

Vessel Monitoring Systems Certification Statement for the Highly Migratory Species Fisheries

INSTRUCTIONS: This Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) Certification Statement for the Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Fisheries is provided by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) pursuant to the regulatory requirements of 50 C.F.R. § 635.69(a). This certification statement is applicable for the VMS providers currently approved for use in the HMS shark fisheries.

Installation checklists will be provided and revised if additional VMS providers are approved. Follow the checklist steps indicated by the vendor for the communications service and transmitting unit selected. The vessel owner or operator must follow the installation procedures when installing or re-installing a NOAA Fisheries-approved VMS unit. The vessel owner is responsible for all installation and activation costs. After completion of the installation and activation, the owner may confirm that NOAA Fisheries is receiving position reports by calling NOAA Office of Law Enforcement in St. Petersburg, Florida, at 727-824-5344, or by sending email to vms@noaa.gov.

The vessel owner must sign the statement certifying compliance with the installation procedures, then submit the certification statement to the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, 263 13th Avenue South, Suite 109, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701.

Vessel Name: _____ Vessel Doc. Number: _____

VMS Transmitting Unit Manufacturer: _____

VMS Communications Service Provider: _____

Certification:

In accordance with 50 C.F.R. § 635.69(a), as the owner of a vessel participating the HMS Fisheries, I hereby certify that the VMS system on my vessel has been installed in compliance with applicable procedures.

Vessel Owner Name: _____

Vessel Owner Signature: _____ Date: _____

Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PL 104-13) and the Privacy Act of 1974 (PL 93-579), you are advised that disclosure of the information requested in the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) certification statement is mandatory for the purpose of managing the Atlantic shark fisheries. The certification statement is used to ensure proper operation of the VMS unit. Reporting burden for the collection of information is estimated to average 4 hours per installation, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining data needed, and completing and reviewing the information. The burden for submission of this certification statement is estimated at 5 minutes per response. Confidentiality of the information provided will be treated in accordance with NOAA Administrative Order 216-100. It is the policy of the National Marine Fisheries Service not to release confidential data, other than in aggregate form, as the MSA protects the confidentiality of those submitting data. Whenever data are requested, NMFS ensures the information identifying the pecuniary business activity of a particular individual is not identified. This information collection has been issued a valid OMB control number, and is subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act and penalties associated with non-compliance. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or suggestions for reducing this burden to: NMFS, Office of Law Enforcement, 8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 415, Silver Spring, MD 20910.