large seat (Puerto Rico (PR)); by law, Mr. Hanke, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.

2012 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

The two members whose terms do not expire in 2012, are from the commercial fishing sector. The two upcoming vacancies include one outgoing member from the recreational fishing sector and one from the “other” sector. The Governors are encouraged to nominate nominees from the recreational fishing sector, as well as nominees from the “other” sector, including

people with knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources and their habitats, and ecosystem approaches to management.

DISCUSSION:

The CFMC has prepared FMPs and amendments for the following fisheries or living marine resources in the Caribbean EEZ: spiny lobster, reef fish, coral and reef associated plants and invertebrates, and queen conch.

In 2011, the Council's management actions included:

- **Queen Conch**

Developed 2010 Caribbean ACL Amendment (Amendment 2 for the Queen Conch FMP), which established ACLs and AMs for queen conch, considered to be undergoing overfishing. The Council voted to submit Amendment 2 to the Secretary for review. If approved, the amendments would:

1. Specify management reference points and island-specific ACLs for each fishery management unit (FMU) undergoing overfishing;
2. Establish EEZ sub-boundaries for purposes of applying AMs;
3. Establish AMs to be invoked if ACLs are exceeded; and
4. Develop framework measures for each FMP to streamline future management changes.

Developed 2011 Caribbean ACL Amendment (Amendment 3 to the Queen Conch FMP). The Council unanimously approved the subject amendments for review and implementation by the Secretary. If approved, the amendments would:

1. Revise management measures for conch species within the Queen Conch FMP.

- Developed a regulatory amendment to the Queen Conch FMP, which established compatible regulations closure (seasonal and quota) with the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI). The Council voted to submit the regulatory amendments to the Secretary for review. Measure became effective May 31, 2011.

- **Reef Fish**

Developed 2010 Caribbean ACL Amendment (Amendment 5 to the Reef Fish FMP), which established ACLs and AMs for reef fish considered to be undergoing overfishing. The Council voted to submit Amendment 2 to the Secretary for review. If approved, the amendments would:

1. Redefine the composition of select FMUs;
2. Specify management reference points and island-specific ACLs for each FMU undergoing overfishing (snappers, groupers and parrotfish);
3. Establish recreational bag limits;

4. Prohibit the harvest of midnight, blue, and rainbow parrotfish;
5. Establish EEZ sub-boundaries for purposes of applying AMs;
6. Establish AMs to be invoked if ACLs are exceeded; and
7. Develop framework measures for each FMP to streamline future management changes.

Developed 2011 Caribbean ACL Amendment (Amendment 6 to the Reef Fish FMP). The Council unanimously approved the subject amendments for review and implementation by the Secretary. If approved, the amendments would:

1. Specify management reference points and island-specific ACLs for each FMU undergoing overfishing;
2. Establish recreational bag limits;
3. Establish AMs to be invoked if ACLs are exceeded; and
4. Revise management measures for aquarium trade species within the Reef Fish FMP.

- **Spiny Lobster**

Developed 2011 Caribbean ACL Amendment (Amendment 5 to the Spiny Lobster FMP). The Council unanimously approved the subject amendments for review and implementation by the Secretary. If approved, the amendments would:

1. Revise management reference points and overfished and overfishing status determination criteria;
2. Implement ACLs and AMs to prevent overfishing;
3. Establish recreational bag limits;
4. Establish EEZ sub-boundaries for purposes of applying AMs; and
5. Establish framework procedures to streamline future management changes.

- **Corals and Reef Associated Plants and Invertebrates**

Developed 2011 Caribbean ACL Amendment (Amendment 3 to the Coral FMP). The Council unanimously approved the subject amendments for review and implementation. If approved, the amendments would:

1. Revise management measures for aquarium trade species within the Corals and Reef and Associated Plants and Invertebrates FMP; and
2. Modify framework procedures to streamline future management changes.

- **Other Council Actions**

The Council coordinated and participated in the following workshops and meetings:

- SEDAR 26 – Redtail Parrotfish, Queen Snapper, and Silk Snapper;
- Conducted Data Poor Workshops;
- Conducted Catch Share Workshops;
- Finalizing EFH 5-year revision document;
- Conducted Trap Reduction Meetings in the USVI;
- Participated in Social Media Workshops;

- Participation in Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission;
- Participated in Marine Spatial Planning Workshops;
- Participated in numerous orientation and education activities;
- Prepared educational material in cooperation with Sea Grant;
- Developed recreational fishing regulations for the USVI; and
- Initiated first mesophotic reef fishery-independent survey for queen conch in the EEZ off the west coast of PR, coordinated with the NMFS SEFSC and NMFS Southeast Regional Office as well as with the Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program-Caribbean Program and the PR Department of Natural and Environmental Resources. The numbers of queen conch at depth appear to be very high. Additional outcomes include the determination of population viability and the potential to reseed shallow water areas.

Council priorities for 2012 include:

- Develop new FMP for aquarium trade species;
- Amendment 4 to the Reef Fish FMP, which would require escape vents in fish traps;
- Regulatory amendment to the Reef Fish FMP, which would establish size limits and commercial trip limits for parrotfish;
- Regulatory amendment to the Reef Fish FMP, which would establish compatible regulations between the three closed areas off the west coast of PR (Bajo de Sico, Tourmaline Bank, and Abrir La Sierra Bank);
- Develop trap reduction program in federal waters;
- Prohibit the use of traps in the recreational sector, in order to be compatible with territorial/commonwealth waters;
- Develop federal permit system; and
- Regulatory Amendment to the Queen Conch FMP, which would establish compatible size and bag limits with territorial/commonwealth waters.

6. Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Two PFMC members’ terms expired in 2011. As a result of the 2011 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives is two commercial, three recreational, three “other,” and one tribal representative, who is counted as a member of the “other” sector, which represents a change from three commercial, four recreational, and two “other. The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of available at-large seats on the PFMC remains unchanged. The appointees are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

Richard H. Lincoln/ “other”

Jeffrey N. Feldner/ “other”

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Mark V. Cedergreen/recreational
ineligible, by law, for a fourth consecutive
term)

Rodney H. Moore/commercial

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the PFMC:

2011 PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (9 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	LINCOLN, RICHARD H.	WA	2014	O
O	POLLARD, HERBERT A. II	ID	2013	R
O	CRABBE, DAVID M.	CA	2012	C
O	LOWMAN, DOROTHY M.	OR	2012	O
O	PFMC TRIBAL SEAT (*T): SONES, DAVID B.	WA	2012	T
A	MYER, DALE D.	WA	2012	C
A	FELDNER, JEFFREY N.	OR	2014	O
A	BRIZENDINE, WILLIAM L. II	CA	2012	R
A	WOLFORD, DANNY L.	CA	2013	R

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2012:

1. David M. Crabbe – commercial fishing sector – California’s obligatory seat

2. Dorothy M. Lowman – “other” sector – Oregon’s obligatory seat
3. David B. Sones – “other” sector – Tribal representative
4. Dale D. Myer – commercial fishing sector – at-large seat (Washington)
5. William L. Brizendine II – recreational fishing sector – at-large seat (California)

2012 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Of the four members whose terms do not expire in 2012, two are from the recreational sector utilizing rod-and-reel and hook-and-line gear, and two are from the “other” sector.

The five upcoming vacancies in 2012 include two outgoing members from the commercial sector, one from the recreational sector, and two from the “other” sector. The governors are encouraged to provide the Secretary with nominees from the commercial sector with expertise in all fisheries managed by the PFMC, as well as nominees from the recreational sector as a basis for maintaining a balance of both sector interests. Also, governors are encouraged to nominate nominees from the “other” sector, including people with knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources and their habitats, and ecosystem approaches to management.

DISCUSSION:

The PFMC has prepared FMPs for: Pacific Coast groundfish, West Coast salmon, coastal pelagic species, and highly migratory species fisheries; and is currently in the process of developing a fishery ecosystem plan.

The PFMC also has responsibility for recommending allocations of Pacific halibut among treaty Indian and non-Indian commercial and recreational users in Area 2A under the Northern Pacific Halibut Act.

In 2011, the Council’s management actions included:

- **Ecosystem Plan**
Continued progress on the development of a Fishery Ecosystem Plan, which is primarily advisory in nature, but could be expanded to include regulatory authority in the future. The Ecosystem Plan Development Team and Advisory Body are moving forward in establishing the form and details of the plan. The Council’s initial policy efforts for the FEP have focused on identifying and protecting unfished low trophic level species in the California Current Ecosystem.
- **Groundfish**

Agreed to utilize a Secretarial amendment process to expedite finalizing regulations for the 2012 Pacific Coast groundfish fisheries.

Developed a new front-loaded schedule and process for the biennial process of adopting harvest specifications, management measures, and rebuilding plan revisions for the 2013-2014 Pacific Coast groundfish fisheries to help achieve more timely implementation of the regulations.

Adopted final 2011 management specifications and measures for the Pacific whiting fishery.

Continued to make progress on the implementation of trailing amendments to the trawl catch shares program to enhance the beneficial operation of the program. Reports received in November indicate a mostly successful start for the first year of operation under catch shares.

Approved new stock assessments for 12 groundfish species and, based on the review of the Stock Assessment Review Panel and SSC, were able to determine that widow rockfish have been rebuilt and can be removed from the list of overfished species.

- **Salmon**

Adopted ocean salmon seasons for 2011 which, due to greatly improved abundance of Sacramento River fall Chinook, allowed for the first substantial ocean salmon fisheries off California and Oregon since 2007.

Received a report from the Pacific Salmon Essential Fish Habitat Review Panel recommending updating of the Council's EFH description for Pacific salmon and set a schedule for considering necessary amendments to the salmon FMP.

Adopted Amendment 16 to the salmon FMP which implements annual catch limits and accountability measures in response to the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

- **Pacific Halibut**

Adopted final 2011 incidental halibut catch regulations in the commercial salmon fishery.

Adopted proposed changes to the catch share program for 2012.

- **Coastal Pelagic Species**

Recommended that NMFS issue an exempted fishing permit to continue another year of an industry-sponsored Pacific sardine research survey that has contributed important abundance information through aerial survey techniques.

Adopted final 2011-2012 management specifications and measures for the Pacific mackerel fishery, as well as 2012 specifications and measures for the sardine fishery.

- **Highly Migratory Species**

Considered several issues and management possibilities with regard to albacore tuna and West Coast swordfish fisheries.

Provided input for international tuna conservation measures to the General Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission and to the U.S. delegations of the Northern Committee and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

Council priorities for 2012 include:

- Complete a timely process for setting the 2013-2014 groundfish fisheries and initiate development of an improved management process for 2015 and beyond;
- Establish a groundfish stock assessment plan for 2013 and ways to improve assessments of data poor-species;
- Complete trailing amendments for the limited access catch shares program for the groundfish trawl fishery and associated intersector allocations;
- Proceed with the five-year review of groundfish EFH;
- Establish the 2012 Ocean salmon fisheries with opportunities for commercial, recreational, and treaty Indian fisheries while protecting ESA-listed and other depressed salmon stocks;
- Consider needed amendments to salmon EFH;
- Consider allowing retention of Pacific halibut bycatch in some fixed gear fisheries;
- Continue development of a Fishery Ecosystem Plan with the next progress review by the Council scheduled for June 2012;
- Establish 2013 Pacific Sardine and Mackerel fisheries;
- Consider further possibilities for implementing a West Coast swordfish fishery;
- Continue to gather information regarding characteristics of the domestic and international albacore fishing fleets for the purpose of assuring conservation and anticipating any need for domestic fishery limitation controls; and
- Maintain an active presence in highly migratory species regional fishery management organizations which impact Council management recommendations.

7. North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Two NPFMC obligatory members’ terms expired in 2011. As a result of the 2011 appointments and a fishing sector change for John Henderschedt from commercial to “other”, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the NPFMC is five commercial, one recreational, and one “other,” which represents a change from six commercial and one recreational. There are no available at-large seats on the NPFMC. The reappointees are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector
 John J. Henderschedt/commercial
 Eric A. Olson/commercial

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector
 Reappointment/ “other”
 Reappointment

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the NPFMC:

2011 NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (7 Members)				
Obligatory	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	BENSON DAVID W.	WA	2012	C
O	HENDERSCHEDT, JOHN J.	WA	2014	O
O	HULL, HOWARD D.	AK	2012	C
O	FIELDS, DUNCAN S.	AK	2013	C
O	COTTEN, SAMUEL R.	AK	2013	C
O	OLSON, ERIC A.	AK	2014	C
O	DERSHAM, ROBERT E.	AK	2012	R

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2012:

1. David W. Benson – commercial fishing sector – Washington’s obligatory seat; by law Mr. Benson, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.
2. Howard D. Hull – commercial fishing sector – Alaska’s obligatory seat
3. Robert E. Dersham – recreational fishing sector – Alaska’s obligatory seat

2012 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Of the four members whose terms do not expire in 2012, three are from the commercial sector with experience in processing and harvesting, and one is from the “other” sector. The three upcoming vacancies include two outgoing members from the commercial sector, and one from the recreational sector. Although commercial fisheries are particularly important in this region, the governors are encouraged to continue to nominate persons from the recreational fishing sector and from the “other” sector. “Other” sector nominees should include persons with backgrounds in academics, fisheries management, environmental science, economics, or social science, and who have knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources and their habitats, and ecosystem approaches to management. Recently, Alaska native tribal entities also have voiced strong support for greater representation on the NPFMC.

DISCUSSION:

The NPFMC has six FMPs for: Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska, Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (BSAI), Salmon Fisheries in the EEZ off the Coast of Alaska, Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands King and Tanner Crab, the Scallop Fishery off Alaska, and Fishery Resources of the Arctic Management Area.

In 2011, the Council’s management actions included:

- **Fishery Management Plans**

The NPFMC recently adopted additional amendments to the groundfish, crab, and scallop FMPs, which have not yet been approved and implemented. Of special note are the FMP amendments adopted by the Council in 2011 to establish ACLs for the salmon fisheries to comply with Congressional directives under the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Routine management of the fisheries under the salmon, scallop, and BSAI crab FMPs is deferred to the State of Alaska, while the NPFMC retains oversight of major allocation, overfishing definition, and habitat management issues. In addition, under the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982, the NPFMC has authority over allocation issues affecting the Pacific halibut fishery in and off Alaska, while the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) retains responsibility for conservation management of this fishery.

- **Rebuilding Plans**

Of all fisheries managed under FMPs, only the Pribilof Island blue king crab is currently under a rebuilding plan, and a rebuilding plan is being prepared for Bering Sea Tanner crab. After NMFS determined that each of these stocks was overfished, the NPFMC promptly began the process of developing rebuilding plans for these species, as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Act. A rebuilding plan was approved for Pribilof Island blue king crab in 2004 (FMP Amendment 17). A Bering Sea Tanner crab rebuilding plan is currently under development.

- **Salmon Bycatch Efforts**

In 2011, NMFS implemented Chinook salmon bycatch limits in the Bering Sea Pollock fishery adopted by the Council in 2010, and the Council adopted Chinook salmon bycatch limits in the Gulf of Alaska Pollock fishery. NMFS is developing proposed regulations to implement the Council's recommendations. If approved, those regulations would be effective starting the later half of 2012.

Council priorities for 2012 include:

- Assessing the final biological opinion developed by NMFS in 2011 on the impacts of the groundfish fisheries on endangered Steller sea lions and associated mitigation measures to determine whether adequate protections to these animals could be provided through measures that are less costly to fisheries and coastal communities. This process could result in the analysis of proposed changes to Steller sea lion protection measures and further consultation under section 7 of the ESA on any changes to groundfish fisheries management;
- Restructuring of the Observer Program to monitor the groundfish and Pacific halibut fisheries, including the consideration of electronic monitoring to address concerns or practicality of deploying observers on small vessels. The restructured program would include a fee based system that would allow for more flexibility to deploy observers needed to collect quality catch information in the groundfish and Pacific halibut fisheries;
- Assessing options to reduce bycatch of Pacific halibut, crab, salmon, and other species caught incidentally in the groundfish fisheries;
- Refining the various catch share programs developed by the NPFMC and implemented by NMFS; and
- Addressing ongoing domestic allocation issues associated with the Pacific halibut resource in recognition that the overall coast wide harvest strategy for this resource is established by the IPHC.

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8. Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Three WPFMC members’ terms expired in 2011. As a result of the 2011 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the WPFMC remains unchanged, at two commercial, three recreational, and three “other.” The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of at-large seats on the WPFMC remains unchanged, with three from Hawaii, one from American Samoa and none from Guam and the CNMI. The appointees and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

Richard B. Seman/ “other”

Frederick M. Rice/recreational
David G. Itano/ “other”

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Benigno M. Sablan/ “other” (ineligible, by law, for a fourth consecutive term)
Frederick E. Duerr/recreational
Reappointment

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the WPFMC:

2011 WESTERN PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (8 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	DUENAS, MANUEL P. II	GU	2012	C
O	HALECK, STEPHEN	AS	2012	R
O	SEMAN, RICHARD B.	CNMI	2014	O
O	MARTIN, SEAN C.	HI	2012	C
A	LEIALOHA, JULIE A.K.	HI	2013	O
A	RICE, FREDERICK M.	HI	2014	R
A	ITANO, DAVID G.	HI	2014	O
A	SWORD, WILLIAM A.	AS	2013	R

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members’ terms will expire on August 10, 2012:

1. Manuel P. Duenas II – commercial fishing sector – Guam’s obligatory seat; by law, Mr. Duenas, who is completing his third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.

2. Stephen Haleck – recreational fishing sector – American Samoa’s obligatory seat; by law, Mr. Haleck, who is completing his third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.
3. Sean C. Martin – commercial fishing sector – Hawaii’s obligatory seat; by law, Mr. Martin, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.

2012 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Of the five appointed members whose terms do not expire in 2012, two are from the recreational fishing sector with hook-and-line and rod-and-reel experience, and three are from the “other” sector. The three upcoming vacancies include two from the commercial fishing sector and one from the recreational fishing sector. To achieve sector balance on the WPFMC, the governors are encouraged to nominate representatives from the commercial fishing sector.

DISCUSSION:

Domestic fisheries in U.S. EEZ waters and operating in the adjacent high seas of the western Pacific (Pacific Islands) are managed under five FEPs: Pacific Pelagic FEP, Hawaii Archipelago FEP, American Samoa Archipelago FEP, Mariana Archipelago FEP and the Pacific Remote Island Areas FEP. The WPFMC 2011 accomplishments included, but were not limited to, the following management activities:

- Reduced the advance notification period for inseason closures of the main Hawaiian Islands Deep-7 bottomfish fishery from 14 to 7 days to enhance administration of the fishery.
- Established procedures for specifying ACLs and AMs for Pacific Island fisheries to help NMFS end and prevent overfishing, rebuild overfished stocks, and achieve optimum yields. This action included an international exception for pelagic management unit species, a one-year life span exception for pelagic squid and a tiered specification process for specifying acceptable biological catch (ABC) based on data quality and stock assessments.
- Established a longline prohibited area around the islands of the Northern Mariana Islands to reduce the potential for nearshore localized fish depletion from longline fishing, and to limit catch competition and gear conflicts between longline and trolling vessels.
- Approved three-year marine conservation plans for Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Pacific Remote Island Areas (PRIA) that detail projects for using funds collected

under Pacific Insular Area fishery agreements and from fines and penalties from illegal foreign- fishing.

- Established gear configuration requirements for pelagic longline fishing in the South Pacific and for longliners based in American Samoa to ensure that longline hooks fish deeper than 100 m to reduce interactions with green sea turtles.
- Established ACLs for all insular stocks of management unit species, including bottomfish, reef fish, precious corals and crustaceans. Specification of ACLs for reef fish stocks was especially challenging, given that there are several hundred reef fish harvested in the Western Pacific Region and no stock assessments.

Council priorities for 2012 include:

- In November 2011, closure of the Hawaii-based longline fishery for bigeye tuna due to national quota restrictions recommended by the WCPFC was avoided due to passage of Section 113 of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012 by the U.S. Congress. This measure sunsets in December 2012. WPFMC will work with NMFS to develop measures that would maintain catches below the quota limit to prevent a fishery closure in 2013.
- The WPFMC will continue to work with NMFS to develop a regulatory amendment to better optimize the use of swordfish resources by eliminating unnecessary regulatory discarding of swordfish incidentally caught in the Hawaii deep-set tuna fishery.
- WPFMC will continue to work with NMFS to modify certain boundaries of the southern large fishing vessel prohibited area around Tutuila Island, Manua Islands, and Rose Atoll in American Samoa to align with the boundaries of the Rose Atoll Marine National Monument.
- WPFMC also intends to amend four of its FEPs to refine the process specifying ACLs and AMs for federally managed fish stocks in the Pacific region. Initial ACL specifications and AMs established in 2011, particularly for coral reef finfish and miscellaneous insular species, need to be improved for fishing year 2013. The amendments will enable WPFMC to better specify ACLs and AMs for data poor stocks. Further, the WPFMC will review those species it intends to designate as Ecosystem Component Stocks, for which no ACLs need to be specified.
- The WPFMC will continue to work with NMFS to modify Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC) designations for Hawaii management unit species. In addition, the WPFMC will take initial action on updating EFH and HAPC modifications to all other management unit species in American Samoa, Mariana Islands and PRIA FEPs.

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F. APPENDIX – STATISTICAL FISHERIES DATA

In addition to assessing the apportionment of membership on each RFMC, this report provides the following statistical information about the status of fisheries managed under each RFMC, and also identifies the number of RFMC members participating in those fisheries. The most recent data were compiled to show the volume of fisheries production and the related effort in each fishery managed under an FMP.^{7/}

^{7/}The Secretary also has management authority over Highly Migratory Species in the EEZ off the New England, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico coasts. An additional table has been included with the following Appendix, which lists FMPs and other statistical data for Atlantic and Gulf HMS.

Appendix

This appendix provides statistical data required by Section 302(b)(2)(B)(i) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Unless otherwise indicated, the data are for the 2010–2011 fisheries listed by FMP. Reported landings are for catches throughout the entire range of a fishery managed under the FMP. Beginning from the leftmost column, the listed data are:

1. FMPs developed by each RFMC;
2. Type of fishery managed under each plan, i.e., commercial or recreational, or mixed (see below);
3. Species/species groups making up each fishery;
4. Weight of each species or species group in a fishery landed in 2008 (or as otherwise indicated) showing both the landings for commercial and recreational fishermen, if recreational information is available;
5. Number of fishermen participating in the listed fisheries, if available; otherwise, the number of U.S. vessels either permitted or estimated to be operating in the fishery;
6. Gear and processing methods used in each fishery;
7. Range and seasonality of the fishery; and
8. Number of current RFMC members who are commercial or recreational sector participants in each fishery; or their representatives.^{8/}

LEGEND FOR TYPE FISHERIES

C - Commercial fishery: Eighty percent or more of the reported landings are by commercial fishermen.

c - Mainly commercial fishery: More than 60 percent (-) but less than 80 percent (-) of the reported landings are by commercial fishermen.

x - Mixed fishery: Sixty percent or less of the reported landings are by each group of commercial and of recreational fishermen.

r - Mainly recreational fishery: More than 60 percent (-) but less than 80 percent (-) of the reported landings are by recreational fishermen.

R - Recreational fishery: Eighty percent or more of the reported landings are by recreational fishermen.

^{8/}Vertical sums in the attached appendices may not match the sums entered for interest sectors in Table 1 on page 6. If one or more Council members actively participated in more than one fishery, the vertical sum will exceed the number entered in the interest sector column. Also, if a Council member participated in a currently closed fishery, he or she is still listed as a representative of the fishery in the table because of the expertise they bring to the Council regarding the operation of the fishery.

A-1 NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NEFMC)

A-i NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NEFMC) Species	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2010	Vessels (permits) 2010	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2011	
								Comm.	Rec.
Northeast Multi-Species	C	Commercial Atlantic cod Haddock Pollock Hakes Ocean perch (redfish) Yellowtail flounder American plaice Winter flounder Witch flounder Windward flounder* Atlantic halibut Ocean pout	6,876 8,617 4,552 10,036 1,646 1,319 1,413 1,585 759 54 19 0	2,981	trawl, dredge, longline, hook & gillnet, hook & line	FMP area/year round	gutted	8	3
Atlantic Sea Scallops	R	Recreational Cod Pollock Winter flounder	3,330 1,704 79	803	hook & line	FMP area/year round	gutted, filleted		
Atlantic Salmon	C	Atlantic sea scallops	25,877	909	dredge & trawl	FMP area/year round	hand shucking and freezing	3	0
Deep-sea Red Crab	R	Atlantic salmon	0	None	None	None	none	0	0
Atlantic Herring	C	Deep-sea red crab	1,417	1,638	Traps, trawl	FMP area/year round	whole, partially processed at sea	1	0
Monkfish	C	Atlantic herring	65,283	2,405	Mid-water trawl; purse seines; weirs; other trawl	FMP area/year round	fresh/canned shoreside/fresh bait	3	0
	C	Monkfish	3,951	2,735	gillnets, trawls, dredges	FMP area/year round	fresh	7	0

NEFMC MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2011	Recreational 2011	Other 2011
8	3	1

Commercial fisheries landings statistics were provided by the Northeast Region and are based on information in the Region's data base as of October 2011. Recreational fisheries information was obtained from the Office of Science and Technology at <http://www.st.nmfs.gov/stl/recreational/queries/index.html> and are based on the results of the 2010 Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey.

A-ii MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (MAFMC)

A-ii MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (MAFMC)	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2010	Vessels (permits) 2010	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Participants/ Representatives in 2011	
							Comm.	Rec.
Atlantic Mackerel, Squid & Butterfish	C	Commercial Atlantic mackerel	9,877	2,602	otter trawl, trap, gillnet	FMP area/year round	2	1
	C	Squid, Loligo Squid, Ilex Butterfish	6,715 15,825 576	(Combine) 2,297	trawl; traps	FMP area/year round		
	R	Recreational Atlantic mackerel	778	859		FMP area/year round		
Atlantic Surf Clam & Ocean Quahogs	C	Atlantic surfclams Ocean quahogs	19,977 16,362	784 825	Dredge	FMP area/year round (ITQ mgmt.)	1	
Summer Flounder (Fluke)	x	Commercial Recreational	6,003 2,245	936 940	hook & line, otter trawl, trap, gillnet	FMP area/year round	3	3
Scup	x	Commercial Recreational	4,720 2,516	789 836				
Black Sea Bass	x	Commercial Recreational	785 1,678	830 902				
Tilefish	C	Golden Tilefish	846	2,400	longline, hook & line	FMP area/year round	1	
Atlantic Bluefish	x	Commercial	3,162	3,019	hook & line; otter trawl; gillnet	FMP area/year round	1	3
	x	Recreational	7,520	971				
Spiny Dogfish	C	Commercial	5,598	2,942	gillnet; trawl	FMP area/year round	5	1

MAFMC MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2011	Recreational 2011	Other 2011
5	3	5

1 pending appointment

Commercial fisheries landings statistics were provided by the Northeast Region and are based on information in the Region's data base as of October 2011. Recreational fisheries information was obtained from the Office of Science and Technology at <http://www.st.nmfs.gov/stl/recreational/queries/index.html> and are based on the results of the 2010 Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey.

A-iii SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (SAFMC)

A-iii SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (SAFMC)	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2010	Vessels (permits: ¹ Federal or Florida (FL))	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2011	
								Comm.	Rec.
Golden Crab	C	Golden Crab	288	14	traps	FMP area/ year-round	Fresh		
Snapper/Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic	X	Commercial Groupers Wreckfish Snappers Other species Recreational Groupers Snappers Other Species	556 Confidential 1,108 2,103 204 614 2,800	777 1,815 (for-hire)	rod and reel, bandit gear, longline, handline handline, rod and reel, bandit gear, spear, powerhead	FMP area/ prohibition on harvest and possession of Nassau grouper and Goliath grouper year-round ² FMP area	Fresh at sea, gutted	3	4
Penaeid Shrimp Fishery of the South Atlantic Region	C	Commercial All Recreational White	10,706 n/a ³	659 (penaeid) 284 (rock) n/a ³	trawls n/a ³	FMP area/ year-round	shore-side processing		
Coral, Coral Reefs, and Live/Hard Bottom Habitat of the South Atlantic Region	C	Commercial-Octocoral ³ (2010 landings) Recreational	8,021 (0 Fed, 8,021 State) colonies n/a ⁴	49 n/a ⁴	hand harvest	south FL/ year-round	Fresh		
Gulf of Mexico Spiny Lobster [Jointly managed with GMFMC]									
Coastal Migratory pelagics [Jointly managed with GMFMC]									
								1	8
								4	

1 Number of vessels with active permits for 2010.
 2 Commercial and recreational sector for shallow water groupers closed during January-April. Commercial fishery for red porgy closed during January-April. Commercial fishery for greater amberjack closed during April. Fishing prohibited year-round in Oculina HAPC.
 3 Not applicable (No recreational fishery in the EEZ).
 4 Octocoral landings and number of persons harvesting octocoral provided by State of Florida. Federal permits are not required for octocoral harvest.

SAFMC MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2011	Recreational 2011	Other 2011
3	4	1

Sources: Commercial landings information was obtained from the Annual Catch Limit (ACL) datasets produced by the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami, FL, and from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Marine Fisheries Information System. Recreational landing estimates were obtained from the SEFSC ACL datasets and include MRFSS and headboat landings data. NMFS Southeast Region, St. Petersburg, FL, provided the Federal permit information for 2010.

A-iv GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (GMFMC)

A-iv GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (GMFMC)	Type	Fishery/Species, Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2010	Vessels (permits: ¹ Federal or Florida (FL))	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2011	
								Comm.	Rec.
Stone Crab Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial-Stone Crab Recreational	1,183 (claw weight) n/a ³	FL: n/a ² n/a ³	trap, pot trap, pot, hand harvest	FL West Coast/ Oct-Apr	at-sea, declaw; shore-side processing	1	
Red Drum Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	R	Commercial - Red Drum Recreational	21 6,520 ⁵	n/a ⁶ n/a ⁶	n/a ⁶ n/a ⁶	EEZ Closed n/a ⁶ EEZ Closed n/a ⁶	n/a ⁶ n/a ⁶	1	2
Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	X	Commercial Grouper Red Snapper Other snapper Other species ⁷ Recreational Grouper Red Snapper Other snappers Other species ⁷	2,243 1,539 1,354 442 1,118 1,006 743 943	1,031 (reef fish) 425 (red snapper) ⁸ n/a ³ (1,432 for-hire vessel permits)	longline, headline, bandit gear, rod and reel, buoy gear, spear, powerhead spear, powerhead, bandit gear, headline, rod and reel, cast net	FMP area/ Year round ⁹ FMP area/ Year round ^{4,9}	at-sea, gutted; shore-side processing	3	4
Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial-All Recreational	50,034 n/a ³	1,723 n/a ³	trawl, butterfly net, skimmer, cast net trawl	FMP area/ Year round; annual TX closure; seasonal FL closure FMP area/ Year round	tail separation at-sea; shore-side processing	1	
Spiny Lobster Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico & South Atlantic [shared w/SAFMC]	C	Commercial ¹⁰ Recreational ¹⁰	1,977 511 ²	245 commercial 433 tailing FL: n/a ² n/a ³	trap, pot, dip net, bully net, hoop net, trawl, snare, hand harvest dip net, bully net, pot, trap, snare, hand harvest	Florida/ Aug-Apr FL / 2-day sport-season in July, Aug-Apr	tail separation at-sea; shore-side processing	1	
Coral & Coral Reefs of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial Octocoral ² Recreational	23,811 (6,170 Fed + 17,641 State) colonies n/a ³	22 n/a ³	hand harvest hand harvest	South FL/ Year round	fresh	4	3
Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico & South Atlantic [shared w/SAFMC]	X	Commercial King mackerel Spanish mackerel Recreational King mackerel Spanish mackerel	3,014 2,643 2,207 2,018	1,562 1,384 n/a ³ n/a ³ (1,464 Gulf for-hire vessels) (1,814 south Atlantic for-hire vessels)	gillnets, longline, bandit gear, headline, rod and reel, purse net bandit gear, headline, rod and reel, spear	Gulf & South Atlantic; Year round, commercial closures when quotas are reached	At-sea, gutted, Shore-side processing	3	4

A-iv GMFMC (continued) from preceding page:

- 1 Number of vessels with active permits for 2010.
- 2 Data from state of Florida.
- 3 Not Available (no federal permit or reporting requirements, except for-hire vessels).
- 4 Recreational fishery for red snapper in 2010 was closed from January 1 to June 1 and from August 15 through December 31.
- 5 State landings only.
- 6 Not applicable (fishery closed in federal waters).
- 7 Includes greater amberjack, lesser amberjack, almaco jack, banded rudderfish, gray triggerfish, tilefishes, and hogfish.
- 8 Individual Fishing Quotas Program shareholders at the end of 2010.
- 9 Bottom fishing prohibited year-round on Madison and Swanson sites and Steamboat Lumps; the Edges is closed to all fishing January through April. Recreational fishery for gag, red grouper, and black grouper is closed February 1 to March 31.
- 10 Data from 2009-2010 fishing season.

GMFMC MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2011	Recreational 2011	Other 2011
4	4	3

Sources: Commercial landings information was obtained from the Annual Catch Limit (ACL) datasets produced by the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami, FL, and from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Marine Fisheries Information System. Recreational landing estimates were obtained from the SEFSC ACL datasets and include MRFSS and headboat landings data. NMFS Southeast Region, St. Petersburg, FL, provided the Federal permit information for 2009.

A-V CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (CFMC)

A-V CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (CFMC)	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2010	Vessel permits ¹	Gear	Fishing Areas/Seasons	Processing	Participants/Representatives in 2011	
							Comm.	Rec.
Spiny Lobster	Commercial	119 (PR) n/a ⁵ (USVI)	n/a	trap/pot, dip net gillnet, snare	year-round	fresh, landed whole	1	
	Recreational	n/a ³	n/a	dip net, trap, pot	year-round			
Reef Fish (snappers, groupers, other reef species)	Commercial	755 (PR) n/a ⁵ (USVI)	n/a	longline, hook and line, trap, pot,	area closures ⁴ , seasonal closures for numerous snappers and groupers; prohibition on harvest and possession of Nassau and Goliath groupers	gutted at-sea, shore-side processing	2	1
	Recreational	81 ² (PR) n/a ³ (USVI)	n/a	dip net, headline, rod and reel, slurrp gun, spear				
Coral Reef Resources	Commercial	0	n/a	dip net, slurrp gun, hand harvest	Year-round	live, fresh		
	Stony Corals	0	n/a					
	Gorgonians	0	n/a					
	Live Rock	0	n/a					
	Other Invertebrates	0	n/a					
	Algae	0	n/a					
	Seagrasses	0	n/a					
	Recreational	n/a ³	n/a	dip net, slurrp gun, hand harvest				
Queen Conch	Commercial	94 (PR) n/a ⁵ (USVI)	n/a	hand harvest (no hooka)	closed year round (no harvest) in EEZ except east of St. Croix (portion of Lang Bank) where it is closed seasonally each year July through September	live, landed whole in shell, shore-side processing		
	Recreational	n/a ³	n/a	hand harvest (no hooka)				

CFMC MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2011	Recreational 2011	Other 2011
2	1	1

¹ Not applicable (no permits required).

² Recreational landings only for Puerto Rico and are collected by the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey.

³ Not available. Recreational landings in USVI are not collected.

⁴ Fishing with pots, traps, bottom longlines, gill nets, and trammel nets is prohibited year-round at Grammanik Bank and at various mutton snapper and red hind spawning aggregation sites. Fishing for any species is prohibited year-round within Hind Bank Marine Conservation District.

⁵ Not available. Complete landings data for 2010 from USVI are not yet available.

Sources: Puerto Rican and USVI Commercial landings were obtained from the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami. Puerto Rico commercial landings are from the Accumulated Landings System at the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami, FL.

A-vi PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (PFMC)	Type	Species/Species Group	2010 Landings (salmon in # of fish, others in metric tons)	2010 Permits (Vessels) & Angler Trips	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2011*	
								Comm.	Rec.
Ocean Salmon Fisheries off the Coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California ²	X	Commercial Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon Recreational Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon	134,942 14,654 0 56,535 54,747 0	CA Troll 1,218 OR Troll 1,019 WA Troll 158 183,031 Angler Trips	Troll; hook and line,	WA, OR & CA/ variable dates by area	headed & gutted, fillets; fresh & frozen	0	3
Pacific Coast Groundfish ¹	X	Pacific whiting Flatfish Rockfish Other groundfish Recreational Groundfish	170,202 15,385 5,185 9,012 2,094	Limited Entry: 317 vessels registered to a LE permit Open Access: (765 vessels landed groundfish) 655,802 Boat Based Trips targeting groundfish	trawl; hook & line; pots; set nets	CA/year round OR/year round WA/year round	headed & gutted; fillets; surimi; fresh & frozen	3	3
Coastal Pelagic Species ³	C	Pacific sardine Pacific mackerel Jack mackerel Market squid Northern Anchovy	66,817 2,104 314 129,909 1,284	Federal Limited Entry south of Point Arena 65 State Limited Entry north of Point Area-36	purse seine	CA - year round OR and WA - summer	human consumption bait meal and oil	1	
Highly Migratory Species ⁴	X	Northern albacore Other tunas Swordfish Sharks	11,855 35 367 117	1,970	Surface hook-and line Coastal purse seine Harpoon Drift gillnet High Seas longline	CA/year round OR/year round WA/year round	Fresh, frozen, canned Human consumption		4

PFMC Membership

	Recreational 2011	Other** 2011
Commercial 2011		
2	3	4

* Council Representative may represent more than One FMP.

** "Other" includes tribal representative.

¹/ Pacific Coast groundfish fishery data was extracted directly from the PacFIN data system (commercial), RecFIN, and Final EIS for 2007-08 Pacific Groundfish Fishery (Recreational).

²/ Review of 2008 Ocean Salmon Fisheries." (February 2009, Pacific Fishery Management Council).

³/ SWR estimates from PacFIN.

⁴/ SWR estimates from PacFIN.

A-vii NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NPFMC)

A-vii NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NPFMC)	Type	Species/Species Group	Tonnage (metric tons)*	Fishermen & Crew**	Gear	Fishing Areas and Seasons	Processing	Participants/Representatives in 2011****	
								Comm.	Rec.
Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA)	C	Pollock Pacific cod Flatfish Rockfish Sablefish Atka mackerel Misc. species	81,310 61,024 40,801 22,905 11,148 1,615 6,673	1376 Federal Fishing permits 1106 LLP permits (some Interim)	trawl; pot; hook & line; jig	area/time closures adjusted in season LLP permits have gear and area endorsements	hand & machine fillet; headed/gutted; frozen; minced; meal & oil	4	
Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI)	C	Pollock Pacific cod Flatfish Rockfish Sablefish Atka mackerel Misc. species	1,200,412 219,049 286,353 28,204 1,714 51,820 29,409	599 Federal fishing permits 507 LLP permits (some Interim)	trawl; pot; hook & line; jig	area/time closures adjusted in season LLP permits have gear and area endorsements	hand & machine fillet; headed/gutted; frozen; minced; meal & oil	4	
Commercial King and Tanner Crab Fisheries in the BSAI	C	King Crab Red king crab Golden king crab St. Matt. Blue King Crab Tanner Crab C. Opilio (snow) C. bairdi	6,055 confidential confidential 22,119 closed	500 Quota Share holders for IFQ crab 347 LLP permits (some Interim)	Pot	Deferred to State; generally November and winter months; LLP permits have fishery endorsements for minor crab species.	cooked; refrigerated; frozen	3	
Salmon fisheries in the EEZ off Alaska and adjacent state waters	C	Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon Sockeye salmon Chum salmon	1,183 4,199 161 5 1,596	964 permits fished	troll***	Deferred to State; generally West area is closed; southeast area time area limits.	fresh; gutted & gilled; glazed; frozen; canned; smoked	1	
Scallop Fishery off Alaska	C	Weathered scallops (no directed fisheries occur for other scallop species listed in the FMP)	221	9 LLP permits	Dredges	Deferred to State; Time and area openings are adjusted inseason	hand shucked and frozen or iced		

Secretarial appointed NPFMC membership in 2011: Commercial 5; Recreational 1; Other 1

\$ In addition to these five FMPs, the NPFMC also is responsible for developing regulations governing Pacific halibut fisheries in and off of Alaska under authority of the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 (Halibut Act). These regulations, which are in addition to and not in conflict with regulations adopted by the International Pacific Halibut Commission, primarily allocate halibut fishing privileges among U.S. fishermen. Although the NPFMC develops halibut management regulations according to principles of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, no halibut FMP exists because the Magnuson-Stevens Act does not apply to management of the Pacific halibut fisheries. In 2011, the commercial fishing season for halibut in and off Alaska runs from March 12 through November 18. The total commercial catch of halibut under the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) and Community Development Quota (CDQ) Programs through November 18, 2011 was 13,781 mt, net weight, about 98 percent of the available quota. At that date, about 344 mt of Pacific halibut remained. For Pacific halibut, 2588 persons held IFQ Quota Share as of December 2011.

* 2010 salmon catch data are from the State of Alaska. These data represent only the southeast AK hand and power troll fisheries that are governed by the Salmon FMP and managed as one fishery, inside and outside State waters by the State of Alaska. The catch data for the BSAI crab fisheries are from the BSAI Crab Rationalization Program Report for Fishing Year 2010/2011 (July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011), prepared by the Alaska Region, NMFS. Alaska scallop fishery catch data for the 2010/2011 season (July 1, 2009 to January 18, 2010) are from the State of Alaska. All other catch data are from the Alaska Region, NMFS, and reflect catch reports through December 24, 2011. NMFS catch data include retained and discarded catch amounts. Miscellaneous groundfish species includes squid, skates, sharks, octopus, and sculpin.

A-vii NPFMC (continued) from preceding page:

**Data represent persons or vessels permitted to harvest fish, not the number of individuals actually involved in the operation of vessels, catching and processing fish. The number of permits actually used to harvest fish is fewer than that indicated by the data. Participation in all FMP fisheries is governed by some form of limited access system. License Limitation Programs (LLP), initially effective in 2000, apply to all fisheries except crab fisheries brought under a new IFQ system in 2005, salmon (which is governed by the State of Alaska limited entry system), demersal shelf rockfish in the Southeast Gulf of Alaska, IFQ sablefish, and IFQ and CDQ halibut fisheries. In 2005, a new IFQ program replaced the LLP license requirement for most BSAI king and Tanner crab fisheries. A total of 490 distinct persons were initially issued one or more types of harvesting quota share for eight crab fisheries (managed as nine fisheries starting July 1, 2007); in the 2010/2011 crab year most IFQ crab was assigned to cooperatives; 133 distinct hired Masters fished IFQ for 10 active permit holders (counting cooperatives, not members). Some LLP crab licenses were re-issued to authorize fishing not managed under the IFQ system. Of the approximate total 2,182 current LLP permits, most (1,835) authorized fishing for groundfish in the BSAI or GOA or both, and 347 still authorized fishing for BSAI crab species not under crab rationalization management; the remaining 9 were for scallop harvest. A number of permits were "interim" and will be revoked following final adjudication of claims.

Also, a total of 841 persons held QS to harvest sablefish as of December 2011, with fixed gear in the GOA and BSAI under the IFQ Program. The salmon permit data are from the State of Alaska and represent the number of individual permits fished in 2010.

*****Troll gear is the gear authorized to be used in the EEZ under the salmon FMP, however, other gear types such as gill nets and purse seines are authorized in other areas of the State to harvest salmon.**

****** Columns not completed. In many cases, overlapping interests exist and defining the specific degree of Council representation on a specific FMP cannot be conclusively determined.**

A-viii WESTERN PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (WPFMC)

A-viii WESTERN PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (WPFMC)	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2010 ¹	Vessels (permits) ²	Gear	Fishing Areas/Seasons	Processing	Participants/Representatives in 2011	
								Comm.	Rec.
Hawaii Archipelago (including Midway Atoll)		Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish	212 (C) 147 (R) ³	475 (C) Est. 2,800 (R)	handline, rod and reel	FEP Area/year round, except: a. Main Hawaiian Islands (MHI) upon reaching annual IAC (closed) b. Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) (closed) c. Hancock Seamounts (closed until pelagic armorhead is rebuilt)	fresh fish market	0	0
	C/R	Spiny and slipper lobster, Kona crab, deep-water shrimp Precious corals (all species combined)	28 Confidential	0 2	traps hand manned submersible, remote operated vessel, hand	FEP Area/year round, except: a. NWHI (closed) b. MHI: (closed 5/1 - 8/31) FEP Area/year round, except: a. Makapu and Auau Beds which have 2 year fishing periods that begin 7/1 and ends 6/30 2 years later b. NWHI (closed)	flash frozen and live market shaped/polished	0	0
		Currently harvested coral reef taxa, Potentially harvested coral reef taxa	666 (C) 1,827 (R) ³	0	hook and line, hand, net, trap, slurbgun, spear	FEP Area/year round	fresh fish and aquarium markets		
Mariana Archipelago (CNMI & Guam)		Bottomfish	No data (CNMI) 3 (Guam)	12 (CNMI) 6 (Guam)	handline, rod and reel	FEP Area/year round	fresh fish market		
		Spiny and slipper lobster, and deep-water shrimp	No data (CNMI) >1 (Guam)	2 (CNMI) 2 (Guam)	traps hand	FEP Area/year round	flash frozen and live market		1
	C/R	Precious corals (all species combined)	0	0	manned submersible, remote operated vessel, hand	FEP Area/year round	shaped/polished	1	0
		Currently harvested coral reef taxa, Potentially harvested coral reef taxa	No data (CNMI) 61 (Guam)	0	hook and line, hand, net, trap, slurbgun, spear	FEP Area/year round	fresh fish and aquarium markets		
American Samoa		Bottomfish	5	No permits required	handline, rod and reel	FEP Area/year round	fresh fish market		
		Spiny and slipper lobster, and deep-water shrimp	2	2	traps hand	FEP Area/year round	flash frozen and live market		0
	C/R	Precious corals (all species combined)	0	0	manned submersible, remote operated vessel, hand	FEP Area/year round	shaped/polished	0	2
		Currently harvested coral reef taxa, Potentially harvested coral reef taxa	17	0	hook and line, hand, net, trap, slurbgun, spear	FEP Area/year round	fresh fish and aquarium markets		
Pacific Remote Island Areas (Howland, Baker and Jarvis Islands, Kingman Reef, and Wake and Palmyra Atolls)		Bottomfish	n/a ⁴	0	handline, rod and reel	FEP Area/year round	fresh fish market		
		Spiny and slipper lobster, and deep-water shrimp	n/a ⁴	1	traps hand	FEP Area/year round	flash frozen and live market		0
	C/R	Precious corals (all species combined)	n/a ⁴	0	manned submersible, remote operated vessel, hand	FEP Area/year round	shaped/polished	0	0
		Currently harvested coral reef taxa, Potentially harvested coral reef taxa	n/a ⁴	0	hook and line, hand, net, trap, slurbgun, spear	FEP Area/year round	fresh fish and aquarium markets		
	C/R	Commercial - Tunas - Swordfish - Other (inc. sharks) - Blue marlin - Mahimahi - Other billfish - Wahoo - Squid	12,626 1725 2832 495 835 330 483 3	193	traps hand troll handline longline spear	FEP Area/year round, except for area closures around the Hawaii, Mariana and American Samoa Archipelagos	flash frozen and live market shaped/polished fresh fish and aquarium markets fresh fish market whole frozen for cannery	1	1
Pelagic		Estimated Recreational (all species)	373 (R) ³	n/a					

WPFMC MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2011	Recreational 2011	Other 2011
2	3	3

¹ Landing information was obtained from NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, Western Pacific Fisheries Information Network databases at <http://www.pifsc.noaa.gov/wpacfin> and is primarily comprised of domestic commercial landings, but includes non-commercial (recreational and subsistence) landing.

² Vessel information was obtained from NMFS Pacific Islands Region Sustainable Fisheries Permits Program, except for Hawaii bottomfish and seamount groundfish which is based on State of Hawaii commercial marine license and bottomfish vessel registration programs.

³ Where noted, recreational (R) fisheries landing information was obtained from NMFS Office of Science and Technology at <http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/stl/recreational/queries/index.html>

⁴ No catches have been reported for this resource in the Pacific Remote Island Areas.

SECRETARIAL MANAGEMENT ACTIONS
A-ix HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES

A-ix HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES	TYPE	SPECIES/ SPECIES GROUP	LANDINGS 2009/2010 MT = METRIC TONS WW = WHOLE WEIGHT DW = DRESSED WEIGHT	2010 VESSELS (PERMITS)	GEAR ⁷	FISHING AREAS/SEASONS ⁸	PROCESSING	2011 REPRESENTATIVES ⁹				
								COMMERCIAL	RECREATIONAL	ACADEMIC/ ENVIRONS	FMCs	IAC
Atlantic Billfishes ¹	R	White Marlin; Sailfin; Longbill Spearfish (prohibited)	29 mt ww ² (comm dead discards) 10.3 mt ww ² (rec)	Charter permits ⁵ Recreational permit ⁶	Rod & reel	Atlantic coast, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, Calendar year	Sale prohibited	12	12	8	5	1
Atlantic Sharks ¹	X	Commercial/Recreational -Large coastal (11 spp) -Pelagics (5 spp) -Small coastal (4 spp) -Prohibited (19 spp)	Comm ³ 1,091 mt dw 686LCS 102 Pel 303 SCS Rec ^{3,4} 169.7 63 LCS 7.7 Pel 99 SCS	LIMITED ACCESS ⁷ Commercial permits - 217 directed - 262 incidental Charter permits ⁵ Recreational permit ⁶	Longline; Gillnets; Rod & reel; Handline; Bandit Rod & reel; Handline	Atlantic coast, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea; Non-sandbar LCS regions: Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico; Calendar year Atlantic coast, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea, Calendar year	Fins exported; Carcasses/ cartilage to U.S. market Sale Prohibited	12	12	8	5	1
Atlantic Swordfish ¹	X	Commercial	2,778.9 mt ww ² (includes discards)	LIMITED ACCESS Commercial permits - 178 directed - 145 incidental/ handgear	Longline; Buoy; Handline; Harpoon; Rod & reel; Bandit Oteritrawl (incidental)	North and South Atlantic, Caribbean Sea, and Gulf of Mexico; Calendar year; North Atlantic directed semi- annual seasons: 1/1-6/30; 7/1- 12/31	Fresh/frozen U.S. market	12	12	8	5	1
Atlantic Tunas ¹	X	Commercial Bluefin Yellowfin Bigeye Albacore Skipjack Recreational Bluefin Yellowfin Bigeye Albacore Skipjack	3,098.3 mt ww ² 813.9 1,538.6 557.1 178.8 9.9 1,531.9 mt ww ² 111.4 1,109.5 116.3 149.9 44.8	Charter permits ⁵ Recreational permit ⁶ Commercial permits - 242 Longline - 3,764 General - 24 Harpoon - 6 Trap - 3 Purse Seine (VTO) Charter permits ⁵ Recreational permit ⁶	Rod & reel; Handline Rod & reel; Purse seine; Bandit gear; Longline; Handline; Harpoon; Trap; Greenstick Rod & reel; Handline; (non- BFT)	Calendar year (East Coast of US) Northwest Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico (No Directed Fishing for Bluefin Tuna), and Caribbean Sea; Calendar year	Sale prohibited Bluefin: fresh foreign and U.S. market. Other tunas: fresh/canned foreign and U.S. market Sale prohibited	12	12	8	5	1

1. 2006 Final Consolidated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan.

2. Source: 2011 U.S. National Report submitted to ICCAT. Includes rod and reel recreational landings from the Caribbean

3. Source: 2010 Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species.

4. Number of fish in thousands (not mt).

5. 4,194 Charter/headboat permits issued as of October, 2011. Required for all tuna, swordfish, shark, and billfish recreational fishing.

6. 23,138 recreational angling permits issued as of October, 2011. Required for all tuna, swordfish, shark, and billfish recreational fishing.

7. Certain gear types may have restrictions, including time/area closures and gear modifications.

8. Seasons may close when quota is reached.

9. HMS Advisory Panel includes representatives of commercial and recreational fishing groups, academic, and environmental organizations, and one each from the U.S. ICCAT Advisory Committee, Atlantic and Gulf states, and the New England, Mid-Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils. The numbers for tunas, swordfish, billfish, and sharks are not additive.