IPHC Fishery Regulations:

Fishing Gear (Sect. 17) - Allowing for donation of Pacific halibut in the non-directed commercial sector through an Exempted Fishing Permit issued by NOAA Fisheries

SUBMITTED BY: USA (NOAA FISHERIES) (30 OCTOBER 2026)

Directed Commercial ☐ Recreational ☐ Subsistence ☐ Non-directed commercial ☒ All ☐

All Regulatory Areas ☐ All Alaska Regulatory Areas ☒ All U.S. Regulatory Areas ☐

2A ☐ 2B ☐ 2C ☒ 3A ☒ 3B ☒ 4A ☒ 4B ☒ 4C ☒ 4D ☒ 4E ☒

PURPOSE

To propose amending Section 17(11) of the IPHC Fishery Regulations so that, in addition to the NOAA Fisheries Prohibited Species Donation regulations, trawl-caught Pacific halibut may be retained and donated under certain Exempted Fishing Permits issued by NOAA Fisheries.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This regulatory proposal would clarify the applicability of IPHC Fishery Regulations to certain exempted fishing permits issued by NOAA Fisheries at IPHC Fishery Regulations § 17(11).

By way of background, on 21 August 2026, NOAA Fisheries received an exempted fishing permit (EFP) application to allow Pacific halibut Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) from one catcher processor to be donated for hunger relief purposes through the prohibited species donation (PSD) program. The PSD program allows prohibited species caught as bycatch, including Pacific halibut, to be donated to hunger relief agencies, food bank networks, or food bank distributors instead of being discarded. Currently, the PSD program only allows for donation of Pacific halibut PSC delivered by catcher vessels using trawl gear to shoreside processors and stationary floating processors and does not allow for donation of Pacific halibut PSC from trawl catcher processors. Specifically, this EFP would allow a single trawl catcher processor operating in the Bering Sea trawl limited access yellowfin sole fishery to donate a portion of their Pacific halibut PSC to the PSD program that would otherwise be discarded. This would occur after deck sorting (to return live Pacific halibut to the sea) and catch accounting are complete. The amount of Pacific halibut PSC donated would continue to accrue to the U.S. allocation and would be capped at 3 metric tons. This EFP would not increase or otherwise modify any PSC or bycatch limits.

On 1 October 2026, NOAA Fisheries published a notice in the *Federal Register* seeking public comment (91 FR 62500), solicited input from the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, and sent a letter to the IPHC informing it of the opportunity to submit comments on the EFP application. The public comments received can be viewed here. After reviewing all feedback, NOAA Fisheries will determine whether to approve or deny the EFP application, including any required modifications.

This regulatory proposal would clarify the applicability of IPHC Fishery Regulations § 17(11) to a situation involving Pacific halibut PSC donation through an EFP.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Commission:

1) **NOTE** IPHC Fishery Regulation proposal IPHC-2026-IM102-PropB6, which proposes amending Section 17(11) of the IPHC Fishery Regulations so that, in addition to the NOAA Fisheries Prohibited Species Donation regulations, trawl-caught Pacific halibut may be retained and donated under certain Exempted Fishing Permits issued by NOAA Fisheries.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Suggested Regulatory Language.

Appendix B: EFP application.

APPENDIX A: SUGGESTED REGULATORY LANGUAGE

17. Fishing Gear

[…]

(11) Notwithstanding any other provision in these Regulations, a person may retain, possess and dispose of Pacific halibut taken with trawl gear only as authorized by: ~~Prohibited Species Donation regulations of NOAA Fisheries.~~

(a) the Prohibited Species Donation regulations of NOAA Fisheries; or

(b) an Exempted Fishing Permit issued by NOAA Fisheries that allows donation of such Pacific halibut, which would otherwise be prohibited under NOAA Fisheries regulations.

APPENDIX B: EFP APPLICATION

Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Application
Sea Share, Inc. & Glacier Fish Co.

1. **Application Date of Revised Application (Incorporates AFSC Review)**

September 15, 2026

2. **Applicants and Timing**

Organization Name: SeaShare, Inc & Glacier Fish Co.
Attention: Hannah Lindoff, SeaShare, Inc. & Glenn Merrill, Glacier Fish Co.
Primary Contact Person(s): Hannah Lindoff; Glenn Merrill
Mailing Address: Primary Contact: POB 21087, Juneau, AK 99802
Email: hannah@seashare.org; glenn@glacierfish.com

Timing: Year one: May 1, 2027 – December 31, 2027, Year two: January 20, 2028 – December 31, 2028

3. **Purpose and Goals**

To test the necessary catch monitoring, handling, accounting, and logistical requirements for the donation of halibut that are encountered in the fish processing facilities on a trawl catcher/processor after catch has been sampled and recorded by onboard observers.

3.1 Background

Salmon and halibut incidentally caught in groundfish fisheries are defined as "prohibited species" and must be returned "to the sea immediately, with a minimum of injury, regardless of its condition" after allowing sampling by an observer.[1] Regulations require discards, and vessels must comply with those regulations. In an effort to minimize the waste of fish that are required to be discarded by regulation, industry participants in coordination with Terra Marine Resource and Education. Inc. (predecessor to SeaShare, Inc.) proposed a series of exempted fishing permits (EFPs) beginning in 1993 to test the feasibility of retaining and donating prohibited species to foodbanks.[2] These early EFPs developed the necessary catch handling, monitoring, and labeling requirements for the existing Prohibited Species Donation Program (PSD Program).

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) recommended and NMFS implemented the PSD Program in 1996.[3] The goal of the PSD Program recommended by the Council was, and remains, authorizing the distribution of incidental catch in the groundfish fisheries off Alaska to economically disadvantaged individuals by tax-exempt organizations through a NMFS-authorized distributor.[4]

In the 1990's, NMFS and International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) regulations limited the retention of halibut by vessels using trawl gear. Permitting donations of halibut from trawl vessels required coordination between the two regulatory bodies. The initial 1993 EFP proposed allowing both salmon and halibut donations, but the IPHC did not support authorizing donations of halibut and indicated it would review the

[1] See definition of "prohibited species" at 50 CFR 679.2, and prohibitions on the retention of salmon and halibut while groundfish fishing at 50 CFR 679.21(a)(2)
[2] See initial prohibited species donation EFP approval on August 12, 1993 58 FR 42947-42948) available at: Federal Register :: Federal Register Citation
[3] The PSD Program was first implemented under Amendment 26 to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area (BSAI) and Amendment 29 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). 96-18788.pdf
[4] This rationale is provided in the final rule for both to Amendment 26/29 (96-18788.pdf), and Amendment 50/50 (98-15595.pdf).

issue in future years.[5] EFP applicants continued efforts to include halibut in the PSD Program through subsequent EFPs.[6] Therefore, the initial PSD Program was limited to donations of incidentally caught salmon.

In 1996, IPHC approved a pilot program allow "the retention of 50,000 pounds (net weight) of halibut, landed by trawlers at shore plants in Dutch Harbor."[7] The initial pilot program was first implemented on a limited basis by NMFS under an EFP in 1996.[8] In 1997, the Council recommended regulations to allow the donation of incidentally caught halibut. In 1998, NMFS implemented that recommendation as Amendments 50/50 to the BSAI and GOA FMPs,[9] and IPHC revised its regulations to allow trawl vessels to participate in the PSD Program.[10]

Amendments 50/50 specifically limited donations to "[h]alibut delivered by catcher vessels using trawl gear to shoreside processors" but did not specifically include additional restrictions on the total amount that could be donated or the landing location as recommended by the IPHC in their 1996 pilot program.[11] A review of Amendments 50/50, and the accompanying analysis does not indicate that the Council or IPHC reconsidered allowing trawl catcher/processors or non-trawl vessels to participate in halibut donations under the PSD Program. The IPHC's recommendation to limit donations to trawl catcher vessels delivering to shoreside processors was carried through the NMFS rulemaking process. Limiting donation only to trawl catcher vessels is unique to halibut. Trawl catcher/processors participate in the salmon donation portion of the PSD Program.

The 1998 halibut PSD Program regulations had a three year sunset to allow NOAA Fisheries and IPHC to assess the effectiveness of the halibut donation program.[12] After review by the Council and IPHC, NMFS published regulations to remove the sunset date and make the program permanent in 2000.[13] In 2012, the PSD Program regulations were amended slightly to allow halibut donations from trawl vessels delivering to stationary floating processors "to implement the intent of the program to allow participation by all types of near shore, stationary processors for halibut donations."[14] Adding "stationary floating processors" as an additional donation location did not require amendment to IPHC regulations. The PSD Program regulations for halibut donation have not been revised since 2012.

SeaShare, Inc. (SeaShare) was founded as a non-profit in 1994 and has served as the NMFS-authorized distributor of incidentally caught salmon and halibut since the implementation of the PSD Program. SeaShare receives donations of incidentally caught salmon and halibut as well as other seafood products directly donated by numerous harvesters and processors. SeaShare serves dozens of communities throughout Alaska and hundreds of communities nationally. Since its inception, SeaShare has provided over 275 million servings of seafood.[15]

[5] Pp 10-11 of 1993 IPHC Annual Meeting Report, available at: iphc-1993-am069-r.pdf
[6] The EFP process used to develop current regulations is described in the preamble to the final rule of Amendment 50/50 available at: 98-15595.pdf
[7] P. 3 of Analysis (EA/RIR/IRFA) prepared for Amendment 50/50 available at: Final EA/RIR for Amendment 50 to the FMP for the Groundfish Fishery of the BSAI and Amendment 50 to the FMP for Groundfish of the GOA to Authorize Distribution of Halibut Bycatch in the Groundfish Fisheries off Alaska to the Economically Disadvantaged | NOAA Fisheries
[8] See Amendments 50/50 Final Rule at: 98-15595.pdf.
[9] See Amendments 50/50 Final Rule at: 98-15595.pdf.
[10] Section 17(11) of IPHC Regulations "Notwithstanding any other provision in these Regulations, a person may retain, possess and dispose of Pacific halibut taken with trawl gear only as authorized by Prohibited Species Donation regulations of NOAA Fisheries."
[11] See Amendments 50/50 Final Rule at: 98-15595.pdf.
[12] See Amendments 50/50 Final Rule at: 98-15595.pdf.
[13] See final rule permanently extending PSD halibut program on December 11, 2000 (65 FR 78119) at: 00-31917.pdf
[14] See Final Rule implementing Amendment 93 to the GOA FMP, Federal Register :: Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Chinook Salmon Bycatch Management in the Gulf of Alaska Pollock Fishery; Amendment 93
[15] SeaShare website: Seafood Donation | Supporting Hunger Relief | SeaShare

Glacier Fish Company owns and operates the *Northern Glacier*, a trawl catcher/processor vessel that participates in the Western Alaska Community Development Program (CDQ) multi-species fisheries and the Trawl Limited Access Sector (TLAS) yellowfin sole fishery where halibut is incidentally encountered and is required to be discarded during fishing operations. The *Northern Glacier* has been authorized to participate in the PSD Program since its implementation.

3.2 Purpose and Goals

3.2.1 EFP Purpose

Current regulations limit the ability of trawl catcher/processors to donate halibut under the PSD Program. The current limitation on trawl catcher/processors was established nearly 30 years ago under a completely different regulatory regime. There have been numerous revisions to accounting and monitoring procedures on trawl catcher/processors to comprehensively track catch. Halibut bycatch limits and various catch share programs (e.g., American Fisheries Act, and Amendment 80 Program) constrain halibut bycatch far more comprehensively than was the case 30 years ago. In addition, regulated deck sorting procedures improved the ability of trawl catcher/processors to return larger and more viable halibut to the sea with a lower mortality rate than under the regulatory regime that existed in 1998.

Regulations lack a mechanism for trawl catcher/processors to donate food grade halibut that are incidentally encountered and are not able to be deck sorted and returned to sea. After deck sorting, some food grade halibut end up in monitored fish holds. These halibut (and groundfish) are weighed and sampled by observers, and the halibut are then returned to sea as required by regulation.

This EFP will test an alternative catch monitoring and management framework to allow halibut that remain in the catch after sampling by the observer to be retained and donated through the PSD Program. This EFP would be consistent with the long-standing practice of using EFPs to develop the necessary regulatory framework to ensure a well-monitored and effective PSD Program. This EFP would help the Council, the fishing industry, and SeaShare meet the intent of the PSD Program to minimize waste and allow the distribution of incidental catch in the groundfish fisheries off Alaska to economically disadvantaged individuals.

This EFP does not seek an exemption from existing halibut PSC limits. This EFP does not increase the overall amount of halibut PSC that is allocated. Instead, this EFP would rely on existing halibut PSC allocations that are provided by regulation and established annually through the harvest specifications process.

This EFP supports Executive Order 14276 on Restoring American Seafood Competitiveness.[16] The Executive Order seeks to "reduce regulatory burdens", and requests the fishing industry provide "innovative ideas to improve fisheries management and science within the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act". Importantly, section 4(iii)(C) of the Executive Order supports the expansion of "exempted fishing permit programs" to help meet these objectives.

3.2.2 EFP Goals

A. **To limit the retention of halibut ***only*** to those halibut that are not able to be deck sorted to minimize potential halibut mortality**. The goal of this EFP is to allow retention of only those halibut that are not able to be deck sorted and returned to sea with a minimum of injury. Only halibut present after being sampled below deck at the observer sampling station could be donated.

B. **To test the logistical and operational requirements on a single trawl catcher/processor vessel to retain and donate a maximum of 5,000 net pounds of headed and gutted halibut -- 3.0 mt of round weight equivalent**. The goal of this EFP is to test donation procedures while not compromising

[16] See Executive Order 14276 at: Restoring American Seafood Competitiveness – The White House

the goals of the deck sorting program that helps ensure a higher probability of survival. The upper bound limit of 3.0 mt would provide an adequate amount of halibut to test operational, labeling, and donation logistics while maintaining the overarching goal of minimizing bycatch. We anticipate that as the EFP is conducted there will be opportunities to improve the onboard accounting, handling, and labeling procedures. The 3.0 mt limit would provide for these in-season process improvements that could inform subsequent EFPs or potential future regulations. Depending on the rates of halibut encounters on the grounds, fishing conditions, and operational and logistical challenges halibut donations may be well-below the 3.0 mt limit.

C. **To reduce catch accounting complexities by limiting the use of halibut donations only while the vessel is participating in the Bering Sea trawl limited access (TLAS) yellowfin sole fishery**. The *Northern Glacier* participates in CDQ multi-species fisheries on behalf of several CDQ groups and the Bering Sea TLAS yellowfin sole fishery. To limit the potential complexities that could arise from applying EFP halibut mortality among multiple CDQ groups, this EFP would be limited to only those fishing conducted while the vessel is fishing under the Bering Sea TLAS fishery. All halibut mortality associated with this EFP would be deduced from the halibut mortality assigned to the TLAS yellowfin sole fishery category in the annual harvest specifications. This EFP would be limited to the Bering Sea.

D. **To ensure all donated halibut are properly accounted for by assigning a 100% mortality rate**. Under existing discard mortality rate (DMR) calculations conducted by observers and NMFS, a small percentage of halibut that are returned to sea after observer sampling remain viable. This EFP would apply a 100% mortality rate to all EFP donated halibut. This adjustment would not be expected to have a significant impact on total halibut mortality because no more than 3.0 mt of halibut could be retained under this EFP, and only 14% of halibut tested at the observer sampling station are estimated as viable.[17] If the full 3.0 mt of halibut were retained under this EFP, the difference between the current DMR and the EFP DMR would result in approximately 0.5 mt of additional halibut mortality. Total authorized round weight halibut mortality in the TLAS yellowfin sole fishery in 2026 was 153 mt, and this EFP would have a *de minimus* impact on halibut mortality in this fishery and overall in the Bering Sea.[18]

3.3 Proposed Exemption(s)

Based on our initial review, and preliminary discussions with NMFS Alaska Region and NOAA General Counsel, it does not appear that this regulation would require any exemption from IPHC regulations. IPHC regulations allow a person to "retain, possess and dispose of Pacific halibut taken with trawl gear only as authorized by Prohibited Species Donation regulations of NOAA Fisheries."[19] This EFP, if granted, would authorize the limited retention, possession, and disposition of halibut only as authorized by the PSD Program regulations established by NOAA Fisheries.

This EFP would require exemption from regulations at 50 CFR 679.26(a)(2) that limit halibut donations to "catcher vessels using trawl gear to shoreside processors and stationary floating processors."

Regulations that currently apply to handling and labeling requirements under 50 CFR 679.26 would continue to apply. An initial review of recordkeeping and reporting requirements, and prohibitions does not indicate additional exemptions would be required.

4. **Technical Details**

[17] See Table 20 in the 2026/2027 Annual Harvest Specifications for BSAI groundfish available at: Federal Register :: Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands; 2026 and 2027 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish
[18] See Tables 16 and 17 in the 2026/2027 Annual Harvest Specifications for BSAI groundfish available at: Federal Register :: Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands; 2026 and 2027 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish
[19] See section 17(11) in IPHC Fishery Regulations available at: IPHC-Fishery-Regulations-2026-4-Feb-2026.pdf

4.1 Amounts of Each Species, Including Prohibited Species

This EFP requests the donation of up to 3.0 mt roundweight equivalent of halibut to the PSD program. This amount would not be in addition to any halibut PSC limits established by regulation. Groundifsh catch limits would not be modified.

4.2 Marine Mammals and Endangered Species

This EFP would not alter fishing location, time, or harvest limits in any manner not previously considered and analyzed under biological opinions. This EFP would not be expected to result in any effects on marine mammals that differ from the status quo.

4.3(a) Timing

Typically, the Bering Sea TLAS yellowfin sole fisheries are conducted in conjunction with CDQ multi-species fisheries. We anticipate that donations under this EFP would be conducted between May and July when a significant proportion of Bering Sea TLAS yellowfin sole fisheries are conducted.

4.3(b) Area

The Bering Sea TLAS yellowfin sole fishery would occur only in those locations or are areas that are authorized for fishing. This EFP would not require fishing in locations or times not otherwise authorized. All EFP donations will be offloaded and transferred to cold storage facilities in Unalaska/Dutch Harbor at facilities directed by SeaShare.

4.4 Vessel and Gear

The *Northern Glacier* would be the sole designated vessel used under this EFP. This EFP would not require any change in currently authorized gear or equipment.

4.5 Funding

No additional funding would be required to conduct this EFP. The costs of processing, freezing, holding, and delivering the donated halibut to cold storage facilities identified by SeaShare would be borne by Glacier Fish Company.

4.6 Additional Permits

No additional permits from other agencies would be required.

4.7(a) Experimental Design and Analysis

This EFP does not require an experimental design in the sense of establishing control and experimental fishing. The EFP will require clear communication protocols between the vessel operator and the onboard observers to ensure that halibut that are retained for donation are clearly set-aside after the observer conducted sampling and are then processed and packed for donation.

Per guidance from the Alaska Fisheries Science Center in their review of this EFP, processing and handling of halibut for donation on the *Northern Glacier* would be conducted in a manner that minimizes potential conflict with the observer particularly near the observer sampling station. Processing the halibut (heading and gutting) would be conducted by processing crew and then packed and frozen with clear PSD labeling. Existing observer station regulatory cameras could monitor the partitioning of halibut for donation. For each haul where

donations occur, we anticipate recording the number and weight of headed and gutted halibut to ensure adequate tracking of the halibut product during offload. Vessel operators would create a clear and distinct process for processing, packing, freezing and casing halibut to ensure it is easily distinguished from product entering commerce.

Metrics of success for this EFP include clear tracking of donated halibut, and ensuring that logistics associated with this EFP do not create additional challenges in catch accounting and monitoring. The most critical metric of success would be minimizing the regulatory mandated discarding of fish and furthering the objectives of hunger relief under the PSD Program.

4.7(b) Reporting Requirements and Associated Timing

The Applicants will prepare an interim report midway through the EFP that includes a summary of the amount of catch donated, any problems and successes, and how well EFP objectives were accomplished. Within 6 months of the end of EFP fishing, the Applicants will prepare and submit to NMFS a final report that updates the interim report and summarizes the results of the EFP and how well EFP objectives were accomplished. The reports will be disclosed to the public and the Applicants understand that they may be asked to present EFP results to the Council.

4.8(c) Public Release of Information

The amount of halibut donation will be made available to the public. To the extent possible, the disposition of distributed product will be provided.

5. **Observers**

This application would not require additional observer coverage and would not be expected to increase observer duties other than the need for clear communication between vessel crew and the observer to ensure specific hauls are clearly designated as EFP hauls and the amount and weight of halibut donated and processed is clearly identified.

6. **Principal and coordinating parties**

Glenn Merrill, Director of Government Affairs – Glacier Fish Co. Responsible for coordination with vessel crew, NOAA, and SeaShare

Hannah Lindoff, Executive Director – SeaShare Inc. Responsible for donation and distribution management.

7. **Vessel Information (50 CFR 600.745(b)(2)(iv))**

Vessel Name: Northern Glacier, Glacier Fish Co.
EFP Contact: Glenn Merrill, POB 21087 Juneau AK 99802
Vessel Skipper: TBD
Vessel Federal Fisheries Permit Number. 661
USCG Documentation Number. 663457
Home Port Vessel: Seattle, WA
Length: 201 ft. LOA
Net Tonnage. Gross Tonnage. 1109 GRT

8. **Applicant Signatures**

/s/ Glenn Merrill

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Glenn Merrill, GFC

/s/ Hannah Lindoff

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Hannah Lindoff, SeaShare

9. **References**

See footnotes in text for citations to specific regulations and previous EFPs.

PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN STATEMENT

A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with an information collection subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 unless the information collection has a currently valid OMB Control Number. The approved OMB Control Number for this information collection is 0648-0206. Without this approval, we could not conduct this information collection. Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 100 hours per response, including the time for reviewing the instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the information collection. Responses to this information collection are required to obtain or retain benefits and to manage exempted fishing in the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands under 50 CFR 679 and under 402(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this information collection, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Region, Attn: Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Authority: The collection of this information is authorized under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*).
Purpose: An EFP is issued by the NMFS Alaska Region to allow the target or incidental harvest of species managed under a fishery management plan or fishery regulations that would otherwise be prohibited. These permits are issued for limited experimental purposes to support projects that could benefit the fisheries and the environment. The Magnuson-Stevens Act specifically recognizes the need for permit issuance. The requirement of a permit for marine resource users is one of the regulatory steps taken to carry out conservation and management objectives. The issuance of a permit is an essential ingredient in the management of fishery resources needed for identification of the participants and expected activity levels and for regulatory compliance.
Routine Uses: The Department will use this information to determine permit eligibility, identify fishery participants, and regulatory compliance. All data collected by the permit holder on the vessel named on the Vessel Designation Sheet submitted to NMFS for fishing under this permit are disclosable to the public, except for haul-specific catch data and vessel-specific fishing locations and other proprietary business information not relevant to the studies, which are otherwise treated consistent with confidentiality provisions under the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Data collected by NMFS observers relevant to this EFP are disclosable to the public; otherwise, observer data will be treated consistent with data confidentiality provisions under the Magnuson-Stevens Act. All information collections by NMFS Alaska Region are protected under confidentiality provisions of section 402(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act as amended in 2006 (16 U.S.C. 1801, *et seq.*) and under NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, which sets forth procedures to protect confidentiality of fishery statistics. Disclosure of this information is permitted under the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. Section 552a), to be shared within NMFS offices, in order to coordinate monitoring and management of sustainability of fisheries and protected resources, as well as with the applicable State or Regional Marine Fisheries Commissions and International Organizations. Disclosure of this information is also subject to all of the published routine uses identified in the Privacy Act System of Records Notice COMMERCE/NOAA-19, Permits and Registrations for the United States Federally Regulated Fisheries.
Disclosure: Furnishing this information is required to obtain an EFP; failure to provide complete and accurate information may prevent or delay issuance of an EFP.