The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Public Law 94-265 as amended (Magnuson-Stevens Act), provides for the conservation and management of fishery resources within the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). It also provides for fishery management authority over continental shelf resources and anadromous species beyond the EEZ, except when they are found within a foreign nation’s territorial sea or fishery conservation zone (or equivalent), to the extent that such sea or zone is recognized by the United States.

The EEZ extends from the seaward boundary of each of the coastal States (generally 3 nautical miles from shore for all but two States) to 200 nautical miles from shore. The seaward boundaries of Texas, Puerto Rico, and the Gulf coast of Florida are 3 marine leagues (9 nautical miles). The EEZ encompasses approximately 3.36 million square nautical miles.

GOVERNING INTERNATIONAL FISHERY AGREEMENT

Under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the Secretary of State, in cooperation with the Secretary of Commerce, negotiates Governing International Fishery Agreements (GIFAs) with foreign nations requesting to fish within the EEZ. After a GIFA is signed, it is transmitted by the President to the Congress for ratification.

FOREIGN FISHING PERMITS

Title II of the Magnuson-Stevens Act governs foreign fishing in the EEZ. The process applied to foreign fishing has been described in prior issues of this publication. As U.S. fishing capacity grew, foreign participation in directed fisheries, as well as in foreign joint ventures in which U.S. vessels delivered U.S. harvested fish to permitted foreign vessels in the EEZ diminished until, in 1991, foreign vessels no longer were permitted to conduct directed fishing in the EEZ. This marked the achievement of one of the objectives of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, that is, the development of the U.S. fishing industry to take what were in 1976 underutilized species, and the displacement of directed foreign fishing effort in the EEZ.

As a result of the above, there has been very little total allowable level of foreign fishing (TALFF) issued since 1991. NMFS continues to maintain certain regulations pertaining to foreign fishing should there be a situation in the future in which allowing limited foreign fishing in an underutilized fishery would be of advantage to the U.S. fishing industry.

FMPs and PMPs

Under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, eight Regional Fishery Management Councils are charged with preparing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) for the fisheries needing management within their areas of authority. After the Councils prepare FMPs that cover domestic and foreign fishing efforts, the FMPs are submitted to the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) for approval and implementation. The Department, through NMFS agents and the U.S. Coast Guard, is responsible for enforcing the law and regulations.

The Secretary is empowered to prepare FMPs in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico for highly migratory species. Where no FMP exists, Preliminary Fishery Management Plans (PMPs), which only cover foreign fishing efforts, are prepared by the Secretary for each fishery for which a foreign nation requests a permit. The Secretary is also empowered to produce an FMP for any fishery that a Council has not duly produced. In this latter case, the Secretary’s FMP covers domestic and foreign fishing.

The Atlantic swordfish, Atlantic sharks, and Atlantic billfish fisheries are currently being managed by the Secretary under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and the Western Atlantic bluefin tuna fishery is managed under the Magnuson-Stevens Act and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act.

Under section 304 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, all Council-prepared FMPs must be reviewed for approval by the Secretary of Commerce. Approved FMPs are implemented by Federal regulations under section 305 of the Act. As of December 31, 2004, there are 48 FMPs in effect. Of these, two are Secretarial FMPs for Atlantic highly migratory species. The FMPs are listed below, under the responsible Council. FMPs may be amended by the Council and the amendments are submitted for approval under the same Secretarial review process as new FMPs. Most of the FMPs have been amended since initial implementation, and the number of amendments is shown with each plan.
The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

Pacific Fishery Management Council
1. Pacific Coast Groundfish FMP – 17 amendments
2. Pacific Salmon FMP – 14 amendments
3. Coastal Pelagic Species FMP – 10 amendments
4. West Coast Highly Migratory Species FMP

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council
1. Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish FMP – 9 amendments
2. Pelagics FMP – 11 amendments
3. Precious Corals FMP – 6 amendments
4. Crustaceans FMP – 12 amendments
5. Coral Reef Ecosystems FMP

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
1. Spiny Dogfish FMP
2. Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass FMP – 13 amendments
3. Surf Clam and Ocean Quahog FMP – 13 amendments
4. Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish FMP – 8 amendments
5. Atlantic Bluefish FMP – 1 amendment
6. Golden Tilefish FMP

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
1. Pelagic Sargassum Habitat of the South Atlantic Region FMP
2. Snapper Grouper FMP – 15 amendments
3. Dolphin and Wahoo FMP
4. Shrimp FMP – 6 amendments
5. Atlantic Coast Red Drum FMP – 1 amendment
6. Golden Crab FMP – 2 amendments
7. Red Drum FMP
8. Coral, Coral Reefs & Live Hard Bottom FMP of South Atlantic

Caribbean Fishery Management Council
1. Spiny Lobster FMP – 1 amendment
2. Corals and Reef-Associated Plants and Invertebrates FMP – 1 amendment
3. Queen Conch FMP
4. Shallow Water Reef Fish FMP – 2 amendments

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council
1. Coastal Pelagics FMP (joint w/ S.Atl.) – 14 amendments
2. Spiny Lobster FMP – 7 amendments

New England Fishery Management Council
1. Northeast Multispecies FMP – 13 amendments
2. Northeastern Skate FMP
3. Deep Sea Red Crab FMP
4. Atlantic Herring FMP
5. Atlantic Sea Scallop FMP – 10 amendments
6. Monkfish FMP
7. Atlantic Salmon FMP – 1 amendment

North Pacific Fishery Management Council
1. Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish FMP – 65 amendments
2. Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP – 55 amendments
3. Bearing Sea/Aleutian Islands King and Tanner Crab FMP – 15 amendments
4. Salmon FMP – 6 amendments
5. Alaska Scallop FMP – 7 amendments

Highly Migratory Species Plans
1. FMP for Atlantic Tunas, Swordfish, and Sharks – 1 amendment
2. Atlantic Billfish FMP – 1 amendment
### REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council</th>
<th>Constituent States</th>
<th>Telephone Number</th>
<th>Executive Directors and Addresses</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MID-ATLANTIC</td>
<td>(New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina)</td>
<td>302-674-2331 FAX: 674-5399</td>
<td>Daniel T. Furlong Federal Bldg., Rm. 2115 300 South New St. Dover, DE 19904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOUTH ATLANTIC</td>
<td>(North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida)</td>
<td>843-571-4366 FAX: 769-4520 Toll Free: 866-723-6210</td>
<td>Robert K. Mahood 1 Southpart Circle, Suite 306 Charleston, SC 29407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PACIFIC</td>
<td>(California, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho)</td>
<td>503-820-2280 FAX: 820-2299 Toll Free: 866-806-7204</td>
<td>Donald O. McIsaac 7700 NE Ambassador Place Suite 200 Portland, OR 97220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WESTERN PACIFIC</td>
<td>(Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands)</td>
<td>808-522-8220 FAX: 522-8226</td>
<td>Kitty M. Simonds 1164 Bishop St. Suite 1400 Honolulu, HI 96813</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

FINAL INITIAL ANNUAL SPECIFICATIONS AND RESEARCH SETASIDE (RSA), IN METRIC TONS (MT), ATLANTIC MARCKEREL, SQUID AND BUTTERFISH FOR THE FISHING YEAR JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2004

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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<td>Maximum OY</td>
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<td>Initial OY</td>
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<td>DAH</td>
<td>16,872.5</td>
<td>24,000</td>
<td>(3) 170,000</td>
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<td>DAP</td>
<td>16,872.5</td>
<td>24,000</td>
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<td>JVP</td>
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<td>TALFF</td>
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(1) Not applicable.
(2) Initial OY may be increased during the year but the total ABC will not exceed 347,000 mt.
(3) Includes 15,000 mt of Atlantic mackerel recreational allocation.
(4) JVP may be increased up to 20,000 mt at discretion of Regional Administrator.
(5) Excludes 127.5 mt for RSA.

Source: NMFS, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, F/SF and NMFS, Northeast Region, F/NER.
<table>
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**NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE**

1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring Metro Center #3 (SSMC #3)
Silver Spring, MD 20910

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>F</th>
<th>Assistant Administrator for Fisheries -- 301-713-2239</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>William T. Hogarth, Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs -- 301-713-2239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James W. Balsiger, Ph.D., Acting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations --</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Oliver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Director, Scientific Programs &amp; Chief Science Advisor -- 301-713-2239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steven A. Murawski, Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chief Information Officer --</td>
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<td>Larry Tyminski</td>
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<td>Natalie Huff</td>
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<td>F/IA</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Rebecca Lent, Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>F/IA1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Gordon Helm, Acting</td>
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<td>F/CS1</td>
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<td>Dale Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Richard Cano</td>
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<td>F/HC</td>
<td>Office of Habitat Conservation --</td>
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<td>Garry Mayer, Ph.D., Acting</td>
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<tr>
<td>F/HCx1</td>
<td>Chesapeake Bay Program Office</td>
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<td>Habitat Restoration Division</td>
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<td>Budget Execution Division</td>
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<td>Management and Administration Division</td>
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<td>Permits, Conservation and Education Division</td>
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<td>Endangered Species Division</td>
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<td>F/PR4</td>
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<td>Domestic Fisheries Division</td>
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<td>Regulatory Services Division</td>
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<td>Seafood Inspection Laboratory</td>
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<td>301-713-2334</td>
<td>State - Federal Fisheries Division</td>
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<td>F/ST1</td>
<td>301-713-2328</td>
<td>Fisheries Statistics Division</td>
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<td>F/ST4</td>
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<td>Assessment and Monitoring Division</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>F/ST7</td>
<td>301-713-2363</td>
<td>Marine Ecosystems Division</td>
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<td></td>
<td>202-482-7940</td>
<td>Stewart Harris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAF</td>
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<td>Office of Public Affairs - Fisheries --</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>301-713-2370</td>
<td>Connie Barclay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCF</td>
<td></td>
<td>Office of General Counsel - Fisheries --</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>301-713-2231</td>
<td>Samuel Rauch</td>
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## NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
### REGIONAL FACILITIES

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<th>TELEPHONE and FAX NUMBER</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>F/NER</strong> Northeast Region</td>
<td>One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930</td>
<td>978-281-9300 Fax-281-9371</td>
<td>Gloucester, MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F/NEC3</strong> Northeast Fisheries Science Center</td>
<td>166 Water St. - Rm. 312, Woods Hole, MA 02543</td>
<td>508-495-2233 Fax-548-2258</td>
<td>Woods Hole, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>F/NEC3</strong> Woods Hole Laboratory</td>
<td>166 Water St., Woods Hole, MA 02543</td>
<td>508-495-2000 Fax-495-2258</td>
<td>Woods Hole, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>F/NEC3</strong> Narragansett Laboratory</td>
<td>28 Tarzwell Drive, Narragansett, RI 02882</td>
<td>401-782-3200 Fax-782-3201</td>
<td>Narragansett, RI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F/NEC3</strong> Milford Laboratory</td>
<td>212 Rigers Ave., Milford, CT 06460</td>
<td>203-579-7000 Fax-579-7070</td>
<td>Milford, CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F/NEC3</strong> Sandy Hook Laboratory</td>
<td>Building 74, McGruder, Highlands, NJ 07732</td>
<td>732-872-3000 Fax-872-3088</td>
<td>Highlands, NJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F/NEC3</strong> Natl. Systematics Laboratory, MRC153</td>
<td>10th &amp; Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20560</td>
<td>202-357-2550 Fax-357-1896</td>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F/SER</strong> Southeast Region</td>
<td>263 13th Avenue, South St., St. Petersburg, FL 33701</td>
<td>727-824-5301 Fax-824-5300</td>
<td>St. Petersburg, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>F/SEC</strong> Southeast Fisheries Science Center</td>
<td>75 Virginia Beach Dr., Miami, FL 33149</td>
<td>305-361-4284 Fax-361-4219</td>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>F/SEC4</strong> Miami Laboratory</td>
<td>75 Virginia Beach Dr., Miami, FL 33149</td>
<td>305-361-4225 Fax-361-4499</td>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>F/SEC5</strong> Mississippi Laboratory</td>
<td>3209 Frederick St., P.O. Drawer 1207, Pascagoula, MS 39567</td>
<td>228-762-4591 Fax-769-9200</td>
<td>Pascagoula, MS</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>F/SEC6</strong> Panama City Laboratory</td>
<td>3500 Delwood Beach Rd., Panama City, FL 32408</td>
<td>850-234-6541 Fax-235-3559</td>
<td>Panama City, FL</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>F/SEC7</strong> Galveston Laboratory</td>
<td>4700 Avenue U, Galveston, TX 77551</td>
<td>409-766-3500 Fax-766-3508</td>
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## General Administrative Information

### NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

#### REGIONAL FACILITIES

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</table>
| F/SEC9            | Beaufort Laboratory  
101 Pivers Island Rd  
Beaufort, NC 28516 | 252-728-3595  
FAX-728-8784 | Beaufort, NC |
| F/NWR             | Northwest Region  
7600 Sand Point Way, N.E., Bldg. 1  
Seattle, WA 98115 | 206-526-6150  
FAX-526-6426 | Seattle, WA |
| F/NWC             | Northwest Fisheries Science Center  
West Bldg. - Rm. 363  
2725 Montlake Boulevard, East  
Seattle, WA 98112 | 206-860-3200  
FAX-860-3217 | Seattle, WA |
| F/SW              | Southwest Region  
501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200  
Long Beach, CA 90802 | 562-980-4000  
FAX-980-4018 | Long Beach, CA |
| F/SWC             | Southwest Fisheries Science Center  
8604 La Jolla Shores Dr.  
P.O. Box 271  
La Jolla, CA 92038 | 858-546-7000  
FAX-546-5655 | La Jolla, CA |
| F/SWC3            | Santa Cruz / Tiburon Laboratory  
110 Shaffer Rd.  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060 | 415-435-3149  
FAX-435-3675 | Santa Cruz, CA |
| F/SWC4            | Pacific Fisheries Environmental Group  
1352 Lighthouse Ave.  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950 | 408-648-8515  
FAX-648-8440 | Pacific Grove, CA |
| F/AKR             | Alaska Region  
709 West 9th Street, Room 453  
P.O. Box 21668  
Juneau, AK 99802 | 907-586-7221  
FAX-586-7249 | Juneau, AK |
| F/AKC             | Alaska Fisheries Science Center,  
7600 Sand Point Way, N.E.  
P.O. Box C15700 - Bldg. #4 - Rm. 2149  
Seattle, WA 98115 | 206-526-4000  
FAX-526-4004 | Seattle, WA |
|                  | Kodiak Laboratory  
301 Research Court  
Kodiak, AK 99615 | 907-481-1700  
FAX-481-1701 | Kodiak, AK |
| F/AKC4            | Auke Bay Laboratory  
11305 Glacier Highway  
Auke Bay, AK 99801 | 907-789-6000  
FAX-789-6094 | Auke Bay, AK |
| F/PIR             | Pacific Islands Region  
1601 Kapiolani Blvd., Rm. 1110  
Honolulu, HI 96814 | 808-973-2937  
FAX-973-2941 | Honolulu, HI |
| F/PIC             | Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center  
2570 Dole Street, Rm. 106  
Honolulu, HI 96822 | 808-983-5300  
FAX-983-2902 | Honolulu, HI |
### NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
#### NATIONAL FISHERY STATISTICS OFFICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY</th>
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<td><strong>NEW ENGLAND</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(2) Portland</td>
<td>207-780-3322</td>
<td>Scott McNamara / Steve Link, Marine Trade Center,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Suite 212, Two Portland Fish Pier, Portland, ME 04101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>617-223-8018</td>
<td>Jack French, Boston Market News, 408 Atlantic Ave., Rm. 141,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Boston, MA 02210</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) Gloucester</td>
<td>978-281-9304</td>
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<td>FAX:281-9161</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Don Mason, 11-15 Parker St., Fish Pier,</td>
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<td>978-281-9263</td>
<td>Cabel Gilbert, Address and Fax same as above.</td>
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<td>401-783-7797</td>
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<td>Robert Santangello, New York Market News, 201 Varick St.,</td>
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<td>631-475-6988</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(Continued)
# National Marine Fisheries Service

## National Fishery Statistics Offices

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<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Name and Address</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Port Isabel</td>
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<td>Freeport</td>
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(1) Regional or area headquarters for statistics offices.
(2) State partner coordinator.
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The Office of Sea Grant is a major program element of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The National Sea Grant College Program is funded jointly by the Federal Government and colleges or universities. Sea Grant's Extension Program offers a broad range of information concerning the Nation’s fisheries to recreational and commercial fishermen, fish processors, and others. The following program leaders, listed alphabetically by State, can provide information on Sea Grant activities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Extension Leader 1</th>
<th>Extension Leader 2</th>
<th>Extension Leader 3</th>
</tr>
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<td>California</td>
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<td>Illinois</td>
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ANADROMOUS SPECIES. These are species of fish that mature in the ocean, and then ascend streams to spawn in freshwater. In the Magnuson Act, these species include, but are not limited to, Atlantic and Pacific salmons, steelhead trout, and striped bass. See 42 FR 60682, Nov. 28, 1977.

ANALOG PRODUCTS. These include imitation and simulated crab, lobster, shrimp, scallops, and other fish and shellfish products fabricated from processed fish meat (such as surimi).

AQUACULTURE. The farming of aquatic organisms in marine, brackish or fresh water. Farming implies private or corporate ownership of the organism and enhancement of production by stocking, feeding, providing protection from predators, or other management measures. Aquaculture production is reported as the weight and value of cultured organisms at their point of final sale.

BATTER-COATED FISH PRODUCTS. Sticks and portions or other forms of fish or shellfish coated with a batter containing a leavening agent and mixture of cereal products, flavoring, and other ingredients, and partially cooked in hot oil a short time to expand and set the batter.

BOAT, OTHER. Commercial fishing craft not powered by a motor, e.g., rowboat or sailboat, having a capacity of less than 5 net tons. See motorboat.

BREADED FISH PRODUCTS. Sticks and portions or other forms of fish or shellfish coated with a non-leavened mixture containing cereal products, flavorings, and other ingredients. Breaded products are sold raw or partially cooked.

BREADED SHRIMP. Peeled shrimp coated with breading. The product may be identified as fantail (butterfly) and round, with or without tail fins and last shell segment; also known as portions, sticks, steaks, etc., when prepared from a composite unit of two or more shrimp pieces whole shrimp or a combination of both without fins or shells.

BUTTERFLY FILLET. Two skin-on fillets of a fish joined together by the belly skin. See fillets.

CANNED FISHERY PRODUCTS. Fish, shellfish, or other aquatic animals packed in cans, or other containers, which are hermetically sealed and heat-sterilized. Canned fishery products may include milk, vegetables, or other products. Most, but not all, canned fishery products can be stored at room temperature for an indefinite time without spoiling.

COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN. An individual who derives income from catching and selling living resources taken from inland or marine waters.

CONSUMPTION OF EDIBLE FISHERY PRODUCTS. Estimated amount of commercially landed fish, shellfish, and other aquatic animals consumed by the civilian population of the United States. Estimates are on an edible-weight basis and have been adjusted for beginning and ending inventories of edible fishery products. Consumption includes U.S. production of fishery products from both domestically caught and imported fish, shellfish, other edible aquatic plants, animals, and imported products and excludes exports and purchases by the U.S. Armed Forces.

CONTINENTAL SHELF FISHERY RESOURCES. These are living organisms of any sedentary species that at the harvestable stage are either (a) immobile on or under the seabed, (b) unable to move except in constant physical contact with the seabed or subsoil of the continental shelf. The Magnuson Act now lists them as certain abalones, surf clam and ocean quahog, queen conch, Atlantic deep-sea red crab, dungeness crab, stone crab, king crabs, snow (tanner) crabs, American lobster, certain corals, and sponges.

CURED FISHERY PRODUCTS. Preserved by drying, pickling, salting, or smoking; not including canned, frozen, irradiated, or pasteurized products. Dried products are cured by sun or air-drying; pickled or salted products are those products preserved by applying salt, or by pickling (immersing in brine or in a vinegar or other preservative solution); smoked products are cured with smoke or a combination of smoking and drying or salting.

DEFLATED VALUE. The deflated values referred to in this document are calculated with the Gross Domestic Products Implicit Price Deflator. The base year for this index is 1987.

EDIBLE WEIGHT. The weight of a seafood item exclusive of bones, offal, etc.

EEZ. See U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone.

EL NINO. This anomalous ocean warming of the eastern Equatorial Pacific occurs at time intervals varying from 2-10 years. El Nino conditions result in an accu-
mulation of warm water off South America which reduced the upwelling of nutrient-rich water necessary to support fisheries production. These conditions extended northward to the U.S. Pacific Coast. In addition to affecting the food available for fish, El Nino appears to alter the normal ranges, distributions, and migrations of fish populations.

EUROPEAN UNION. Austria, Belgium and Luxembourg, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, Greece, France, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and United Kingdom.

EXPORT VALUE. The value reported is generally equivalent to f.a.s. (free alongside ship) value at the U.S. port of export, based on the transaction price, including inland freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in placing the merchandise alongside the carrier at the U.S. port of exportation. The value excludes the cost of loading, freight, insurance, and other charges or transportation cost beyond the port of exportation.

EXPORT WEIGHT. The weight of individual products as exported, i.e., fillets, steaks, whole, breaded, etc. Includes both domestic and foreign re-exports data.

EXVESSEL PRICE. Price received by the harvester for fish, shellfish, and other aquatic plants and animals.

FISH BLOCKS. Regular fish blocks are frozen blocks or slabs of fillets or pieces of fillets cut or sliced from fish. Minced fish blocks are frozen blocks or slabs of minced flesh produced by a meat and bone separating machine.

FISH FILLETS. The sides of fish that are either skinned or have the skin on, cut lengthwise from the backbone. Most types of fillets are boneless or virtually boneless; some may be labeled as “boneless fillets.”

FISH MEAL. A high-protein animal feed supplement made by cooking, pressing, drying, and grinding fish or shellfish.

FISH OIL. An oil extracted from body (body oil) or liver (liver oil) of fish and marine mammals; mostly a byproduct of fish meal production.

FISH PORTION. A piece of fish flesh that is generally of uniform size with thickness of 3/8 of an inch or more and differs from a fish stick in being wider or of a different shape. A fish portion is generally cut from a fish block.

FISH SOLUBLES. A water-soluble protein byproduct of fish meal production. Fish solubles are generally condensed to 50 percent solids and marketed as “condensed fish solubles.”

FISH STEAK. A cross-section slice cut from a large dressed fish. A steak is usually about 3/4 of an inch thick.

FISH STICK. An elongated piece of breaded fish flesh weighing not less than 3/4 of an ounce and not more than 1-1/2 ounces with the largest dimension at least three times that of the next largest dimension. A fish stick is generally cut from a fish block.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN (FMP). A plan developed by a Regional Fishery Management Council, or the Secretary of Commerce under certain circumstances, to manage a fishery resource in the U.S. EEZ pursuant to the MFCMA (Magnuson Act).

FISHING CRAFT, COMMERCIAL. Boats and vessels engaged in capturing fish, shellfish, and other aquatic plants and animals for sale.

FULL-TIME COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN. An individual who receives more than 50 percent of his or her annual income from commercial fishing activities, including port activity, such as vessel repair and re-rigging.

GROUNDFISH. Broadly, fish that are caught on or near the sea floor. The term includes a wide variety of bottom fishes, rockfishes, and flatfishes. However, NMFS sometimes uses the term in a narrower sense. In “Fisheries of the United States,” the term applies to the following species—Atlantic and Pacific: cod, hake, ocean perch, and pollock; cusk; and haddock.

IMPORT VALUE. Value of imports as appraised by the U.S. Customs Service according to the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended. It may be based on foreign market value, constructed value, American selling price, etc. It generally represents a value in a foreign country, and therefore excludes U.S. import duties, freight, insurance, and other charges incurred in bringing the merchandise to the United States.

IMPORT WEIGHT. The weights of individual products as received, i.e., fillets, steaks, whole, headed, etc.

INDUSTRIAL FISHERY PRODUCTS. Items processed from fish, shellfish, or other aquatic plants and animals that are not consumed directly by humans. These items contain products from seaweeds, fish meal, fish oils, fish solubles, pearl essence, shark and other aquatic animal skins, and shells.
INTERNAL WATER PROCESSING (IWPs). An operation in which a foreign vessel is authorized by the governor of a state to receive and process fish in the internal waters of a state. The Magnuson Act refers to internal waters as all waters within the boundaries of a state except those seaward of the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured.

JOINT VENTURE. An operation authorized under the MFCMA (Magnuson Act) in which a foreign vessel is authorized to receive fish from U.S. fishermen in the U.S. EEZ. The fish received from the U.S. vessel are part of the U.S. harvest.

LANDINGS, COMMERCIAL. Quantities of fish, shellfish, and other aquatic plants and animals brought ashore and sold. Landings of fish may be in terms of round (live) weight or dressed weight. Landings of crustaceans are generally on a live-weight basis except for shrimp which may be on a heads-on or heads-off basis. Mollusks are generally landed with the shell on, but for some species only the meats are landed, such as sea scallops. Data for all mollusks are published on a meat-weight basis.

MAGNUSON- STEVENS FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT, Public Law 94-265, as amended. The Magnuson-Stevens Act provides a national program for the conservation and management of fisheries to allow for an optimum yield (OY) on a continuing basis and to realize the full potential of the Nation’s fishery resources. It established the U.S. Exclusive Economics Zone (EEZ) (formerly the FCZ - Fishery Conservation Zone) and a means to control foreign and certain domestic fisheries through PMPs and FMPs. Within the U.S. EEZ, the United States has exclusive management authority over fish (meaning finfish, mollusks, crustaceans, and all other forms of marine animal and plant life other than marine mammals, birds, and highly migratory species of tuna). The Magnuson Act provides further exclusive management authority beyond the U.S. EEZ for all continental shelf fishery resources and all anadromous species throughout the migratory range of each such species, except during the time they are found within any foreign nation’s territorial sea or fishery conservation zone (or the equivalent), to the extent that such a sea or zone is recognized by the United States.

MARINE RECREATIONAL CATCH. Quantities of finfish, shellfish, and other living aquatic organisms caught, but not necessarily brought ashore, by marine recreational fisherman.

MARINE RECREATIONAL FISHERMEN. Those people who fish in marine waters primarily for recreational purposes. Their catch is primarily for home consumption, although occasionally a part or all of their catch may be sold and enter commercial channels. This definition is used in the NMFS Marine Recreational Fishery Statistics Survey, and is not intended to represent a NMFS policy on the sale of angler-caught fish.

MAXIMUM SUSTAINABLE YIELD (MSY). MSY from a fishery is the largest annual catch or yield in terms of weight of fish caught by both commercial and recreational fishermen that can be taken continuously from a stock under existing environmental conditions. A determination of MSY, which should be an estimate based upon the best scientific information available, is a biological measure necessary in the development of optimum yield.

METRIC TONS. A measure of weight equal to 1,000 kilograms, 0.984 long tons, 1.1023 short tons, or 2,204.6 pounds.

MOTORBOAT. A motor-driven commercial fishing craft having a capacity of less than 5 net tons, or not officially documented by the Coast Guard. See “boat, other”.

NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ORGANIZATION (NAFO). This convention, entered into force January 1, 1979, replaces ICNAF. NAFO provides a forum for continued multilateral scientific research and investigation of fishery resources that occur beyond the limits of coastal nations’ fishery jurisdiction in the northwest Atlantic, and will ensure consistency between NAFO management measures in this area and those adopted by the coastal nations within the limits of their fishery jurisdiction.

OPTIMUM YIELD (OY). In the MFCMA (Magnuson Act), OY with respect to the yield from a fishery, is the amount of fish that (1) will provide the greatest overall benefit to the United States, with particular reference to food production and recreational opportunities; and (2) is prescribed as such on the basis of maximum sustainable yield from such fishery, as modified by any relevant ecological, economic, or social factors.
PART-TIME COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN. An individual who receives less than 50 percent of his or her annual income from commercial fishing activities.

PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION. Consumption of edible fishery products in the United States divided by the total civilian population. In calculating annual per capita consumption, estimates of the civilian resident population of the United States on July 1 of each year are used. These estimates are taken from current population reports, series P-25, published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

PER CAPITA USE. The use of all fishery products, both edible and nonedible, in the United States divided by the total population of the United States.

PRELIMINARY FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN (PMP). The Secretary of Commerce prepares a PMP whenever a foreign nation with which the United States has made a Governing International Fishery Agreement (GIFA) submits an application to fish in a fishery not managed by an FMP. A PMP is replaced by an FMP as soon as the latter is implemented. A PMP applies only to foreign fishing.

RE-EXPORTS. Re-exports are commodities which have entered the U.S. as imports and are subsequently exported in substantially the same condition as when originally imported.

RETAIL PRICE. The price of fish and shellfish sold to the final consumer by food stores and other retail outlets.

ROUND (LIVE) WEIGHT. The weight of fish, shellfish, or other aquatic plants and animals as taken from the water; the complete or full weight as caught. The tables on world catch found in this publication include, in the case of mollusks, the weight of both the shells and the meats, whereas the tables on U.S. landings include only the weight of the meats.

SURIMI. Minced fish meat (usually Alaska pollock) which has been washed to remove fat and undesirable matters (such as blood, pigments, and odorous substances), and mixed with cryoprotectants, such as sugar and/or sorbitol, for a good frozen shelf life.

TOTAL ALLOWABLE LEVEL OF FOREIGN FISHING (TALFF). The TALFF, if any, with respect to any fishery subject to the exclusive fishery management authority of the United States, is that portion of the optimum yield of such fishery which will not be harvested by vessels of the United States, as determined by provisions of the MFCMA.

U.S. EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE (EEZ). The MSFCMA (Magnuson-Stevens Act) defines this zone as contiguous to the territorial sea of the United States and extending seaward 200 nautical miles measured from the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured. This was formerly referred to as the FCZ (Fishery Conservation Zone).

U.S.-FLAG VESSEL LANDINGS. Includes landings by all U.S. fishing vessels regardless of where landed as opposed to landings at ports in the 50 United States. These include landings at foreign ports, U.S. territories, and foreign vessels in the U.S. FCZ under joint venture agreements. U.S. law prohibits vessels constructed or registered in foreign countries to land fish catches at U.S. ports.

U.S. TERRITORIAL SEA. A zone extending 3 nautical miles from shore for all states except Texas and the Gulf Coast of Florida where the seaward boundary is 3 marine leagues (9 nautical miles).

USE OF FISHERY PRODUCTS. Estimated disappearance of the total supply of fishery products, both edible and nonedible, on a round-weight basis without considering beginning or ending stocks, exports, military purchases, or shipments to U.S. territories.

VESSEL. A commercial fishing craft having a capacity of 5 net tons or more. These craft are either enrolled or documented by the U.S. Coast Guard and have an official number assigned by that agency.

WHOLESALE FISH AND SHELLFISH PRICES. Those prices received at principal fishery markets by primary wholesalers (processors, importers, and brokers) for customary quantities, free on board (f.o.b.) warehouse.
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Federal Inspection Marks for Fishery Products

SEAFOOD INSPECTION PROGRAM. The U.S. Department of Commerce (USDC), National Marine Fisheries Service, a part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, conducts a voluntary seafood inspection program on a fee-for-service basis. A HACCP-based service is also available. Services provided by the program include vessel and plant sanitation, product inspection and grading, label reviews, product specification reviews, laboratory analyses, training, education and information. Inspection and certification services are available nationwide and in U.S. territories for all interested parties. Consultative services are provided in foreign countries. Inspection and certification services are also provided for imported and exported products. The USDC Seafood Inspection Program also provides HACCP training, plan development, implementation assistance, and verification service to industry (domestic and foreign) for the purpose of demonstrating compliance with FDA’s HACCP rule (21 CFR Parts 123 and 1240) regarding “Procedures for the Safe and Sanitary Processing and Importing of Fish and Fishery Products” which was implemented December 18, 1997.

USERS OF INSPECTION SERVICES. The users of the voluntary seafood inspection service include vessel owners, processors, distributors, brokers, retailers, food service operators, exporters, importers, and those who have a financial interest in buying and selling seafood products. The U.S. Department of Agriculture recommends that USDC inspected products be purchased for its food feeding programs. The USDC PARTICIPANTS LIST FOR FIRMS, FACILITIES AND PRODUCTS, published bi-annually, provides a listing of products and participants who contract with USDC.

USDC INSPECTION MARKS. These marks designate the level and the type of inspection performed by the federal inspector. The marks can be used in advertising and labeling under the guidelines provided by the Seafood Inspection Program and in accordance with federal and state regulations regarding advertising and labeling. Products bearing the USDC official marks have been certified as being safe, wholesome, and properly labeled.

“US GRADE A” MARK. The U.S. GRADE A mark signifies that a product has been processed under federal inspection in an approved facility and meets the established level of quality of an existing U.S. grade standard. The U.S. Grade A mark indicates that the product is of high quality, uniform in size, practically free from blemishes and defects, in excellent condition and possessing good flavor and odor.

“PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION” MARK. The PUFI mark or statement signifies that the product is certified to be safe, wholesome and properly labeled, conforms to quality and other criteria in the approved specification, and has been officially inspected in a USDC sanitarily approved facility under Federal inspection.

“LOT INSPECTED” MARK. The USDC Lot Inspected mark identifies products that were officially sampled and inspected to conform to an approved specification or criteria. This mark may be used on retail packages and packaging provided the label and specification are approved.

“RETAIL” MARK. In response to requests made by industry, a new mark has been created for retail or food service establishments. Participants qualify for use of the “Retail Mark” by receiving the USDC HACCP-based service or being under contract for sanitation services and associated product evaluation. Usage of such a mark will give the retail industry the opportunity to advertise on their banners, logos, or menus that their facility has been recognized by USDC for proper sanitation and handling of fishery products.

USDC HACCP MARK. The USDC HACCP-based service is available to all interested parties on a fee-for-service basis. Label approval, record keeping and analytical testing are program requirements. An industry USDC-certified employee trained in HACCP principles is also required for each facility/site in the program. Compliance ratings determine frequency of official visits. Benefits to participants include increased controls through a more scientific approach, use of established marks, increased efficiency of federal inspection personnel, and enhanced consumer confidence. The USDC has made available a HACCP mark and a “banner” to distinguish products that have been produced under the HACCP-based program. The HACCP banner must be used as an attachment to existing inspection grade marks. Establishments meeting HACCP program requirements may use these marks in conjunction with promotional material, packaging, point-of-sale notices, and menus.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
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Seafood Inspection Division - F/SI
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Silver Spring, MD 20910
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Toll Free: 1-800-422-2750
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U.S. GRADE A MARK
PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION MARK
LOT INSPECTED MARK
RETAIL MARK
USDC HACCP MARK