

TABLE 1—REQUESTED EXEMPTIONS—Continued

CFR citation	Regulation	Need for exemption
§ 697.19(j)	Trap tag requirements	To allow for the use of untagged traps (though each modified trap will have the participating fisherman's identification attached).
§§ 697.20(a), 697.20(d), 697.20(g), and 697.20(h)(1)–(2).	Possession restrictions	To allow for onboard biological sampling of undersized, v-notched, and egg-bearing lobsters and undersized and egg-bearing Jonah crabs.

TABLE 2—PROJECT SUMMARY

Project title	Maine lobster fishery dependent offshore ventless and commercial trap research program.
Project start	11/04/2024.
Project end	11/03/2025.
Project objectives	To develop a new survey, in partnership with Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation (CFRF), to provide distribution, abundance, and biological data on juvenile lobsters and Jonah crabs from times and areas in Federal waters with low coverage from traditional surveys.
Project location	Gulf of Maine: Statistical Areas 511, 512, and 513.
Number of vessels	Up to 20.
Number of trips	Up to 36 per vessel; up to 720 total.
Trip duration (days)	Up to 3.
Total number of days	Up to 108 per vessel; up to 2,160 total.
Gear type(s)	Trap.
Number of tows or sets	1 per trip.
Duration of tows or sets	7–10 days.

Project Narrative

This project would contribute to the ongoing effort by the CFRF to collect data on juvenile lobster and Jonah crab abundance and distribution in areas and times of the year with low or no coverage by traditional surveys.

This project would include up to 20 federally permitted Maine lobster vessels. Each vessel would fish with 3 modified, ventless traps designed to catch juvenile lobsters, totaling up to 60 modified traps. The ventless trap configuration is as follows: 40-inch length x 21-inch width x 14-inch height (101.6-centimeter (cm) length x 53.34-cm width x 35.56-cm height), single parlor, 1-inch (2.54-cm) square rubber-coated 12-gauge wire, standard shrimp mesh netting, cement runners, and 4- by 6-inch (10.16- by 15.24-cm) disabling door. The modified traps would adhere to the standard coastwide survey gear for lobster and Jonah crab set by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and would be fished with standard Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan-compliant trawls.

This study would take place during regular fishing activity of the participating vessels, but catch from the modified traps would remain separate from that of standard gear. Operators would collect data on size, sex, presence of eggs, and shell hardness for lobsters and Jonah crabs, and v-notch and shell disease for lobsters. Operators would return all specimens from modified gear to the ocean once sampling is complete.

The study is designed to inform management by addressing questions

about changing reproduction and recruitment dynamics of lobster and to develop a foundation of knowledge for the data-deficient Jonah crab fishery. All data collected by the participants using the CFRF data collection app would be sent to ME DMR for processing. ME DMR would then share final datasets with CFRF, to further share with the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program, the Northeast Fisheries Science Center, and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.

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: September 3, 2024.

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

[FR Doc. 2024–20156 Filed 9–6–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XE268]

Endangered Species; File No. 28262

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

ACTION: Notice; receipt of application.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that Kori Johnsen, 1792 Harrison Avenue, Melbourne, FL 32935, has applied in due form for a permit to take green (*Chelonia mydas*), hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), and Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*) sea turtles for purposes of scientific research.

DATES: Written comments must be received on or before October 9, 2024.

ADDRESSES: The application and related documents are available for review by selecting “Records Open for Public Comment” from the “Features” box on the Applications and Permits for Protected Species home page, <https://apps.nmfs.noaa.gov>, and then selecting File No. 28262 from the list of available applications. These documents are also

available upon written request via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov.

Written comments on this application should be submitted via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. Please include File No. 28262 in the subject line of the email comment.

Those individuals requesting a public hearing should submit a written request via email to NMFS.Pr1Comments@noaa.gov. The request should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this application would be appropriate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Erin Markin, Ph.D., or Malcolm Mohead, (301) 427-8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and the regulations governing the taking, importing, and exporting of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR parts 222-226).

The applicant proposes research on juvenile, subadult, and adult sea turtle populations in southeast Florida, including Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe counties. Researchers would investigate population abundance, distribution, health, habitat use, and behavioral ecology of sea turtles. Up to 50 green, 50 hawksbill, and 30 Kemp ridley sea turtles may be located by unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) or vessels and captured by hand or dip net, marked (flipper and passive integrated transponder tag), measured, weighed, and photographed/videod, annually. A subset of 10 turtles of each species may receive a video tag attached via a suction cup. Additionally, green sea turtles may be biologically sampled (blood, skin biopsy). Annually, up to 750 green, 250 hawksbill, and 250 Kemp's ridley may be harassed by vessel and UAS surveys. The permit would be valid for 5 years.

Dated: September 4, 2024.

Julia M. Harrison,

Chief, Permits and Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2024-20229 Filed 9-6-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XE255]

Fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of SEDAR 87 Assessment Webinar I for Gulf of Mexico White, Pink, and Brown Shrimp.

SUMMARY: The SEDAR 87 assessment process of Gulf of Mexico white, pink, and brown shrimp will consist of a Data Workshop, and a series of assessment webinars, and a Review Workshop. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

DATES: The SEDAR 87 Assessment Webinar I will be held September 26, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: The meeting will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact Julie A. Neer at SEDAR (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation providing webinar access information. Please request webinar invitations at least 24 hours in advance of each webinar.

SEDAR address: 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie A. Neer, SEDAR Coordinator; (843) 571-4366; email: Julie.neer@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions have implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR is a multi-step process including: (1) Data Workshop, (2) a series of assessment webinars, and (3) A Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a report that compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The assessment webinars produce a report that describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions,

and recommends research and monitoring needs. The product of the Review Workshop is an Assessment Summary documenting panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data. Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office, HMS Management Division, and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and NGO's; International experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

The items of discussion during the Assessment Webinar I are as follows:

Participants will review the assessment modeling work to date and provide recommendations to the analytic team.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 5 business days prior to each workshop.

Note: The times and sequence specified in this agenda are subject to change.

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

Dated: September 4, 2024.

Rey Israel Marquez,

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

[FR Doc. 2024-20273 Filed 9-6-24; 8:45 am]

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