

recorded for the purposes of generating notes of the meeting. As public comments will be made publicly available, participants and public commenters are urged not to provide personally identifiable information (PII) at this meeting. Participation in the meeting by web conference or by telephone constitutes consent to the audio recording. Executive sessions are not open to the public, and are therefore not recorded.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Amanda Munro, NMFS West Coast Region, (619) 407-9284 or [amanda.munro@noaa.gov](mailto:amanda.munro@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The timing of U.S. SAS and GAC meetings are adjusted based on the dates of the IATTC Annual Meeting. This year, the IATTC will convene its 15th Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) in June 2024, and the 102nd Annual Meeting of the IATTC will be held on August 26–September 6, 2024. For 2024, the combined U.S. SAS and GAC Meeting will be held on July 22–23, after the IATTC SAC Meeting and before the IATTC Annual Meeting. This timing allows for scientific topics presented at the IATTC SAC Meeting, including stock assessments, to be discussed and used to inform U.S. positions at the combined U.S. SAS and GAC Meeting. This meeting will also include updates from IATTC working groups and is expected to include presentations of draft U.S. proposals to be submitted to the IATTC. An executive session may be called in order to discuss sensitive information, including possible U.S. negotiating positions for the upcoming IATTC Annual Meeting.

In accordance with the Tuna Conventions Act (16 U.S.C. 951 *et seq.*) (TCA), the U.S. Department of Commerce, in consultation with the Department of State (the State Department), appoints a GAC to the U.S. Section to the IATTC and a SAS that advises the GAC. The U.S. Section consists of the four U.S. Commissioners and alternate U.S. Commissioners to the IATTC and representatives of the State Department, NOAA, Department of Commerce, other U.S. Government agencies, and stakeholders. The GAC provides recommendations to the U.S. section of the IATTC. The purpose of the SAS is to advise the GAC on

scientific matters and provide recommendations to the GAC. Per the TCA, the SAS advises the GAC on matters including the conservation of ecosystems, the sustainable uses of living marine resources related to the tuna fishery in the eastern Pacific Ocean, and the long-term conservation and management of stocks of living marine resources in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean. NMFS West Coast Region staff provides administrative and technical support services as necessary for the effective functioning of the SAS and GAC.

The meetings of the SAS and GAC are open to the public, unless in executive session. The time and manner of public comment will be at the discretion of the Chairs for the SAS and GAC. For more information and updates on the upcoming IATTC meetings, please visit the IATTC's website: <https://www.iatct.org/MeetingsENG.htm>.

#### SAS and GAC Meeting Topics

Given the virtual nature of these meetings, the agenda will be concise. The SAS and GAC meeting to prepare for the 101st IATTC Annual Meeting is expected to cover a broad spectrum of topics including but not limited to:

- (1) Outcomes of the most recent IATTC stock assessments and updates for tuna, tuna-like species, and other species caught in association with those fisheries in the eastern Pacific Ocean;
- (2) Evaluation of the IATTC Staff's Recommendations to the Commission for 2024;
- (3) Potential proposal(s) to the IATTC;
- (4) Updates from Joint IATTC-Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Northern Committee Working Group on Pacific Bluefin Tuna;
- (5) Recommendations from the SAS and GAC members; and
- (6) Other issues as they arise.

#### Special Accommodations

Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Amanda Munro (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

*Authority:* 16 U.S.C. 951 *et seq.*

Dated: May 24, 2024.

**Karen H. Abrams,**

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

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**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XE005]

#### Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, Greater Atlantic Region, NMFS, has made a preliminary determination that an exempted fishing permit application contains all of the required information and warrants further consideration. The exempted fishing permit would allow federally permitted fishing vessels to fish outside fishery regulations in support of exempted fishing activities proposed by the Coonamessett Farm Foundation. Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed exempted fishing permits.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before June 14, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit written comments by the following method:

- *Email:* [nmfs.gar.efp@noaa.gov](mailto:nmfs.gar.efp@noaa.gov). Include in the subject line "Investigation of baiting practices on catch and bycatch in gillnets and design of an effective outreach program to minimize seabird bycatch".

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Anjali Bhardwaj, Fishery Management Specialist, [anjali.bhardwaj@noaa.gov](mailto:anjali.bhardwaj@noaa.gov), 978-281-9293.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The applicant submitted a complete application for an exempted fishing permit (EFP) to conduct commercial fishing activities that the regulations would otherwise restrict. This EFP would exempt the participating vessels from the following Federal regulations:

TABLE 1—REQUESTED EXEMPTIONS

CFR citation	Regulation	Need for exemption
50 CFR 648.11, but not to include 648.11(l)(3).	Monitoring Coverage .....	The three vessels participating in this EFP have limited deck space and/or life raft capacity and cannot accommodate both an observer and a project scientist. As stated in 648.11(l)(3), the participating vessels are still required to submit pre-trip notifications.

TABLE 2—PROJECT SUMMARY

Project title .....	Investigation of baiting practices on catch and bycatch in gillnets and design of an effective outreach program to minimize seabird bycatch.
Project start .....	July 1, 2024.
Project end .....	October 15, 2024.
Project objectives .....	Investigate differences in levels of shearwater bycatch during spiny dogfish sets utilizing different gillnet baiting strategies.
Project location .....	Georges Bank.
Number of vessels .....	3.
Number of trips .....	40 total, up to 15 per vessel.
Trip duration (days) .....	1.
Total number of days .....	20 (each trip includes 2 vessels).
Gear type(s) .....	Gillnet.
Number of tows or sets .....	1 set per trip.
Duration of tows or sets .....	1 hour.

**Project Narrative**

The Coonamesset Farm Foundation, Inc. (CFF) is requesting an EFP in support of a study aimed at better understanding how demersal gillnet baiting practices influence shearwater bycatch off the coast of Cape Cod. In the subject fishery, vessels harvest and process skates, and then use the skate racks to bait gillnets that are deployed to target dogfish, which can result in bycaught seabirds. This EFP would be for the first year of a 2-year study.

Under the EFP, three participating vessels would be exempt from Northeast Fishery Observer Program monitoring coverage due to limited vessel space and safety equipment needed to accommodate CFF personnel during research trips. No other exemptions are needed to perform this project. Vessels will target dogfish using 6.5-inch (16.5-centimeter) mesh gillnets set in strings consisting of 12 nets each. Of the 12 nets, half will utilize either forward baiting (baiting nets before setting) or after baiting (baiting nets after setting), and the remaining nets will not include bait. CFF intends to use retained and discarded catch weights to assess the effect that different baiting treatments have on catch. Any entangled seabird will be documented in detail. CFF intends to use cameras to quantify behavior and abundance of seabird species in the study area using cameras. The results will determine if high levels of seabird bycatch correlate with specific gillnet baiting strategies.

CFF, or contracted scientific personnel, will accompany trips under the EFP. Legal catch will be landed for

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

All comments received are a part of the public record and may be posted for public viewing without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter “anonymous” as the signature if you wish to remain anonymous).

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

Dated: May 24, 2024.

**Karen H. Abrams,**  
*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
 [FR Doc. 2024–11913 Filed 5–30–24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

**COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED**

**Procurement List; Proposed Addition and Deletion**

**AGENCY:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

**ACTION:** Proposed addition to and deletion from the Procurement List.

**SUMMARY:** The Committee is proposing to add service(s) to the Procurement List that will be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and delete product(s) previously furnished by such agencies.

**DATES:** *Comments must be received on or before:* June 30, 2024.

**ADDRESSES:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 355 E Street SW, Suite 325, Washington, DC 20024.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information or to submit comments contact: Michael R. Jurkowski, Telephone: (703) 785–6404, or email [CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov](mailto:CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 8503 (a)(2) and 41 CFR 51–2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the proposed actions.

**Additions**

In accordance with 41 CFR 51–5.3(b), the Committee intends to add this services requirement to the Procurement List as a mandatory purchase only for