



National Marine Fisheries Service Announces the Availability of 2010 Vessel Permits for Atlantic Tunas and Atlantic HMS

This notice outlines the procedure for obtaining a 2010 open access Atlantic Tunas Permit, which allows you to commercially fish for and/or retain Atlantic bluefin, yellowfin, skipjack, albacore, and bigeye tunas; an Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Angling Permit, which allows you to recreationally fish for and/or retain any regulated Atlantic HMS (Atlantic tunas, sharks, swordfish, or billfish); or an HMS Charter/Headboat Permit, which is required by vessels taking fee paying passengers fishing for or retaining HMS.

The permits issued for the 2010 season will be valid from the date of issuance through December 31, 2010. The permit fee is \$20.00, payable by credit card (Visa, Master Card, Discover, or American Express) or check/money order.

Renew by:	How:	Receive permit by:
Internet	Go to www.hmspermits.gov	Print your permit off the website, fax, Priority Mail, or regular mail
Telephone	Dial (888) 872-8862 (toll-free)	Fax, Priority Mail, or regular mail*
Mail	Request renewal package by calling (888) 872-8862 or print the forms available at www.hmspermits.gov	Fax, Priority Mail, or regular mail *

* As an alternative, you may print your permit off the website once it has been processed (about 3 business days after your phone renewal or your complete application, including payment, has been received)

You will need your Atlantic tunas or your Atlantic HMS permit number to renew your permit. If your permit number from last year is not available, you may look it up at www.hmspermits.gov using your last name, phone number, and zip code, or a Customer Service representative may assist at the number below. Please check your current permit information carefully prior to renewing your permit.

Please Note: Changes to your permit category may be made under the following circumstances:

- a) When you renew the permit for the upcoming season;**
- b) Within 10-calendar days from the permits' date of issuance, to correct any errors in permit category.**

If you have questions regarding the permit process, our Customer Service representatives are available at (888) 872-8862, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Time.

for Emily Menachis
 Alan Risenhoover
 Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

NOV 20 2009
 Date

SIGN UP FOR ATLANTIC HMS NEWS
 -- An electronic newsletter informing you of the latest HMS-related actions --
<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/newslist/>

