



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910

NMFS Reminds Atlantic Tuna Longline Permit Holders of an Administrative Change to Permit Issuance

- SECOND NOTICE -

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) reminds Atlantic Tuna Longline permit holders of an important change that will soon be occurring regarding the issuance of Atlantic Tunas Longline permits.

Beginning in 2010, the Atlantic Tunas Longline permit will be issued by the Southeast Regional Office (SERO) in St. Petersburg, FL, and not from the www.hmspermits.gov website or telephone number. The purpose of this change is to make the renewal and issuance procedures consistent between Atlantic Tunas Longline permits and limited access permits for swordfish and shark, and more efficient for NMFS to administer.

This change only affects the Atlantic Tunas Longline permit. All other Atlantic Tunas permits, the HMS Angling permit, and the HMS Charter/Headboat permit will continue to be issued through the website.

If you are currently issued, or are eligible for, a valid Atlantic Tunas Longline permit, and are also currently issued other valid permit(s) from the SERO permits office, you may not need to take any action regarding this change. Your 2010 Atlantic Tunas Longline permit will automatically be issued and mailed to the business name and address that are currently on file for your other permit(s) issued by SERO permits office. If, however, the business name and address on file with the SERO permits office are not accurate, you will need to correct the information as soon as possible by informing NMFS in writing of any required changes. The SERO permits office mailing address is:

National Marine Fisheries Service
Southeast Regional Office, Permit Office
263 13th Ave South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

To facilitate this information update, you should submit a "Change of Information Form for Federal Fisheries Permits." This form is available online at http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/permits/forms/Change_of_Address.pdf. Please be aware, if your swordfish and/or shark permits have expired and you are eligible to renew them, you are encouraged to renew those permits as soon as possible.



If you are currently issued an Atlantic Tunas Longline permit, but are not issued any other valid permits from the SERO permits office, the 2010 Atlantic Tunas Longline permit will automatically be issued and mailed to the business name and address that is currently listed on your Atlantic Tunas Longline permit.

If your vessel's Atlantic Tunas Longline permit has expired, any applications to renew the permit submitted after December 31, 2009, should be sent to the NMFS SERO permits office at the address above.

NMFS will mail the 2010 Atlantic Tunas Longline permits to eligible vessel owners in November and December of 2009. The expiration date on the 2010 Atlantic Tunas Longline permit will be the same as the expiration date listed on your associated limited access swordfish and shark permits. All subsequent renewals of your Atlantic Tunas Longline permit will be on the same cycle, and will follow the same procedures, as your associated commercial limited access swordfish and shark permits.

If you need additional information regarding your Atlantic Tunas Longline permit, please contact Brad McHale at (978) 281-9260. For all other questions regarding this administrative change, please contact Randy Blankinship or Rick Pearson at (727) 824-5399.



Alan D. Risenhoover,
Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

AUG 31 2009

Date

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