

2000 REPORT ON APPORTIONMENT OF MEMBERSHIP ON
THE REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCILS (RFMCs)

PURSUANT TO SECTION 302(b)(2)(B) OF THE
MAGNUSON-STEVENSON FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT

PREPARED BY

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

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A. Background

Section 302(b)(2)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) requires the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) to report annually to Congress on the achievement of a "fair and balanced apportionment," on a rotating or other basis, of the active participants (or their representatives) in the commercial and recreational fisheries under the jurisdiction of each Regional Fishery Management Council (RFMC). This is the ninth Report related to the status of such apportionments.¹ In addition to assessing the annual apportionment of RFMC memberships, this Report discusses significant fishery management issues and related actions either under development or pending in the future.

B. Fair and Balanced RFMC Membership

The consideration of balance and fairness between commercial and recreational fishing sectors has always been an important element in the Secretary's appointments. An equally important consideration however, is the stewardship responsibilities of RFMCs and the appointment of individuals who can work collectively with members to achieve the conservation standards under Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Successful nominees, therefore, are those who not only are qualified in accordance with the provisions located at 50 CFR 600.215, but will also best contribute to the stewardship of marine fishery resources.²

Generally, the most qualified nominees are those whose records indicate that they--

1. Have achieved a level of leadership in promoting stewardship of the marine fishery resources under the jurisdiction of the RFMCs to which they would be appointed; **and**
2. Participate in, or represent commercial fishermen participating in one or more commercial fisheries under the RFMCs' jurisdictions; or
3. Participate in, or represent recreational fishermen participating in one or more recreational fisheries under the RFMCs' jurisdictions; or

¹The initial report assessed the RFMC memberships in 1991 and 1992 and was submitted to Congress on September 1, 1992.

²The qualifications for appointment are derived from Section 302(b)(2)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act and are also included in regulations contained at 50 CFR 600.215.

4. Are otherwise knowledgeable and experienced in fisheries research, in academic endeavors directly related to the fisheries, in legal matters directly related to the fisheries, or in other fields concerning fisheries under the RFMCs' jurisdictions.

Standard for Apportionment

Before evaluating each RFMC with respect to fairness and balance, the Secretary must first have a standard for such judgments. Although clear as to intent, the amendments to the Sustainable Fisheries Act and their legislative history did not provide specific guidance for judging whether the Secretary's appointments result in "fair and balanced memberships." NOAA Fisheries has addressed the requirement by reasoning that, in the ideal case, voting members should be individuals with the prescribed qualifications related to commercial or to recreational fishing within the RFMC's area of jurisdiction, or individuals with qualifications in one of the "other" related fishing interest categories, who are personally committed to meet the RFMC's trusteeship responsibilities for the living marine resources. This continues to be the yardstick for judging whether an individual RFMC will fulfill its paramount mandate, the conservation of fisheries resources.

A controlling factor in meeting the standard will be cooperation of the governors of the constituent states in nominating qualified individuals who meet the standard.

Over the past decade, fishery management issues have become increasingly complex; therefore, RFMC members who possess the necessary background and abilities to address current issues are critical to the ultimate success of the RFMCs. A significant consideration in the appointment of members is their specific knowledge and experience of the management issues and fisheries in which each RFMC is expected to be involved. Also important is the level of nominees' participation in the fishery management process, and the support for the nominees by fishing sector and other individuals, largely through endorsement letters to the Secretary.

For the purposes of this Report, three general fishing interest sectors are discussed: the commercial fishing sector, the recreational fishing sector, and an "other" sector. The "other" sector is made up of appointed members with knowledge of, and experience in, biological, economic, or social sciences; environmental or ecological matters; consumer affairs; and associated fields.

Nominees may be categorized as participants in more than one of the three general fishing interest sectors. In these cases, the Agency's determination about a nominee's participation in the primary interest sectors is the result of the Agency's

interpretation of: (1) supporting background information provided by the affected governor, (2) background information provided by the nominee, reflecting the nominee's demonstrated principal participation, and (3) other supplemental information provided by reliable sources.

C. Apportionment of RFMC Membership

RFMC members are appointed from among qualified individuals nominated by the governors of the RFMCs' constituent states and, in the case of tribal representation on the Pacific Fishery Management Council, from among Indian representatives nominated by the appropriate Tribal Governments.

On July 5, 2000, the Deputy Secretary of Commerce announced the regular appointment or reappointment of 30 voting obligatory and at-large RFMC members whose 3-year terms, having commenced on August 11, 2000, will expire on August 10, 2003. In addition, two other members were appointed. William J. Brennan of Maine, was appointed to the new congressionally-mandated at-large seat on the New England Fishery Management Council (term expires August 10, 2003). James R. Lovgren of New Jersey was appointed to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council to complete the expiring term of Charles E. Bergmann who resigned in October 1999 from an at-large seat/New Jersey, on the Mid-Atlantic Council (term expires 8-10-01). Of the 32 members, appointed, 11 are from the commercial fishing sector; 12 are from the recreational fishing sector; and nine are from the "other" interest sector.

TABLE 1. Appointed RFMC Members Sorted Numerically by Fishing Sector Interests
(1998-2000)

		COMMERCIAL	RECREATIONAL	OTHER	TOTALS

NEFMC	1998	8	2	1	11
	1999	8	2	1	12 ³
	2000	8	2	2 ⁴	12
<hr/>					
MAFMC	1998	6	3	4	13
	1999	5	4	4	13
	2000	5	5	3	13
<hr/>					
SAFMC	1998	4	4	0	8
	1999	3	4	1	8
	2000	3	4	1	8
<hr/>					
CFMC	1998	2	1	1	4
	1999	2	1	1	4
	2000	1	1	2	4
<hr/>					
GMFMC	1998	5	5	1	11
	1999	5	6	0	11
	2000	4	7	0	11
<hr/>					
PFMC	1998	3	3	3	9
	1999	3	3	3	9
	2000	3	3	3 ⁵	9
<hr/>					
NPFMC	1998	6	0	1	7
	1999	6	0	1	7
	2000	4	1	2	7
<hr/>					
WPFMC	1998	3	3	2	8
	1999	4	3	1	8
	2000	4	3	1	8
<hr/>					
ALL	1998	37	21	13	71
RFMCs	1999	36	23	12	72 (See Footnote 3.)
	2000	32	26	14	72

Table 1 shows the distribution of appointed RFMC voting members by interest sector during 1998, 1999, and 2000, and also includes the new at-large seat on the NEFMC. In 2000, 44 percent of the appointed members are from the commercial fishing sector (32 members), 36 percent are from the recreational fishing sector (26 members), and 19 percent are from the "other" sector (14 members).

The commercial fishing sector continues to be the largest

³During 1999, Congress amended the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to add a new at-large seat to the NEFMC (Conference Report 106-398, October 19, 1999, Congressional Record - House H10291). Therefore, this total reflects the number of available seats on the NEFMC during 1999 (12), not the total number of fishing sector representatives (11). With the addition of the new at-large seat, the total number of voting members on the NEFMC increased by one, to 18, of which 12 of the members are appointed by the Secretary of Commerce (also see pages 10-11 of this Report).

⁴On July 5, 2000, William J. Brennan, a resident of Maine, was appointed to the new at-large seat on the NEFMC (see Footnote 3 of this Report). With the appointment of Mr. Brennan, the total number of members on the NEFMC representing the "other" sector, increased by one, to two (also see pages 10-11 of this Report).

⁵This total includes the Tribal representative, who, for the purposes of this table, is counted as a representative of the "other" sector (also see the PFMC membership table on page 22 of this Report).

component of RFMC representation because of the large number of members from that sector on the New England and North Pacific Councils, where commercial fishing dominates the fisheries.

Recreational fishing sector representation, however, has increased significantly in recent years, rising from 21 members in 1998 to the current total of 26. Significant gains in the Mid-Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Councils largely accounted for the total increase, although a recreational member was added for the first time in 2000 to the North Pacific Council. Representation from the "other" sector has remained relatively stable over the past three years.

Overall, representation between the commercial and recreational fishing sector is generally in balance on most Councils. Except for the New England and North Pacific Councils, noted earlier, only the Gulf of Mexico Council has a significant difference between the sectors (7 recreational and 4 commercial in 2000). This development was the result of one vacancy formerly held by a commercial representative being filled with a member from the recreational fishing sector.

Because of the limited number of RFMC seats, not all sectors and localities can be represented on each RFMC. In addition, the Secretary's appointments are constrained by the nominations submitted by the RFMC governors. Within these parameters, the Secretary endeavors to select appointees who possess the breadth of knowledge and experience to collectively provide a balance on each RFMC, and who pursue their RFMC roles as stewards and trustees of the living marine resources, rather than self-interests. To the extent practicable, the appointments also seek to rotate membership, thereby distributing participation among all sectors of the fisheries or, when warranted, retaining the benefits of members' backgrounds and experiences with specific actions. Adjustments to the distribution of representation on each RFMC also are made, where possible, to achieve a balance of interest sectors or needed experience to address changing agendas.

Where sector or gear components are not represented on A RFMC, membership on the various RFMC advisory panels and committees also is crucial to providing those sectors with representation during RFMC deliberations, as well as with a "voice" on specific issues of interest.

Women and Minority Representation

The terms for six women expired in 2000: Ms. Barbara Stevenson/New England Council; Dr. Nancy Targett/Mid-Atlantic Council; Ms. Belinda Flanigan/South Atlantic Council; Ms. Patricia Skov/Caribbean Council; Ms. H. Kay Williams/Gulf of Mexico Council; and Dr. Judith Guthertz/Western Pacific Council. Mes. Stevenson, Williams and Dr. Guthertz were reappointed. Dr. Targett and Ms. Flanigan were not renominated. Dr. Targett

was replaced by Mr. Dennis Spitsbergen, and Ms. Flanigan by Mr. Glenn Durden. Due to the term limitation requirement, Ms. Skov could not be renominated to a fourth consecutive term. Mr. Virdin Brown, replaced Ms. Skov on the Caribbean Council.

New female members on the RFMCs are: Ms. Laurie Nolan/Mid-Atlantic Council, who replaced Mr. Robert Hamilton; Ms. Karen Bell/Gulf of Mexico Council, who replaced Mr. Karl Lessard; and Ms. Bobbi Walker/Gulf of Mexico Council, who replaced Mr. Albert King, Sr. As a result of the 2000 appointment actions, the total number of appointed female members on the RFMCs is seven.

The RFMC governors will continue to be encouraged to nominate qualified female and minority candidates. Depending on future gubernatorial nominations which may be submitted, adjustments to the sector representations may continue to address changing management agendas.

D. RFMC Membership Vacancies During 2001

Table 2, page 9, lists the 19 RFMC members whose terms will expire on August 10, 2001. Table 3 (page 10) sorts the 19 members into the three general fishing sector categories.

The Magnuson-Stevens Act prohibits the reappointment of RFMC members to a fourth consecutive term. As a result, three of the 19 members, whose terms expire in 2001, will be ineligible for reappointment consideration. The members are Dr. James Gilford (at-large seat/Maryland) on the Mid-Atlantic Council; Joseph A. LaPlace (at-large seat/USVI) on the Caribbean Council, and Linda Behnken (Alaska's obligatory seat) on the North Pacific Council.

TABLE 2. RFMC MEMBERS' TERMS EXPIRING AUGUST 10, 2001

		OBLIGATORY MEMBERS		APPT. DATE	CONSEC. TERMS SERVED	AT-LARGE MEMBERS		APPT. DATE	CONSEC. TERMS SERVED
New England	NH: E. ANDERSON (C)	1995	2			W. AMARU/MA (C)	1995	2	
						J. O'MALLEY/RI (C)	1995	2	
Mid-Atlantic	DE: R. SMITH (O)	1998	1			J. GILFORD/MD (O)	1992	3*	
						J. LOVGREN/NJ (C)	2000	1 year	
						[vice: C. Bergmann as of 7/6/00]			
						W. WELLS III/VA (C)	1998	1	
So. Atlantic	NC: J. GAY (C)	1995	2	There are no 2001 at-large vacancies on the So. Atlantic Council.					
	SC: C. STONE (R)	1995	2						
Caribbean	There are no 2001 obligatory vacancies on the Caribbean Council.					J. LaPlace (C)	1992	3*	
Gulf of Mexico	TX: I. BASCO (R)	1995	2			A. JERNIGAN/FL (R)	1998	1	
	MS: R. HORN (C)	1998	1						
Pacific	ID: J. BARRACLOUGH (O)	1998	1			R. THOMAS/OR (R)	1998	1	
No. Pacific	WA: L. BEHNKEN (C)	1992	3*	There are no at-large seats on the North Pacific Council.					
	AK: K. O'LEARY (C)	1995	2						
W. Pacific	There are no 2001 obligatory vacancies on the Western Pacific Council.					F. McCOY, Sr./AS (C)	1998	1	
						T. WEBSTER/HI (C)	1995	2	
TOTAL					TOTAL				
09					10				

Fishing Sectors: C= commercial; R= recreational; "O"= other

*Members appointed after January 1, 1986 are ineligible, by law, for reappointment to a fourth consecutive term.

TABLE 3. OUTGOING 2001 RFMC MEMBERS GROUPED BY GENERAL FISHING SECTOR CATEGORIES

	COMMERCIAL	RECREATIONAL	OTHER	<u>TOTAL</u>
New England	W. AMARU E. ANDERSON J. O'MALLEY	None.	None.	3
Mid-Atlantic	J. LOVGREN W. WELLS III	None.	J. GILFORD R. SMITH	4
So. Atlantic	J. GAY	C. STONE	None.	2
Caribbean	J. LaPlace	None.	None.	1
Gulf of Mexico	R. HORN	I. BASCO A. JERNIGAN	None.	3
Pacific	None.	R. THOMAS	J. BARRACLOUGH	2
No. Pacific	L. BEHNKEN K. O'LEARY	None.	None.	2
W. Pacific	F. McCOY, Sr. T. WEBSTER	None.	None.	2
	TOTAL 12	TOTAL 4	TOTAL 03	19

Removal of Members

There are occasions, after the appointments have been made, when RFMC constituents have advised the Secretary of concerns about, or indicated disagreement with, some of the Secretarial appointment decisions. In some cases, constituents have called for the revocation of particular appointments. All such concerns are noted. However, in accordance with Section 302(b)(6) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act a) the Secretary may remove for cause any Secretarially-appointed RFMC member only when the RFMC concerned first recommends removal of that member by not less than two-thirds of the RFMC voting members, and the RFMC submits such removal recommendation to the Secretary in writing, together with a statement of the basis for the recommendation; or

b) after notice and an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with Section 554 of Title 5, United States Code, the member is found by the Secretary to have committed an act prohibited by Section 307(1)(O) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, which pertains to compliance with financial disclosure requirements, or if it has been determined that the RFMC member knowingly voted on a RFMC decision in violation of Section 302(j)(7)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

E. The Secretary's 2000 Appointments/2001 Report Recommendations

As a result of the annual appointments announced on July 5, 2000, 30 RFMC members were seated on August 11, 2000. Two separate appointments also were made during this period, on the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils, for a total of 32 appointment actions.

The following sections update RFMC appointment rosters; specify apportionment totals for commercial and recreational fishing sector representatives; discuss fishery management issues and challenges being addressed by each RFMC, and suggest Secretarial recommendations for future nomination and appointment considerations.

An overall perspective of fishing sector composition on each of the RFMCs for the past three years is on page 6, Table 1.

1. New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2000 for four NEFMC members. In addition, a new member, representing the "other" sector, was appointed to the new congressionally-mandated at-large seat on the NEFMC. The new composition of fishing sector representatives on the NEFMC is eight commercial, two recreational and two "other." At this time, the current geographical balances with regard to the distribution of at-large seats on the NEFMC remain unchanged. The new appointee and reappointees are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector	Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector
Francis E. Blount/recreational	Reappointment
D. Douglas Hopkins/"other"	Reappointment
James M. Kendall/commercial	Reappointment
Barbara D. Stevenson/commercial	Reappointment
William J. Brennan/"other"	Appointment (new at-large seat)

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the NEFMC:

COUNCIL: NEW ENGLAND FMC		2000		
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (12)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector
O	ANDERSON, ERIK S.	NH	2001	C
O	BLOUNT, FRANCIS W. JR.	RI	2003	R
O	HOPKINS, D. DOUGLAS	CT	2003	O
O	KENDALL, JAMES M.	MA	2003	C
O	STEVENSON, BARBARA D.	ME	2003	C
A	AMARU, WILLIAM H.	MA	2001	C
A	BRENNAN, WILLIAM J.	ME	2003	O
A	CALOMO, VITO J.	MA	2002	C
A	FERNANDES, ANTHONY III	NH	2002	C
A	HILL, THOMAS R.	MA	2002	R
A	O'MALLEY, JAMES D.	RI	2001	C
A	WILLIAMSON, JOHN C.	ME	2002	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2001:

1. Erik S. Anderson - commercial fishing sector -

New Hampshire's obligatory seat

2. William H. Amaru - commercial fishing sector -
at-large seat (Massachusetts)
3. James D. O'Malley - commercial fishing sector -
at-large seat (Rhode Island)

2001 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s) :

Because most of the stocks within the NEFMC's geographical area are primarily associated with commercial fisheries, a majority of the council members should continue to be from the commercial fishing sector. Emphasis, however, should continue to be focused on nominees with strong experience and interest in achieving the revised Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA) conservation and stewardship goals. No change is recommended in the Council voting membership in terms of the proportion of commercial to recreational fishery representatives. The three vacancies this year, therefore, should be appointed from the commercial fishing sector.

DISCUSSION:

The NEFMC is responsible for four existing FMPs (multispecies, sea scallop, Atlantic herring, and Atlantic salmon), and two species recently designated for management (skates, red crab). In addition, the NEFMC and MAFMC are jointly responsible for two FMPs that were implemented in the past year (spiny dogfish, monkfish). The NEFMC has the lead responsibility for the Monkfish FMP.

During 2000, the NEFMC developed framework actions related to reopening of closed areas on Georges Bank to limited scallop harvest, and framework actions for management of the 2000 fisheries for sea scallop and multispecies. Other framework actions were submitted by the Council and implemented by NMFS for hakes management and the protection of cod. With the exception of Atlantic salmon, these fisheries are primarily commercial, though the multispecies fishery also has an important recreational component. The salmon fishery is considered recreational, although fishing for Atlantic salmon currently is prohibited in the EEZ.

Council priorities for 2001 include a comprehensive review of the Monkfish FMP and adjustment of management measures, if necessary. Work will continue on development of an amendment to the NE Multispecies FMP to revise the rebuilding plans for various groundfish stocks. Work will continue on an amendment to the Scallop FMP to devise a rotational area harvest strategy. The Council also plans to develop a limited entry system for whiting, to recommend 2002 harvest specifications for herring, to address

EFH issues for groundfish, monkfish and scallops, and to develop FMPs for skates and red crab.

In related activities, Congress appropriated \$4 million dollars in 1999-2000 to be administered by NMFS for cooperative research, management, enforcement and stock assessment purposes in New England. It also directed the agency to collaborate with the Council and affected stakeholders to design and prioritize cooperative research programs, and to develop a long-term strategy to rebuild Northeast groundfish stocks. To that end, the Council's Research Steering Committee was asked to identify and prioritize areas of research as well as review and make recommendations on specific research proposals that focused on issues related to groundfish stocks. Ultimately, \$2,584,300 were allocated to cooperative research. The Research Steering Committee is planning similar collaborative research activities involving FY01 funds.

2. Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2000 for four MAFMC members. In addition, former at-large member Charles E. Bergmann, who was completing a term due to expire on August 10, 2001, resigned in October 1999. The new composition of fishing sector representatives on the MAFMC is five commercial, five recreational, and three "other." The appointments also changed the geographical balance regarding the distribution of available at-large seats on the MAFMC. An at-large seat formerly held by Dr. Nancy Targett of Delaware is now held by Mr. Dennis Spitsbergen of North Carolina. The new appointees and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Gary A. Caputi/recreational
Robert H. Pride III/recreational
Laurie A. Nolan/commercial

Reappointment
James E. Douglas, Jr./"other"
Robert Hamilton, Jr./
commercial

Dennis L. Spitsbergen/"other"

Nancy M. Targett/"other"
(declined renomination)

James R. Lovgren/commercial

Charles E. Bergmann/commercial
(resigned October 1999)

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the MAFMC:

COUNCIL: MID-ATLANTIC FMC		2000		
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (13)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector
O	CAPUTI, GARY A.	NJ	2003	R
O	DILERNIA, ANTHONY D.	NY	2002	R
O	MESUNAS, EDWARD	PA	2002	R
O	PRIDE, ROBERT H. III	VA	2003	R
O	RUHLE, JAMES A. SR.	NC	2002	C
O	SAVAGE, RICKS E	MD	2002	C
O	SMITH, RONAL W.	DE	2001	O
A	GILFORD, JAMES H.	MD	2001	O
A	LOVGREN, JAMES R.	NJ	2001	C
A	NOLAN, LAURIE A.	NY	2003	C
A	RHODES, ROBERT J.	NJ	2002	R
A	SPITSBERGEN, DENNIS L.	NC	2003	O
A	WELLS, WILLIAM S. III	VA	2001	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2001:

1. Ronal W. Smith - "other" sector
Delaware's obligatory seat
2. James H. Gilford - "other" sector
at-large seat (Maryland); by law, Dr. Gilford, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for reappointment to a fourth consecutive term.
3. James R. Lovgren - commercial fishing sector
at-large seat (New Jersey); Mr. Lovgren was appointed on 7/6/00, to complete the expiring term of Charles E. Bergmann, who resigned in October 1999.
4. Williams S. Wells III - commercial fishing sector
at-large seat (Virginia)

2001 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s):

Because many of the species managed by MAFMC have large recreational components, as well as commercial, it is important that the balance between these two sectors be maintained. No change is recommended in the Council voting membership in terms of the proportion of commercial to recreational fishery representatives. The two vacancies held by commercial sector representatives should, therefore, be filled from that sector, and the two vacancies held by "other" sector representatives should remain in that sector; alternatively, one seat should be filled with a commercial fishing sector representative, and the other with a recreational fishing sector representative.

DISCUSSION:

The MAFMC is responsible for five existing FMPs (summer flounder, scup and black sea bass; Atlantic mackerel, squid and butterfish; surf clam and ocean quahog; tilefish and bluefish). In addition, the NEFMC and MAFMC are jointly responsible for two FMPs (spiny dogfish and monkfish) that were implemented in the past year. The MAFMC has the lead responsibility for the spiny dogfish FMP.

During 2000, the MAFMC re-submitted the tilefish FMP for Secretarial review and worked on an amendment to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass FMP to redefine essential fish habitat (EFH) for these fisheries and a framework action to address conservation equivalency in the summer flounder recreational fishery. Also, substantial effort was devoted to preparation of proposed specifications for the 2001 fisheries for summer flounder, scup, black sea bass; surf clams, ocean quahogs; bluefish; and Atlantic mackerel, squids, and butterfish.

Council priorities for 2001 include developing amendments to the Surf Clam and Ocean Quahog FMP; the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid and Butterfish FMP; and the Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass FMPs to describe the effects of gear impacts on EFH. The Council will also develop an amendment to the Scup FMP to address the disapproval of the provisions in Amendment 12 that addressed rebuilding and bycatch. The Council will also consider amendments to the Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass FMP that would modify the method by which the allowed harvest level of scup is calculated, remedy the disapproval of the provisions in Amendment 12 that addressed scup rebuilding and scup bycatch, reconsider the management program for black sea bass, and reconsider the summer flounder overfishing definition and bycatch issues in the summer flounder fishery. The Council will work on an amendment to redefine the rebuilding plan for spiny dogfish, and will complete work on framework actions to extend the current limited access permit program for the Illex fishery, establish conservation equivalency for the summer flounder recreational fishery, and establish research quota set-aside authority in all FMPs except for the Surf Clam and Ocean Quahog FMP.

3. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2000 for four SAFMC members. The composition of fishing sector representatives on the SAFMC of three commercial, four recreational, and one "other" fishing sector representatives remain unchanged from 1999. The current geographical balances regarding the distribution of available at-large seats on the SAFMC also remain unchanged from 1999. The new appointees and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector	Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector
Glenn H. Durden/recreational	Belinda D. Flanigan/ recreational (not renominated)
Anthony L. Iarocci/commercial	Juan M. Sanchez/commercial (not renominated)
Clarence W. Lee/recreational	James S. Moffitt, Jr./recreational
Obadiah F. Love/commercial	Reappointment

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the SAFMC:

COUNCIL: SOUTH ATLANTIC FMC		2000		
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (8)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector
O	DURDEN, GLENN H.	GA	2003	R
O	GAY, JODIE E.	NC	2001	C
O	IAROCCI, ANTHONY L.	FL	2003	C
O	STONE, CHARLES W.	SC	2001	R
A	DEAN, JOHN M.	SC	2002	O
A	LEE, CLARENCE W.	NC	2003	R
A	LEMASTER, EDWARD B. III	FL	2002	R
A	LOVE, OBADIAH F., JR.	GA	2003	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2001:

1. Jodie E. Gay - commercial fishing sector - North Carolina's obligatory seat
2. Charles W. Stone - recreational fishing sector -

South Carolina's obligatory seat

2001 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s) :

One commercial fishing sector incumbent and one recreational fishing sector incumbent hold obligatory seats expiring in 2001. The currently appointed Council members represent as near a balance as possible of recreational/commercial/other sectors and is considered adequate to carry out scheduled FMP activities for 2001. It is recommended that upcoming appointments include at least one commercial fishing sector representative, and either a recreational fishing sector representative, or another commercial fishing sector representative.

DISCUSSION:

The SAFMC has prepared FMPs and amendments for the following fisheries or living marine resources in the South Atlantic EEZ: red drum; shrimp (penaeid and rock); coral, coral reef and live/hard bottom habitats; golden crab; and the snapper grouper species complex. The SAFMC and the GMFMC have prepared joint FMPs for spiny lobster and coastal migratory pelagic species (mackerel) of the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico.

During 2000, the SAFMC submitted to NMFS management actions limiting the harvest of the overfished red porgy resource to incidental catch levels; increasing the size of the Oculina Bank Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC), incorporating two adjacent areas within the Oculina Bank HAPC, and establishing fishing restrictions to protect habitat in these areas; establishing new special management zones (SMZs), modifying existing SMZ boundaries at artificial reef sites in the EEZ off Georgia and restricting fishing in these areas to rod and reel and spearfishing gear. Other actions included establishing a previously disapproved commercial trip limit for greater amberjack, increasing the total allowable catch (TAC) and commercial trip limit off southeast Florida for Atlantic group king mackerel, and increasing TAC, modifying commercial trip limits off Florida, and increasing the recreational bag limit for Atlantic group Spanish mackerel.

During 2001, the SAFMC will submit for Secretarial review and approval new FMPs for *Sargassum* Habitat, Calico scallops, and Dolphin-Wahoo (the latter in joint preparation with GMFMC and CFMC). Other expected actions include: Golden Crab Amendment 3 (modifications and improvements as proposed by the golden crab fishermen); Spiny Lobster Amendment 7 (tailing permits and the structure of the management system); Mackerel Amendment 13 (separate South Atlantic and Gulf FMPs, south Atlantic fishing year and changes to framework); Snapper Grouper Amendment 13 (permit transfers, SFA provisions and section 7 consultation); Amendment 14 (marine reserves); Shrimp Amendment 5 (rock shrimp controlled access system); Amendment 6 (permits, night time

closures and trawl size restrictions); and various framework adjustment actions for mackerel, snapper grouper, wreckfish and coral.

4. Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2000 for two CFMC members. The new composition of fishing sector representatives on the CFMC is one commercial, one recreational, and two "other. The current geographical balances regarding the distribution of available at-large seats on the CFMC remain unchanged from 1999. The new appointee and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

Viridin C. Brown/"other"

Patricia A. Skov/commercial
(ineligible, by law, for
renomination to a fourth
consecutive term)

Miguel A. Sanabria/recreational

Reappointment

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the CFMC:

COUNCIL: CARIBBEAN FMC		2000		
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (4)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector
O	BROWN, VIRDIN C.	VI	2003	O
O	COTTE-SANTANA, RICARDO	PR	2002	O
A	LaPLACE, JOSEPH A.	VI	2001	C
A	SANABRIA, MIGUEL A.	PR	2003	R

EXPIRING TERM:

The following member's term will expire on August 10, 2001:

1. Joseph A. LaPlace - commercial fishing sector - at-large seat (U.S. Virgin Islands); by law, Mr. LaPlace, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for reappointment to a fourth consecutive term.

2001 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s):

One commercial fishing sector incumbent holds an at-large seat

expiring in 2001. The currently appointed CFMC members appear to represent a balance of the recreational/commercial/other sectors that is adequate to carry out the scheduled FMP activities for 2001. The appointment of a commercial fishing sector representative, therefore, is recommended for the 2001 vacancy.

DISCUSSION:

For 2001, the CFMC expects to submit amendments to its four FMPs (Reef Fish FMP, Spiny Lobster FMP, Coral Reef Resources, and Queen Conch resources) to meet requirements of the SFA, that include overfishing definitions with status determination criteria for "overfishing" and "overfished", stock rebuilding for "overfished species", description of fishing communities, collection of fisheries data, and bycatch assessment and minimization. The CFMC also expects to submit an amendment to the Reef Fish FMP that would restrict the use of gillnets, fish traps and other gear. The CFMC may consider closed seasons for the spiny lobster fishery as a possible new amendment under its Spiny Lobster FMP. The CFMC also has asked for fishery management jurisdiction in EEZ waters surrounding the U.S. Territory of Navassa Island located between Haiti and Jamaica.

5. Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2000 for five GMFMC members. The new composition of fishing sector representatives on the GMFMC is four commercial and seven recreational. The current geographical balances regarding the distribution of available at-large seats on the GMFMC remain unchanged. The new appointees and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector	Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector
Karen L. J. Bell/commercial	Karl J. Lessard/commercial (not renominated)
Dan Dumont/recreational	Robert L. Shipp/recreational (ineligible, by law, for renomination to a fourth consecutive term)
Myron J. Fischer/recreational	Reappointment
Bobbi M. Walker/recreational	Albert L. King, Sr./commercial (ineligible, by law, for reappointment to a fourth consecutive term)

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the GMFMC:

COUNCIL: GULF OF MEXICO FMC		2000		
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (11)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector

O	BASCO, IRBY W.	TX	2001	R
O	BELL, KAREN L.J.	FL	2003	C
O	DUMONT, DAN	AL	2003	R
O	FISCHER, MYRON J.	LA	2003	R
O	HORN, RALPH D.	MS	2001	C
A	APARICIO, PETE V.	TX	2002	C
A	CLAVERIE, MAUMUS F.	LA	2002	R
A	JERNIGAN, ALEX M.	FL	2001	R
A	FENSOM, JAMES B.	FL	2002	R
A	WALKER, BOBBI M.	AL	2003	R
A	WILLIAMS, HAROLYN KAY	MS	2003	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2001:

1. Irby W. Basco - recreational fishing sector - Texas' obligatory seat
2. Ralph D. Horn - commercial fishing sector - Mississippi's obligatory seat
3. Alex M. Jernigan - recreational fishing sector - at-large seat (Florida)

2001 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s) :

There are a number of important conservation issues that will come before the Council in the next year or two. Current membership appears to include members with knowledge and experience for most fisheries that will be involved in upcoming management actions. However, sector representation is not in balance this year with 7 recreational fishing sector members and only 4 commercial fishing sector members. Of the three vacancies next year, it is recommended that 2 be appointed from the commercial fishing sector to bring the Council more into balance.

DISCUSSION:

The GMFMC has prepared FMPs and amendments for the following fisheries or living marine resources in the Gulf of Mexico EEZ: Reef fish resources; shrimp; coral and coral reefs; red drum; and stone crab. The GMFMC and SAFMC have prepared joint FMPs for the spiny lobster fishery and coastal migratory pelagic species (king and Spanish mackerel, dolphin, and cobia) of the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico.

During 2000, the GMFMC submitted to NMFS management actions including establishing a moratorium on gillnet endorsements,

restrictions on gillnet fishing areas, and reallocations between Florida east coast and west coast subzones for Gulf migratory group king mackerel; increasing Gulf group Spanish mackerel TAC and bag limits and setting a new fishing season for the Gulf group king mackerel gillnet fishery; extending the moratorium on issuance of commercial vessel permits for king mackerel through October 15, 2005; extending the commercial reef fish moratorium to December 31, 2005; and modifying the recreational and commercial red snapper fishing seasons, increasing the recreational minimum size limit, and reinstating a 4-fish recreational bag limit for captain/crew of for-hire vessels. Other actions included prohibiting the commercial harvest and sale/purchase of gag, black grouper, red grouper from February 15 to March 15 each year, establishing two marine reserves in the Gulf of Mexico closed to fishing year round (except fishing for Atlantic highly migratory species), and increasing the minimum size limits for gag and black grouper. At the request of the GMFMC, NMFS issued an emergency interim rule to prohibit use of trap gear in the royal red shrimp fishery within the EEZ in order to prevent gear conflicts. Also, during 2000, the GMFMC will submit a Generic Amendment addressing the establishment of the Tortugas Marine Reserves.

During 2001, the GMFMC expects to submit the following actions: an amendment that would address the need for improved conservation of grouper stocks including actions to reduce fishing mortality on overfished stocks of grouper; an amendment addressing permitting in the shrimp fishery in the EEZ and prohibiting traps in the royal red shrimp fishery; an amendment addressing the reduction of stone crab traps and adopting the relevant provisions of Florida's trap reduction program for the stone crab fishery in the EEZ off Florida's west coast; an amendment establishing a moratorium on the issuance of additional charter vessel permits in the reef fish and coastal migratory pelagic fisheries; a shrimp amendment addressing the reduction of shrimp trawl bycatch in the eastern Gulf of Mexico; a five-year restoration program for rebuilding the red snapper stock; a Dolphin/Wahoo FMP developed jointly with SAFMC and CFMC; and regulatory amendments specifying TAC for mackerels and reef fish.

6. Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2000 for five PFMC members. As a result of the 1999 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the PFMC remained unchanged from 1999 at three commercial, three recreational, two "other," and one tribal representatives. The current geographical balances regarding the distribution of available at-large seats on the PFMC also remain unchanged. The new appointee and reappointees are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector	Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector
James C. Caito/commercial	Reappointment
Hans D. Radtke/"other"	Reappointment
Robert D. Alverson/commercial	Reappointment
Donald K. Hansen/recreational	Robert C. Fletcher/recreational (ineligible, by law, for renomination to a fourth consecutive term)
James E. Harp	Reappointment (tribal seat)

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the PFMC:

COUNCIL: PACIFIC FMC		2000		
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (9)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector

O	BARRACLOUGH, JACK T.	ID	2001	O
O	CAITO, JAMES G.	CA	2003	C
O	LONE, JAMES H.	WA	2002	R
O	RADTKE, HANS D.	OR	2003	O
O	PFMC TRIBAL SEAT: HARP, JAMES E.	WA	2003	T* (*Tribal)
A	ALVERSON, ROBERT D.	WA	2003	C
A	BROWN, RALPH H.	OR	2002	C
A	HANSEN, DONALD K.	CA	2003	R
A	THOMAS, ROGER	CA	2001	R

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2001:

1. Jack T. Barraclough - "other" - Idaho's obligatory seat
2. Roger Thomas - recreational fishing sector - at-large seat (California)

2001 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s) :

Because the salmon, groundfish, halibut and highly migratory species fisheries have significant commercial and recreational components, it is important to maintain a balance of commercial and recreational interests on the PFMC. The groundfish fishery, that poses a great challenge in the near future and has the largest workload of any fishery managed by the PFMC, appears to be well covered with at least 4 members that are knowledgeable and experienced in this fishery. Salmon interests also appear to be well represented on the Council. In order to maintain a sector balance on the Council, a recreational fishing sector representative and an "other" sector representative should be appointed. It is further recommended that the recreational fishing sector vacancy be filled by a member from either Oregon or Idaho, to avoid duplicate recreational fishing sector representation from any one PFMC state.

DISCUSSION:

The PFMC has prepared FMPs for the Pacific Coast groundfish fishery, the West Coast salmon fisheries, and the coastal pelagic species fisheries, and is in the process of developing an FMP for highly migratory species fisheries. The PFMC also has responsibility for allocating Pacific halibut among treaty Indian

and non-Indian commercial and recreational users in Area 2A under the Northern Pacific Halibut Act.

During 2000, the PFMC submitted to NMFS actions that include the following: establishing 2001 fishery specifications and management measures for groundfish; establishing procedures for developing rebuilding plans for overfished groundfish species, for setting rebuilding plan guidelines, and for submitting rebuilding plans to NMFS for review and approval/disapproval; establishing previously disapproved bycatch provisions for the groundfish fishery; requiring vessels in the groundfish fishery to carry observers; restricting setnet fishing in portions of the EEZ to ensure consistency with the State of California fishing regulations; identifying essential fish habitat, and establishing optimum yield and overfishing definitions for West Coast salmon fisheries; and establishing previously disapproved bycatch provisions for coastal pelagic species.

One of the greatest challenges facing the PFMC in 2001 and for the next several years is management of the groundfish fishery. The PFMC must rebuild overfished stocks, reduce fishing capacity, provide sustainable harvest levels, allocate various groundfish stocks among commercial, recreational and treaty Indian fisheries, establish a comprehensive observer program, reduce bycatch, improve information on all aspects of the fishery, and address impacts to essential fish habitat. Harvest levels beginning in the year 2000 and continuing in 2001 will be substantially reduced for commercial and recreational groundfish fisheries coastwide. Rebuilding programs for some species will extend for decades because these stocks are slow-growing, long-lived, and have low productive rates.

The challenge for the salmon fishery is to provide opportunities for commercial, recreational, and treaty Indian fisheries in the ocean while protecting ESA-listed and other depressed salmon stocks. Non-fishing impacts to essential salmon habitat in freshwater continue to be a major problem limiting recovery of depressed stocks.

During 2001, the PFMC is expected to complete and submit to NMFS actions that include: an amendment to the Pacific Coast groundfish FMP that would allow for limited entry, fixed gear sablefish permit stacking beginning with the 2001 fishery; a regulatory amendment for mandatory observer coverage in the at-sea processing sector of the whiting fishery; and a regulatory amendment regarding the transferring of permits in the Pacific Coast groundfish fishery.

7. North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC)

Terms expired in 2000 for three NPFMC obligatory members. The new composition of fishing sector representatives on the NPFMC is four commercial, one recreational and two "other." There are no available at-large seats on the NPFMC. The new appointees and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector	Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector
David Benton/"other"	Richard B. Lauber/commercial
David L. Fluharty/"other"	Reappointment
Robert C. Penney/recreational	Joseph M. Kyle, Jr./commercial

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on the NPFMC:

COUNCIL: NORTH PACIFIC FMC		2000		
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (7)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector

O	BEHNKEN, LINDA E.	AK	2001	C
O	BENTON, DAVID	AK	2003	O
O	BUNDY, MILTON J.	WA	2002	C
O	FLUHARTY, DAVID L.	WA	2003	O
O	O'LEARY, KEVIN B.	AK	2001	C
O	PENNEY, ROBERT C.	AK	2003	R
O	SAMUELSEN, HAROLD R., JR.	AK	2002	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2001:

1. Linda E. Behnken - commercial fishing sector - Alaska's obligatory seat; by law, Ms. Behnken, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for reappointment to a fourth consecutive term.
2. Kevin B. O'Leary - commercial fishing sector - Alaska's obligatory seat

2001 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s) :

Recent appointments in the recreational and "other" categories have brought better balance to the composition of the NPFMC. In consideration of the strongly competitive commercial fishing, recreational fishing, and environmental interests in the North Pacific fisheries, the current balance of inshore, offshore, gear groups, and ecosystem representation should be maintained in the coming year, with emphasis on nominees with broad backgrounds in the fisheries off Alaska.

DISCUSSION:

The 2000 report to Congress on the status of fisheries of the United States identified as overfished 3 stocks for which the Council has management responsibility: two Tanner crab species, and the St. Matthew blue king crab. The Council promptly began rebuilding plans for these species as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

The NPFMC has five FMPs in place for (1) Gulf of Alaska (GOA) groundfish, (2) Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) groundfish, (3) salmon fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone, (4) BSAI king and Tanner crab fisheries, and (5) scallop fisheries in the GOA and BSAI. The Council has recently adopted additional amendments to the groundfish FMPs, which have not yet been approved and

implemented. Routine management of the fisheries under the salmon, scallop, and BSAI crab FMPS is deferred to the State of Alaska while the Council retains oversight of major allocation decisions. In addition, the Council has authority over allocation issues affecting the Pacific halibut fishery in and off Alaska while the International Pacific Halibut Commission retains responsibility for conservation management of this fishery.

The most significant fishery management issues that faced the Council in 2000 and will again receive priority attention in 2001 will include American Fisheries Act implementation; and implementation of the 2001 appropriations legislation that stipulated a phase-in of Steller sea lion protective measures. The Council also will address whether to incorporate the recreational charter boat fishery for halibut into the existing limited access system (i.e. individual fishing quotas) that is used to manage the commercial halibut fishery. In addition, the Council will be dealing with reform of its procedures for specifying the total allowable catch of groundfish, essential fish habitat work on habitats of particular concern, a draft programmatic SEIS on both of its groundfish FMPS, and continued development of bycatch reduction measures.

8. Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2000 for three WPFMC members. The composition of fishing sector representatives on the WPFMC remains unchanged from 1999 at four commercial, three recreational, and one "other." The current geographical balances regarding the distribution of available at-large seats on the WPFMC also remain unchanged in 1999. The new appointee and reappointees are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector

Bryan Y.Y. Ho/commercial

Judith P. Guthertz/"other"
Aitofele T. Sunia/recreational

Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector

James D. Cook/commercial
(ineligible for renomination
to a fourth consecutive term)

Reappointment
Reappointment

The following table lists the Secretarial appointees currently on

the WPFMC:

COUNCIL: WESTERN PACIFIC FMC		2000		
Obl/Atl	Appointed Members (8)	State	Appt. ends	Interest Sector
O	GUTHERTZ, JUDITH P.	GU	2003	O
O	HO, BRYAN Y.Y.	HI	2003	C
O	PANGELINAN, BENNY K.	CNMI	2002	C
O	SUNIA, AITOFELE T.	AmS	2003	R
A	FARM, FRANK P., JR.	HI	2002	R
A	McCOY, FRANK W., SR.	AmS	2001	C
A	MORIOKA, ROY N.	HI	2002	R
A	WEBSTER, THOMAS C.	HI	2001	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2001:

1. Frank W. McCoy, Sr. - commercial fishing sector - at-large seat (American Samoa)
2. Thomas C. Webster - commercial fishing sector - at-large seat (Hawaii)

2001 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(s):

The current balance of fishing interest sectors represented on the WPFMC should be maintained during the year 2001, as it faces a number of resource management and conservation issues that will likely impact the commercial and recreational fisheries under its jurisdiction. The two vacancies this year should be filled, therefore, with representatives of the commercial fishing sector.

DISCUSSION:

Fishery Management Plans are currently in place for four fisheries under the jurisdiction of the WPFMC: pelagics, bottomfish and seamount groundfish, crustaceans, and precious corals. A new FMP

for the Coral Reef Ecosystem of the Western Pacific Region is expected to be approved and implemented during 2001. This FMP is based on the ecosystem-based approach and represents the first fishery ecosystem plan developed in the United States. To achieve the objectives of the FMP, management measures include a series of marine protected areas throughout the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI), a permitting system, monitoring, restrictions on fishing gears and methods, and a framework process for adaptive management.

During 2000, there were two major events that impacted the fisheries: NMFS' closure of the NWHI commercial lobster fishery to prevent the potential for overfishing the lobster resource and establishment of restrictions on the Hawaii-based longline fishery in certain waters in the central and north Pacific Ocean. The longline restrictions, which were ordered by the Federal Court, are intended to reduce adverse impacts to sea turtles by the fishery while NMFS prepares a comprehensive environmental impact statement (EIS) that analyzes the environmental effects of fishing activities conducted under the Pelagics FMP. The EIS is expected to be completed by April 2001.

Bycatch issues continue to drive most of the management initiatives in the Hawaii longline fishery. The WPFMC took action, under the Pelagics FMP, to establish regulatory measures that would minimize interactions between seabirds and Hawaii-based longline vessels fishing to the north of the Hawaiian Islands. An interim final rule is expected to be implemented by NMFS during early 2001. The final shape of the rule will be determined by the terms and conditions and reasonable and prudent measures associated with the incidental take statement contained in a biological opinion on the short-tail albatross, an endangered species. The opinion was completed in December 2000 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, pursuant to the Endangered Species Act. Although there has been no reported take of this endangered albatross by the Hawaii longline fishery, short-tailed albatrosses are known to visit the NWHI.

The WPFMC approved Amendment 9 to the Pelagic FMP to limit shark harvests via establishment of a harvest guideline for blue sharks of 50,000 fish/year and a trip limit of one non-blue shark (mako, thresher etc). New information indicates that blue sharks are harvested in the North Pacific at about half the most parsimonious estimate of MSY. In December 2000, Congress passed the Shark Finning Prohibition Act (H.R. 5461), which among other things, prohibits U.S. vessels from finning sharks without retaining the

carcass. Consequently, the WPFMC may, in 2001, modify the harvest guideline, either removing it altogether or readjusting it in terms of directed harvests.

Two documents are expected to be completed in 2001 and will likely have profound effects on the longline fishery. These are the EIS for the Pelagic FMP and the Biological Opinion (BO) on turtle takes in the Hawaii longline fishery. The draft EIS was made available for public comment in December 2000, with a preferred alternative that would effectively curtail fishing for swordfish by limiting the minimum depth at which gear can be deployed, and closure of the fishery during April and May. The BO will contain reasonable and prudent measures to minimize turtle interactions with Hawaii-based longliners.

Other actions proposed by the WPFMC for implementation in 2001 include a measure to introduce federal permitting and logbooks for pelagic troll and handline vessels fishing in the Pacific Remote Island Areas and a measure establishing 50 mile closed areas around the islands of the American Samoa archipelago, from which large (>50 ft) pelagic fishing boats would be excluded. The WPFMC expects to complete amendments for crustaceans, bottomfish, and pelagics FMPs that address overfishing definitions and bycatch provisions. The WPFMC also expects to complete environmental impact statements for the Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish, Crustacean, and Precious Coral FMPs.

Internationally, the major event of the last decade for the Central-West Pacific has been the development of an international management commission for tuna that includes all of the Western Pacific Region. This commission has been developed during a series of Multi-level High Level Conferences (MHLIC) at senior government levels. The WPFMC's involvement has been instrumental in the hosting of four of these meetings in Hawaii. Although not agreed to unanimously, sufficient agreement was reached to move forward with a preparatory conference to establish the commission. This meeting will be held in 2001 in New Zealand. The new commission is the instrument most likely to achieve international consensus on pelagic issues which currently dominate pelagic fishery management in the Western Pacific Region.

F. Appendix - Statistical Fisheries Data

In addition to assessing the apportionment of membership on each RFMC, this Report provides, as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the following statistical information about the status of fisheries managed under each RFMC, and also identifies the number of RFMC members participating in those fisheries. The most recent data were compiled to show the volume of fisheries production and the related effort in each fishery managed under an FMP.⁶

³The Secretary also has management authority over highly migratory species (HMS) in the EEZ off the New England, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico coasts. An additional table has been included within the following Appendix which lists FMPs and other statistical data for Atlantic and Gulf HMS.

This appendix provides statistical data required by Section 302 (b) (2) (B) (i) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Unless otherwise indicated, the data are for the 1999 fisheries (or as otherwise indicated), listed by fishery management plan (FMP). Reported landings noted are for catches throughout the entire range of a fishery managed under that FMP. Beginning from the leftmost column, the listed data are:

1. FMPs developed by each RFMC;
2. the type of fishery managed under each plan, i.e., commercial or recreational, or mixed (see below);
3. species/species groups making up each fishery;
4. the weight of each species or species group in that fishery landed in 1999 (or as otherwise indicated), showing both the landings for commercial and recreational fishers, if recreational information is available;
5. the number of fishermen participating in the listed fisheries, if available; otherwise, the number of U.S. vessels either permitted or estimated to be operating in the fishery;
6. gear and processing methods used in each fishery;
7. the range and seasonality of the fishery; and
8. the number of current RFMC members who are commercial or recreational sector participants in each fishery, or their representatives.

LEGEND FOR TYPE FISHERIES

- C - Commercial fishery: Eighty percent or more of the reported landings are by commercial fishermen.
- c - Mainly commercial fishery: More than 60 percent but less than 80 percent of the reported landings are by commercial fishermen.
- x - Mixed fishery: Sixty percent or less of the reported landings are by each group of commercial and of recreational fishermen.
- r - Mainly recreational fishery: More than 60 percent but less than 80 percent of the reported landings are by recreational fishermen.
- R - Recreational fishery: Eighty percent or more of the reported landings are by recreational fishermen.
- o - Other fishery: More than 50 percent of the reported landings are by other than commercial or recreational fishermen, e.g., subsistence fishermen.

⁷Vertical sums in the attached appendices may not match the sums entered for interest sectors in Table 1, page 6. If one or more fishermen actively participated in more than one fishery, the vertical sum will exceed the number entered in the interest sector column; if some members are no longer active fishermen, the vertical sum will be less than the number indicated in the interest sector column.

A-i NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NEFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2000	
								Comm.	Rec.
Northeast Multi-Species	C	Commercial Atlantic cod Haddock Atlantic pollock Hakes Ocean perch Yellowtail flounder American plaice Winter flounder Witch flounder Windowpane flounder	11,119 2,836 5,582 18,684 320 3,656 3,662 5,100 1,855 521	3,755	trawl, longline & gillnet	NW Atlantic FMP area; mesh areas, closures/year round	gutted	8	
		Recreational Cod Pollock Winter flounder	1,339 127 318	538 ¹	hook & line	NW Atlantic FMP area; size and bag limits, area closures	filleted		2
American Lobster	C	Lobster	36,125	4,820 federal	traps & trawl	FMP area/year round	fresh	0	0
Atlantic Sea Scallops	C	Scallops	5,924	2,304	dredge & trawl	FMP area/year round	hand shucking and freezing	1	0
Atlantic Salmon	R	Atlantic Salmon		none	none	none	none	0	0
Monkfish (goosefish)	C	Monkfish	26,356	2,315	gillnets, trawls, dredges	FMP area/year round	fresh	8	0

¹ = Charter/party boat only

NEFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2000	Recreational 2000	Other 2000
8	2	2

Statistics for the above data were provided by the Northeast Region, NMFS, and also are contained in "Fisheries of the United States, 1998" (July 1999).

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2000	
								Comm.	Rec.
Atlantic Mackerel, Squid & Butterfish	c	Commercial Atlantic mackerel	12,514	1,993	otter trawl	FMP area/ year round	frozen, whole	3	0
	C	Squid, <u>Loligo</u> Squid, <u>Ilex</u> Butterfish	18,879 22,717 2,578		trawl; traps; gillnet	FMP area/ year round	at-sea & ashore, some mackerel fillets		
		Recreational Atlantic mackerel	684 ¹	545 ¹					
Atlantic Surf Clam & Ocean Quahogs	C	Atlantic surf clams Ocean quahogs	24,509 18,098	1,397 1,331	dredge	FMP area/ year round (ITQ mgmt.)	shucked shoreside	1	0
Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass									
Summer Flounder (fluke)	x	Commercial Recreational	5,085 5,702	921 613 ¹	hook & line; otter trawl	FMP area/ year round (State quotas managed indi- vidually)	fillets ashore; fresh & frozen	4	3
Scup	x	Commercial Recreational	2,229 395	859 500 ¹					
Black Sea Bass	x	Commercial Recreational	1,532 751	920 530 ¹					

¹ = Charter/party boat only.

(MAFMC FMP data and other pertinent information are continued on the next page.)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2000	
								Comm.	Rec.
Atlantic Bluefin	C	Commercial	3,764	2,874	hook & line; otter trawl; gillnet	EEZ and waters of Atlantic Coast States/year round	fillets fresh/frozen	1	3
	R	Recreational	5,687	649 ¹					
Spiny Dogfish	C	Commercial	22,277	2,628	gillnet; trawl	EEZ and water of Atlantic Coast States/year round	fresh/frozen	5	0

¹ = Charter/party boat only.

MAFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2000	Recreational 2000	Other 2000
5	5	3

Statistics for the above data were provided by the Northeast Region, and also are contained in "Fisheries of the United States, 1998" (July 1999).

A-iii SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (SAFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits) ¹	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 1999	
								Comm.	Rec.
Atlantic Coast Red Drum	n/a ²	Red drum [Fishery closed]	0	n/a ²	n/a ²	n/a ²	n/a ²	0	0
Golden Crab	C	Golden Crab	274	6	traps	FMP area/ year round	fresh	3	0
Snapper/Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic	x	Commercial snappers/groupers	3,108	991	rod and reel, bandit gear, longline & handline	FMP area/ prohibition on harvest and possession of Nassau grouper and jewfish year round	at sea, gutted	3	
		Recreational	1,112	1,464 (for-hire)	handline, rod and reel, bandit gear, spear, powerhead	FMP area			4
Shrimp Fishery of the South Atlantic Region	c	Commercial all	12,511	N/A ³	rawls	FMP area/ year round	shoreside processing	2	
		Recreational white	n/a ⁴	N/A ³	N/A ³				0
Coral, Coral Reefs, and Live/Hard Bottom Habitat of the South Atlantic Region	C	Commercial-Octocoral (colonies)	37,444 colonies	31	hand harvest	south FL/ year round	fresh	1	
		Recreational	n/a ²	n/a ²	hand harvest				0
Gulf of Mexico Spiny Lobster	[shared with GMFMC, see table A-v]							3	2
Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources	[shared with GMFMC, see Table A-v]							3	4

1 = number of vessels with active permits at any time during 1999.

2 = not applicable (fishery closed)

3 = Not Available (SAFMC has not proposed FMP measures to allow NMFS to collect this data.)

4 = not applicable (no recreational fishery in the EEZ)

(A summary of the CFMC fishing sector membership, as well as sources for the above data, is on the next page).

SAFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2000	Recreational 2000	Other 2000
3	4	1

Data for the SAFMC were provided by the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) and Southeast Region (SERO), NMFS; the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and also are contained in the "Fisheries of the United States, 1996", and "Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics, 1997". Landings information was provided by the NMFS Fisheries Statistics Branch, SEFSC, Miami, FL; the permit information was provided by the NMFS Permits Team, SERO, St. Petersburg, FL.

A-iv CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (CFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 1999	
								Comm.	Rec.
Spiny Lobster	C	Commercial Spiny lobster	163	n/a ¹	trap/pot, dip net gillnet trammel net hand harvest snare	FMP area/ year round	fresh, landed whole	1	
		Recreational	N/A ²	n/a ¹	dip net, trap, pot, gillnet, trammel net	FMP area/ year round			1
Reef Fish	C	Commercial snappers/groupers/ Ornamental species	853	n/a ¹	longline, hook and line, trap, pot, gillnet trammel net	FMP area/ closures by species, prohibition on harvest & possession of Nassau grouper & jewfish, otherwise/ year round	gutted at-sea shoreside proces- sing	1	
		Recreational	N/A ²	n/a ¹	dip net, handline, rod and reel, slurp gun, spear				1
Coral Reef Resources	C	Commercial (Aquarium Trade)	0	n/a ¹	dip net, slurp gun, hand harvest	FMP area/ year round	live, fresh	0	
		Stony Corals Gorgonians Live Rock Other Invertebrates Algae Seagrasses	0 0 0 0 0 0	n/a ¹ n/a ¹ n/a ¹ n/a ¹ n/a ¹ n/a ¹					
		Recreational	N/A ²	n/a ¹	dip net, slurp gun, hand harvest				1

1 = not applicable (no permits required)

2 = MRFSS information for 1999 is not yet available for the CFMC area.)

(CFMC FMP data and other pertinent information is continued on the next page.)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 1999	
								Comm.	Rec.
Queen Conch Resources	c	Commercial Queen Conch	100	n/a ¹	hand harvest	FMP area/ Oct-June	live shoreside processing landed whole	1	1
		Recreational Queen Conch	N/A ²	n/a ¹	hand harvest				

1 = not applicable (no permits required)

2 = MRFSS information for 1999 is not yet available for the CFMC area.)

CFMC - Membership

Commercial 2000	Recreational 2000	Other 2000
1	1	2

Statistics for the CFMC data on the preceding page were obtained from the NMFS Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report (1992); the Reef Fish FMP (Amendment 2, 1993); and the Queen Conch Resources FMP (1996).

A-v GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (GMFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2000	
								Comm.	Rec.
Stone Crab Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial-Stone Crab	2,716	2,380	traps	FL, w. coast/ Oct-Apr	at-sea, declaw; shoreside processing	0	0
		Recreational	N/A ¹	N/A ¹	traps, scuba & other gear				
Red Drum Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	R	Commercial - Red Drum	19 ²	n/a ³	n/a ³	n/a ³	n/a ³	0	7
		Recreational	4,195 ²	n/a ³	n/a ³				
Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	x	Commercial Grouper Red Snapper Other snapper Other species	5,101 1,657 1,909 790	1,706 N/A ¹ (1,680 for-hire vessels)	longline & other fishtrap & other fishtrap only hook & line	FMP area/ year round FMP area/ year round	at-sea, gutted; shoreside processing	1	7
		Recreational Grouper Red Snapper Other snappers Other species	2,331 2,033 838 1,465						
Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial-All	95,919	N/A ¹	otter trawls	FMP area/ year round FMP area/ year round	tail separation at-sea; shoreside processing	1	0
		Recreational	N/A ¹	N/A ¹	cast or dip nets				
Spiny Lobster Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico & South Atlantic [shared w/SAFMC]	C	Commercial Spiny lobster	3,335	329	traps, diving, trawl, other scuba & related gear	south FL/ Aug-Apr	tail separation at-sea; shoreside processing	0	0
		Recreational	1,072	N/A ¹					
Coral & Coral Reefs of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial Octocoral	24,772 colonies	N/A ¹	scuba & related gear	south FL/ year round	fresh	0	0
		Recreational		n/a ³					
Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico & South Atlantic [shared w/SAFMC]	x	Commercial King mackerel Spanish mackerel	2,617 1,394	2,489 2,319	gillnets, hook & line hook & line	Gulf & South Atlantic/ year round	shoreside processing	3	7
		Recreational King mackerel Spanish mackerel	3,247 1,632	N/A ¹ N/A ¹ (1,464 for- hire vessels)					

(Footnote information for the above is on the next page).

A-v GMFMC (continued)

from preceding page:

N/A¹ = Not Available (No Federal permit or reporting requirements); ² = state landings only; n/a³ = not applicable (fishery closed in Federal waters);

A summary of the GMFMC fishing sector membership, as well as sources for the preceding data, is below:

GMFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2000	Recreational 2000	Other 2000
4	7	0

Sources: NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center accumulated landings data for 1999; Marine Recreational Fisheries Survey Statistics for 1999 (personal communication from Fisheries Statistics and Economics Division, NMFS); Florida Department of Environmental Protection Fishery Statistics for 1999; NMFS Southeast Region Permits Division permit data for 1999. Landings information was provided by the NMFS Fisheries Statistics Branch, SEFSC, Miami, FL; the permit information was provided by the NMFS Permits Team, SERO, St. Petersburg, FL.

A-vi PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (PFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2000	
								Comm.	Rec.
Ocean Salmon Fisheries off the Coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California	x	Commercial Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon	361,000 ¹ 8,000 0	1,040	troll	CA/May-Sep OR/May-Oct WA/May-June	fresh and frozen	2	3
		Recreational Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon	127,000 ¹ 23,000 0	195,600 angler trips; (all species)	hook & line	CA/Feb-Oct OR/May-Sep WA/Aug-Sept			
Pacific Coast Groundfish	c	Total Pacific whiting Flatfish Rockfish Other groundfish Recreational Groundfish	190,400 27,309 31,019 22,418 2,107	Limited Entry: 500 Open Access: 1,500 N/A ²	trawl; hook & line; pots; set nets	CA/year round OR/year round WA/year round	headed & gutted; fillets; surimi; fresh & frozen	3	3
Northern Anchovy	c	Anchovy	1,450	0	purse seine	So. CA/ year round	dead bait; meal, oil	0	1

PFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2000	Recreational 2000	Other 2000
3	3	3*

¹ Salmon catch expressed as numbers of fish.

² = Not Applicable: permits not required for some species.

* = total of three "other" includes tribal representative.

Statistics for the above data:

- 1) Pacific Coast groundfish fishery data was extracted directly from the PacFin data system.
- 2) "Review of 1997 Ocean Salmon Fisheries:" (February 1998; Pacific Fishery Management Council).

A-vii NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NPFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS	Type	Species/Species Group	Tonnage (metric tons)*	Fishermen & Crew**	Gear	Fishing Areas and Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 1999***	
								Comm.	Rec.
Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA)	C	Pollock Pacific cod Flatfish Rockfish Sablefish Atka mackerel Misc. species	93,418 68,601 25,029 22,629 12,227 262 5,142	2,151 Federal fishing permits	trawl; pots; hook & line; jigs	area/time closures adjusted in season	hand & machine fillet; headed/gutted; frozen; minced; meal & oil	5	0
Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI)	C	Pollock Pacific cod Flatfish Rockfish Sablefish Atka mackerel Misc. species	890,555 162,361 157,125 18,994 1,211 53,643 19,078	1,044 Federal fishing permits	trawl; pots; hook & line; jigs	area/time closures adjusted in season	hand & machine fillet; headed/gutted; frozen; minced; meal & oil	5	0
Commercial King and Tanner Crab Fisheries in the BSAI	C	King Crab <u>C. bairdi</u> Tanner Crab <u>C. opilio</u> Tanner Crab	5,031 closed 87,997	629 vessel moratorium permits	pots	Deferred to State; generally November and winter months	cooked; refrigerated; frozen	0	0
Salmon fisheries in the EEZ off Alaska	C	Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon Sockeye salmon Chum salmon	3,329 12,904 195,770 112,223 83,370	10,585 permit holders	troll****	West area closed; southeast; time area limits	fresh; gutted & gilled; glazed; frozen; canned; smoked	2	0
Scallop Fishery off Alaska	C	Weathervane scallops (no fisheries for other scallop species listed in FMP)	736	14 moratorium permits	dredges	Deferred to State; adjusted inseason	hand shucked	0	0

§ In addition to these five FMPs, the NPFMC also is responsible for developing regulations governing Pacific halibut fisheries in and off of Alaska under authority of the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 (Halibut Act). These regulations, which are in addition to and not in conflict with regulations adopted by the International Pacific Halibut Commission, primarily allocate halibut fishing privileges among U.S. fishermen. Although the NPFMC develops halibut management regulations according to principles of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, no halibut FMP exists because the Magnuson-Stevens Act does not apply to management of the Pacific halibut fisheries. In 1999, the commercial catch of halibut in and off Alaska was 26,784 mt. This catch was made by a fleet of 1,804 vessels; 3,653 persons holding a total of 5,224 permits were authorized to harvest halibut under the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) and Community Development Quota (CDQ) Programs.

*Scallop, BSAI crab, and salmon data are from the State of Alaska; groundfish data are from NMFS. Salmon catch data represents all salmon fisheries in Alaska; not just the southeast AK troll fishery that is governed by the Salmon FMP.

(Explanations for the asterisks and other notes are continued on the next page.)

A-vii NPFMC (continued)

**Data represent persons or vessels permitted to fish in 1999; not the number of individuals actually involved in the operation of vessels, catching and processing fish. The actual number of permits used to harvest fish may have been fewer than indicated by the data. Participation in all FMP fisheries is governed by some form of limited access system. A moratorium on entry of new vessels was in effect in 1999 for all fisheries except salmon (which is governed by the State of Alaska limited entry

system). Of the total 1,824 vessel moratorium permits in 1999, most (1,195) authorized fishing only for groundfish but 629 authorized fishing for BSAI crab and groundfish. Also, a total of 897 persons held 1,789 IFQ permits in 1999, for harvesting sablefish with fixed gear in the GOA and BSAI under the IFQ Program. The salmon permit holder data represent all salmon permit holders in the State of Alaska; not just those who fished in the EEZ under the salmon FMP.

*****Secretarial appointed NPFMC membership in 2000: Commercial 4; Recreational 1; Other 2**

****Troll gear is the only gear authorized to be used in the EEZ under the salmon FMP, however, other gear types such as gill nets, and purse seines are authorized in other areas of the State to harvest the salmon catch represented in this table.

A-viii WESTERN PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (WPFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Tonnage (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 1999	
								Comm.	Rec.
Bottomfish ¹ and Seamount Groundfish	c	Bottomfish Seamount Groundfish	256 0	2382 (including State main HI & Federal NWHI as of 4/19/00)	handline rod & reel	FMP areas (year round/except Hancock Seamount (closed until year 2004))	fresh fish market	1	1
Crustaceans ²	C	Spiny lobster, Slipper lobster	119 (total)	15 federal NWHI (6 vessels fished in 1999)	traps	NWHI & MHI/ NWHI: 7/1-12/31 MHI- 1/1-4/30 & 9/1-12/31	flash frozen and live market	1	2
Pelagics ³	c	Tunas Swordfish Other (inc. sharks) Blue marlin Mahimahi Other billfish Wahoo	7,937 3,136 3,569 690 685 683 514	3,876 (including State part-time main HI & federal longline fishery)	troll handline longline	FMP areas/ year round	fresh fish market	1	1
Precious Corals	C	All species combined	0 No harvest	1	manned submersible/ remote operated vessel	FMP area (Makapuu bed)/ 7/1-6/30 (2 yrs.)	shaped/ polished	0	2

WPFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2000	Recreational 2000	Other 2000
4	3	1

¹ Bottomfish landings include recreational and commercial domestic landings data from Guam & American Samoa, only commercial domestic landings data from Hawaii and the Northern Mariana Islands (Source: 1999 WPFMC Annual Report on Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region.)

² Commercial lobster landings (1999) from FMP Northwestern Hawaiian Islands fishery (source: NMFS Honolulu Laboratory, Southwest Fisheries Science Center).

³ Pelagic landings include recreational and commercial domestic landings data, where available (e.g., Hawaii, only commercial landings). These do not include foreign transshipment or domestic cannery landings (source: 1999 Draft Annual Report on Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region).

(SECRETARIAL MANAGEMENT ACTION)
A-ix HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES (HMS)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	TYPE	SPECIES/ SPECIES GROUP	LANDINGS 1999 (UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE) MT = METRIC TONS WW = WHOLE WEIGHT DW = DRESSED WEIGHT	VESSELS (PERMITS) (2000 UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE)	GEAR*	FISHING AREAS/SEASONS ³	PROCESSING	2000 REPRESENTATIVES				
								COMMERC	RECREATIC	ACADEMIA	ENVIRONMENTAL	FISHING
Atlantic Billfishes ¹	R	White Marlin; Blue Marlin; Sailfish Longbill Spearfish	211 mt ww ² (comm. dead discards)	No recreational permit required Longbill spearfish prohibited	Rod & reel (directed); Longline (incidental)	Atlantic coast, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea; Year-round	Sale prohibited	1	4	2	5	
			39 mt ww ² (rec)									
Atlantic Sharks ²	X	Commercial/Recreational -Lge coastal (11 spp) -Pelagics (5 spp) -Sm coastal (4 spp) -Prohibited (19 spp) -Deepwater/Other (33 spp)	2,265 mt dw Comm 1,778 182 305 0	LIMITED ACCESS ¹⁰ Commercial permits 287 directed permits 585 incidental permits	Longline; Gillnets; Rod & reel	Maine to Gulf of Mexico Year-round with two semi-annual seasons: 1/1-6/30; 7/1-12/31	Fins exported; Carcasses/ cartilage to U.S. market	2	2	2	5	1
			184,764⁴ Rec	Charter permits ¹¹ No rec. permit required	Rod & reel							
Atlantic Swordfish ²	C	Commercial	3,585 mt ww (includes discards)	LIMITED ACCESS ¹⁰ Commercial permits 240 directed permits 203 incidental permits 125 handgear permits	Handline;Harpoon; Longline; Rod & reel Driftnet banned ⁸ ; Otter trawl (incidental)	North and South Atlantic Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico;	Fresh/ frozen U.S. market	2	1	2	5	1
		Recreational	21.32 mt ww	Charter permits ¹¹ No rec. permit	Rod & reel only	Year-round (East Coast of US)						
Atlantic Tunas ^{2,7}	X	Commercial Bluefin Yellowfin Bigeye Albacore Skipjack	5,904 mt ww² (2000) 1,078 3,601 944 227 54	9,526 (1998) 9,760 (1999) 9,813 (2000)	Rod & reel; Purse seine; Bandit gear; Longline;Handline; Harpoon Pound nets; Weirs; Driftnet ban ⁸	Maine to Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean; Year-round 6/1-5/31	Bluefin: fresh foreign and U.S. market. Other tunas: fresh/canned foreign and U.S. market	4	4	2	5	1
		Recreational Bluefin Yellowfin Bigeye Albacore Skipjack	4,610 mt ww² (2000) 136 3,968 318 90 98	10,668 (1998) 13,147 (1999) 15,032 (2000)	Rod & reel; Handline			Sale prohibited				

- Amendment One to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Atlantic Billfish published April, 1999
- FMP for Atlantic Highly Migratory Species published April, 1999, and includes Atlantic Tunas, Swordfish, and Shark
- Seasons may close when quota is reached.
- Number of fish (not mt)
- Source: 2000 National Report of the United States; Large Pelagic Survey Data; 2000 Shark Evaluation Annual Report.
- Driftnets in swordfish fishery prohibited effective February 25, 1999 (64 FR 4055, January 27, 1999).
- Atlantic tunas include bluefin, yellowfin, bigeye, albacore, and skipjack.
- Driftnets in tuna fisheries prohibited effective July 1, 1999 (64 FR 29090, May 28, 1999)
- HMS and Billfish Advisory Panels include representatives of commercial and recreational fishing groups, academic and environmental organizations, and one each from the U.S. ICCAT Advisory Committee, the states, and the New England, Mid-Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils.
- Total number of permit holders in both the shark and swordfish limited access fishery is 982, because of permits issued for both fisheries to same permit holder.
- Permits will be required for Charter/Headboats in the swordfish and shark fisheries.
- * Time/Area Closures and Gear Prohibitions published August 1, 2000 (65 FR 47214)

