2007 REPORT TO CONGRESS

ON APPORTIONMENT OF MEMBERSHIP

ON THE

REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCILS

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

PREPARED BY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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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, to the extent practicable, 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 16th 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 for 2008.

B. FAIR AND BALANCED RFMC MEMBERSHIP

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

Generally, the most qualified nominees are those whose records indicate 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

4. Are otherwise experienced and/or knowledgeable in leadership of organizations whose members participate in a fishery or in management and conservation of natural resources, or are representatives of consumers, teachers, journalists, writers, consultants, lawyers, or marine fishery researchers.

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

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 Magnuson-Stevens Act and legislative history do not provide specific guidance for judging whether the Secretary's appointments meet the statutory standard. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has addressed the requirement by reasoning that, in the ideal case, voting members should be individuals with 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 meeting the RFMC's trusteeship responsibilities for living marine resources. This continues to be the yardstick for judging whether an individual RFMC will fulfill the paramount mandate—the conservation and management of fisheries resources.

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 appointing members is their specific knowledge of the conservation and 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 from the fishing sector communities 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 participating in more than one of the three general fishing interest sectors. In these cases, NMFS' determination about a nominee's primary interest sector is the result of NMFS' interpretation of: (1) supporting background information provided by the nominating governor; (2) background information provided by the nominee, reflecting the nominee's demonstrated principal participation; and (3) other supplemental information provided.

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 (PFMC), from among Indian representatives nominated by the appropriate Tribal Governments. A major factor in meeting the requirement to balance membership is the

cooperation of the governors of the constituent states in nominating qualified individuals who are knowledgeable regarding conservation and management or the commercial or recreational harvest of fishery resources. The process works best when governors provide the Secretary with a wide diversity of highly qualified nominees who meet the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

For governor-nominated seats, the Secretary will select an appointee for an obligatory seat (state-specific) from the list of qualified nominees submitted by the governor of that state. In filling expiring at-large seats (regional), the Secretary will select an appointee from the list of all qualified candidates submitted by constituent state governors.

In 2007, the Secretary announced the appointment or reappointment of 19 voting obligatory and at-large RFMC members, whose 3- year terms will expire on August 10, 2010.

Table 1 shows the current totals in the distribution of Secretarially appointed RFMC voting members by interest sector for 2005, 2006, and 2007 (page 7). In 2007, eight members were appointed from the commercial fishing sector, seven members were appointed from the recreational fishing sector, and four members were appointed from the "other" sector. The tribal representative on the PFMC for the purposes of this table is counted as a member of the "other" 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 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 living resources. To the extent practicable, the appointments also seek to rotate membership, thereby distributing participation among all sectors of the fisheries-specific actions. Adjustments to the distribution of representation on each RFMC are also 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 is also 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

Eight women currently serve on the RFMCs. Governors are encouraged to nominate qualified female and minority candidates.

D. RFMC MEMBERSHIP VACANCIES DURING 2008

Table 2, page 8, lists the 22 RFMC members whose terms will expire on August 10, 2008. Table 3, page 9, sorts the 22 RFMC 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 22 members whose terms expire in 2008 will be ineligible for renomination consideration.

TABLE 1: APPOINTED RFMC MEMBERS SORTED NUMERICALLY BY FISHING SECTOR INTERESTS (2005-2007)

	Year	Commercial	Recreational	"Other"	Total
NEFMC	2005	8	3	1	12
	2006	8	3	1	12
	2007	7	4	1	12
MAFMC	2005	5	5	3	13
	2006	5	5	3	13
	2007	5	5	3	13
SAFMC	2005	3	4 **3/**	1	8
	2006	3	4	1	8
	2007	3	4	1	8
GMFMC	2005	5	5	1	11
	2006	4	5	2	11
	2007	4	4	3	11
CFMC	2005	2	1	1	4
	2006	2	1	1	4
	2007	2	1	1	4
PFMC	2005	2	5	2 **4/**	9
	2006	3	5 **6/**	1	9
	2007	3	5	1	9
NPFMC	2005	6	1	0	7
	2006	6 **5/**	1	0	7
	2007	6	1	0	7
WPFMC	2005	3	4	1	8
	2006	3	4	1	8
	2007	2	4	2	8
ALL RFMCs	2005	34	28	10	72
	2006	34	28	10	72
	2007	32	28	12	72

3/Frank E. Gibson was appointed to an out-of-cycle vacancy in 2005. The total number of members on the SAFMC representing the recreational fishing sector remains the same.
4/This total includes the Tribal representative, who for the purposes of this table, is counted as a representative of the "other" sector.
5/ Gerald P. Merrigan was appointed to an out-of-cycle vacancy in 2006. The total number of members on the NPFMC representing the commercial sector remains the same.
6/In 2006 a fishing sector change occurred for David W. Ortmann, from the "other" sector to the recreational sector on the PFMC.

TABLE 2: RFMC MEMBERS' TERMS EXPIRING AUGUST 10, 2008
GROUPED BY OBLIGATORY OR AT-LARGE APPOINTMENT

OBLIGATORY MEMBERS	APPT. DATE	CONSEC. TERMS SERVED	AT-LARGE MEMBERS	APPT. DATE	CONSEC. TERMS SERVED
New England There are no obligatory vacancies on the New England Council in 2008.			T. Hill/MA (R) M. Leary/NH (C) J. Pappalardo/MA (C) J. Salisbury/ME (C)	1997 2005 2002 2005	*;**3 1 2 1
Mid-Atlantic NY: P. Augustine/R MD: W. Jensen/O PA: E. Kray/R NC: J. Ruhle, Sr./C	 2002 2005 2003 1999	 2 1 *1 **3	S. Holder/NY (R)	2005	1
South Atlantic There are no obligatory vacancies on the South Atlantic Council in 2008.			D. Cupka/SC (O) G. Geiger/FL (R)	2005 2002	1 2
Gulf of Mexico There are no obligatory vacancies on the Gulf Council in 2008.			W. Daughdrill/FL (R) J. Hendrix, Jr./TX (C) R. Shipp/AL (R)	2005 2002 2005	1 2 1
Caribbean PR: E. Pineiro-Soler/C	 2002	 2	There are no at-large vacancies on the Caribbean Council in 2008.		
Pacific WA: M. Cedergreen/R	 2002	 2	R. Moore/OR (C)	2005	1
North Pacific WA: M. Bundy/C AK: E. Olson/C	 1999 2005	 **3 1	There are no at-large vacancies on the North Pacific Council.		
Western Pacific CNMI: B. Sablan/O	 2002	 2	F. Duerr/HI (R) M. Gaffney/HI (R)	2005 2005	1 1
TOTAL 9			TOTAL 13		

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

*These members replaced other members who left office during a term; in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act, section 302(b)(3), any term in which an individual was appointed to replace a member who left office during the term shall not be counted in determining the number of consecutive terms served by that Council member.

**These members have served three consecutive terms; therefore, they are ineligible by law for reappointment to a fourth consecutive term.

TABLE 3: RFMC MEMBERS' TERMS EXPIRING AUGUST 10, 2008
GROUPED BY GENERAL FISHING SECTOR CATEGORIES

	COMMERCIAL	RECREATIONAL	OTHER	TOTAL
New England	Michael P. Leary John W. Pappalardo James W. Salisbury	Thomas R. Hill		4
Mid-Atlantic	James A. Ruhle, Sr.	Patrick H. Augustine Eugene J. Kray Scott B. Holder	William P. Jensen	5
South Atlantic		George J. Geiger	David M. Cupka	2
Gulf of Mexico	Joseph P. Hendrix, Jr.	William K. Daughdrill Robert L. Shipp		3
Caribbean	Eugeñio Pineiro-Soler			1
Pacific	Rodney H. Moore	Mark V. Cedergreen		2
North Pacific	Milton J. Bundy Eric A. Olson			2
Western Pacific		Frederick E. Duerr Myrick R. Gaffney	Benigno M. Sablan	3
TOTAL	9	TOTAL 10	TOTAL 3	TOTAL 22

Removal of Members

On occasion after appointments have been made, 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 Act, the removal of a council member is limited to the following circumstances:

> a) The Secretary may remove for cause any Secretarially appointed RFMC member only when the RFMC concerned first recommends removal of the 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.

E. THE SECRETARY'S 2007 APPOINTMENTS/2008 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

As a result of the annual appointments announced on June 25, 2007, 19 members were seated on August 11, 2007.

The following sections update RFMC appointment rosters, specify apportionment totals for RFMC members, discuss fishery management issues and challenges being addressed by each RFMC, and make Secretarial recommendations for future nomination and appointment considerations. The latter reflects information included in letters sent to the constituent state governors requesting nominees, consistent with regulations at 50 CFR 600.215. The governors are required to submit their nominees by March 15 of each year.

1. New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2007 for three NEFMC members. As a result of the 2007 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives is seven commercial, four recreational, and one "other," which reflects a change from eight commercial, three recreational, and one "other." The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of at-large seats on the NEFMC remains unchanged. The appointee and reappointees are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector	**Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**
David T. Goethel/commercial	Reappointment
Colin M. Cunningham, Jr./recreational	Reappointment
Francis W. Blount, Jr./recreational	Philip R. Ruhle, Jr./commercial

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

2007 NEW ENGLAND FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (12 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	AVILA, RODNEY M.	MA	2009	C
O	PREBLE, DAVID E.	RI	2009	R
O	GOETHEL, DAVID T.	NH	2010	C
O	MCGEE, SALLY E.	CT	2009	O
O	ODLIN, JAMES A.	ME	2009	C
A	CUNNINGHAM, COLIN M. JR.	MA	2010	R
A	LEARY, MICHAEL P.	NH	2008	C
A	HILL, THOMAS R.	MA	2008	R
A	PAPPALARDO, JOHN W.	MA	2008	C
A	RICE, DANA B.	ME	2009	C
A	BLOUNT, FRANCIS W. JR.	RI	2010	R
A	SALISBURY, JAMES W.	ME	2008	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2008:

1. Thomas R. Hill – recreational fishing sector – at-large seat (Massachusetts); by law, Mr. Hill, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.

2. Michael P. Leary – commercial fishing sector – at-large seat (New Hampshire)

3. John W. Pappalardo – commercial fishing sector – at-large seat (Massachusetts)

4. James W. Salisbury – commercial fishing sector – at-large seat (Maine)

2008 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

The stocks within the NEFMC's geographical area are primarily associated with commercial fisheries. Of the eight members whose terms do not expire in 2008, four are from the commercial harvesting sector, three are from the recreational fishing sector, and one is from the "other" sector. Members from the commercial harvesting sector have experience in the groundfish, scallop, herring, and monkfish fisheries, utilizing trawl, dredge, gillnet, purse seine, and longline gear. Recreational fishing sector members are all hook-and-line and rod-and-reel fishermen representing private or for-hire recreational fishery sectors.

The four upcoming vacancies include three outgoing members from the commercial sector and one from the recreational sector. Governors are encouraged to nominate qualified nominees from the commercial and recreational fishing sectors. Also, governors are encouraged to nominate nominees from the "other" sector, including people with knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources and habitat and ecosystem approaches to management.

DISCUSSION:

The NEFMC is responsible for six Fishery Management Plans (FMPs): Northeast Multispecies, Atlantic Sea Scallop, Atlantic Herring, Deep-sea Red Crab, Skates, and Atlantic Salmon. In addition, the NEFMC and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) are jointly responsible for two FMPs (Spiny Dogfish and Monkfish). The NEFMC has the lead responsibility for the Monkfish FMP, while the MAFMC has the lead responsibility for the Spiny Dogfish FMP.

The species managed by the NEFMC are primarily commercial; however, the multispecies fishery has an important recreational component (party/charter and private vessels). The Atlantic salmon fishery is considered recreational, although possession of Atlantic salmon is prohibited in the Exclusive Economic Zone under the Atlantic Salmon FMP. Management of all of the fisheries must take into consideration effects of the fisheries on habitat, and must consider ways to minimize bycatch. Fishing gear technology and selectivity are areas of great interest, to allow healthy stocks to be harvested at or near their optimum yields while protecting overfished and rebuilding stocks.

In 2007, the Council's management actions included:

- **Northeast Multispecies**
  The Council continued the development of Amendment 16, which will address mid-course adjustments to the rebuilding plans for overfished groundfish stocks and other

management needs in the fishery. The Council also initiated Amendment 15 to rebuild small-mesh species of groundfish.

- **Atlantic Sea Scallops**
  The Council submitted and NMFS approved Amendment 11, which implemented an individual transferable quota program for the General Category scallop fishery; Amendment 13, which approved procedures for industry-funded observers in the scallop fishery; and Framework 20, which contains restrictions on fishing in the Elephant Trunk Access Area. The Council also completed Framework 19, which contains biennial measures for the 2008–2009 scallop fisheries.

- **Atlantic Herring**
  The Council considered changes to the fishery specifications for the 2008–2009 fisheries.

- **Monkfish**
  The Council completed Framework 4 to the FMP to revise the annual specification process for monkfish and to continue stock rebuilding, and initiated work on Framework 5, to change the biological reference points in response to a new stock assessment.

- **Skates**
  The Council initiated Skates Amendment 3 to rebuild overfished skate stocks.

- **Habitat**
  The Council continued development of an omnibus habitat amendment, which will amend the essential fish habitat designations in the Council's FMPs and provide additional measures to protect habitat. Phase I, to better define essential fish habitat (EFH), was completed, and work on Phase II, to develop management measures to protect EFH, was initiated.

- **Bycatch**
  The Council, in conjunction with the MAFMC and NMFS, completed development of a comprehensive omnibus amendment that will standardize bycatch reporting methodology for all of the Northeast FMPs.

Council priorities for 2008 include:

- Continue work on Phase II of a two-part omnibus amendment to address issues regarding EFH across all of the Council's FMPs;
- Initiate Scallop Amendment 15 to develop annual catch limits and accountability measures for the scallop fishery;
- Complete Monkfish Framework 5 to update biological reference points and address other issues in the monkfish fishery;
- Continue development of Amendment 16 to the NE Multispecies FMP to adjust measures necessary to rebuild overfished groundfish stocks and to make other adjustments, as necessary;

- Continue development of Multispecies Amendment 15 to rebuild small-mesh groundfish stocks and develop annual catch limits and accountability measures for these stocks;
- Complete Skates Amendment 3 to rebuild overfished stocks and to develop annual catch limits and accountability measures for these stocks.

2. Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2007 for four MAFMC members. As a result of the 2007 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives remains unchanged at five commercial, five recreational, and three "other." The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of at-large seats on the MAFMC remains unchanged. The appointees and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector	**Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**
Lee G. Anderson/"other"	Ronal W. Smith/"other" (ineligible, by law, for a fourth consecutive term)
Erling A. Berg/commercial	Francis E. Puskas/commercial
Richard B. Robins, Jr./commercial	Yvonne M. Peabody/commercial
Lawrence W. Simns/commercial	Reappointment

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

2007 MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (13 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	AUGUSTINE, PATRICK H.	NY	2008	R
O	GOLDMAN, EDWARD L.	NJ	2009	R
O	KRAY, EUGENE J.	PA	2008	R
O	DEEM, JEFFREY D.	VA	2009	R
O	RUHLE, JAMES A. SR.	NC	2008	C
O	JENSEN, WILLIAM P.	MD	2008	O
O	ANDERSON, LEE G.	DE	2010	O
A	NOLAN, LAURIE A.	NY	2009	C
A	ROBINS, RICHARD B. JR.	VA	2010	C
A	BERG, ERLING A.	NJ	2010	C
A	SIMNS, LAWRENCE W.	MD	2010	C
A	SPITSBERGEN, DENNIS L.	NC	2009	O
A	HOLDER, SCOTT B.	NY	2008	R

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2008:

1. Patrick H. Augustine – recreational fishing sector – New York's obligatory seat

2. Eugene J. Kray – recreational fishing sector – Pennsylvania's obligatory seat

3. William P. Jensen – "other" sector – Maryland's obligatory seat

4. James A. Ruhle, Sr. – commercial fishing sector – North Carolina's obligatory seat; by law, Mr. Ruhle, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.

5. Scott B. Holder – recreational fishing sector – at-large seat (New York)

2008 REPORT RECOMMENDATION(S):

A total of eight members will continue after 2008—four from the commercial sector, two from the recreational sector, and two from the "other" sector. Commercial sector members include harvesters and processors, with experience in the bluefish, surfclam, summer flounder, scup, black seabass, monkfish, spiny dogfish, scallop, squid, mackerel, butterfish, herring, and tilefish fisheries, utilizing dredge, gillnet, longline, and trawl gear. Recreational sector members are all rod-and-reel fishermen representing private or for-hire recreational fishery sectors.

The five upcoming vacancies include one outgoing member from the commercial sector, three from the recreational sector, and one from the "other" sector. MAFMC fisheries have both commercial and recreational components; therefore, it is important that a balance be achieved between both sectors. Governors are encouraged to nominate individuals from the recreational charter fishery, with hook-and-line and rod-and-reel experience, as well as representatives from the commercial sector. Also, governors are encouraged to nominate individuals from the "other" sector, including people with knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources and habitat, and ecosystem approaches to management.

DISCUSSION:

The MAFMC is exclusively responsible for five existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs): Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish; Surfclam and Ocean Quahog; Tilefish; and Atlantic Bluefish. In addition, the MAFMC and New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) are jointly responsible for two other FMPs (Spiny Dogfish and Monkfish). The MAFMC has the lead responsibility for the Spiny Dogfish FMP, and the NEFMC has the lead responsibility for the Monkfish FMP.

Some of these fisheries are primarily commercial (e.g., surfclam, ocean quahog, tilefish, spiny dogfish, squid, Atlantic mackerel, and butterfish); others have significant recreational

components (bluefish, summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass). Management of all fisheries must take into consideration effects of the fisheries on habitat, and must consider ways to minimize bycatch.

In 2007, the Council's management actions included:

- **Summer Flounder/Scup/Black Sea Bass**
  In addition to developing annual specifications and recreational measures for these fisheries, the Council completed Amendment 14 to the FMP to develop a rebuilding program for scup, and Framework 7 to allow the Council flexibility in selecting the most appropriate assessment parameters for summer flounder. The Council also continued development of Amendment 15 to the FMP to comprehensively address allocation and conservation issues in the summer flounder, scup, and black seabass fisheries.

- **Surfclams/Ocean Quahogs**
  The Council developed annual specifications for the fisheries for 2008–2010, and completed Framework 1, which contains vessel monitoring system requirements.

- **Squid/Mackerel/Butterfish**
  In addition to developing annual specifications for these fisheries for 2008, the Council completed Amendment 9 to the FMP, to revise *Illex* squid quota procedures and make other modifications to the management of these fisheries. The Council also continued development of Amendment 10, which contains a rebuilding program for butterfish, and Amendment 11, which contains a limited access program for Atlantic mackerel.

- **Spiny Dogfish**
  The Council developed the 2008 specifications for this fishery.

- **Tilefish**
  The Council continued development of Amendment 1 to the FMP, and is considering an individual transferable quota (ITQ) system in this fishery.

- **Bluefish**
  The Council developed specifications for the 2008 recreational and commercial bluefish fisheries.

- **Bycatch**
  The Council completed development, in conjunction with the NEFMC and NMFS, of a comprehensive omnibus amendment for standardized bycatch reporting methodology in all Northeast FMPs.

Council priorities for 2008 include:

- Complete a rebuilding program for butterfish through Amendment 10 to the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish FMP;
- Develop a limited access program for the Atlantic mackerel fishery through Amendment 11 to the Atlantic Mackerel/Squid/Butterfish FMP;
- Complete Amendment 1 to the Tilefish FMP, which may include ITQs in the fishery;
- Develop Bluefish Amendment 2 to address essential fish habitat issues;
- Develop Spiny Dogfish Framework 2 to address biological reference points for rebuilding;
- Develop Surfclam/Ocean Quahog Amendment 14, which would provide a cost recovery system for the fishery;
- Develop, in conjunction with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, Amendment 15 to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Seabass FMP, to address changes to biological reference points and to consider allocation issues in the FMP; and
- Complete annual specifications for the summer flounder/scup/black sea bass (commercial and recreational), mackerel/squid/butterfish, and bluefish fisheries, including research set-asides, as warranted.

3. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2007 for two SAFMC members. As a result of the 2007 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives remains unchanged at three commercial, four recreational, and one "other." The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of at-large seats on the SAFMC remains unchanged. The appointee and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector	**Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**
Rita G. Merritt/commercial	Reappointment
Thomas L. Swatzel, III/recreational	Frank E. Gibson/recreational

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

2007 SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (8 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	HARRIS, CHARLES D.	GA	2009	R
O	IAROCCI, ANTHONY L.	FL	2009	C
O	MERRITT, RITA G.	NC	2010	C
O	SWATZEL, THOMAS L. III	SC	2010	R
A	CURRIN, BENJAMIN M.	NC	2009	R
A	CUPKA, DAVID M.	SC	2008	O
A	GEIGER, GEORGE J.	FL	2008	R
A	WALLACE, JOHN A.	GA	2009	C

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2008:

1. David M. Cupka – "other" sector – at-large seat (South Carolina)

2. George J. Geiger – recreational fishing sector – at-large seat (Florida)

2008 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Of the six members whose terms do not expire in 2008, three are from the commercial sector and three are from the recreational sector. The remaining commercial members' experience include harvesting and processing, while the recreational members are rod-and-reel fishermen. The governors are encouraged to nominate nominees from both the commercial and recreational

sectors so the Secretary can achieve a balance between these two interest groups. While nominees to help balance the commercial and recreational sectors are important, the governors should also be encouraged to nominate nominees from the "other" sector, including people with knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources and habitat and ecosystem approaches to management.

DISCUSSION:

The SAFMC has prepared fishery management plans (FMPs) and amendments for the following fisheries or living marine resources in the South Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ): red drum; shrimp (penaeid and rock); coral, coral reef, and live/hard bottom habitats; golden crab; dolphin/wahoo; *Sargassum*; and the snapper-grouper species complex. The SAFMC and the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council have prepared joint FMPs for spiny lobster and coastal migratory pelagic (CMP) species in the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico.

In 2007, the SAFMC's management actions included:

- Amendment 14 to the Snapper Grouper FMP, which includes eight marine protected areas from North Carolina to Florida;
- Regulatory Amendment to the joint CMP FMP, which would adjust the timing of seasonally adjusted Spanish mackerel trip limits;
- Public Hearing Draft of Amendment 15A to the Snapper Grouper FMP, which would update management reference points and address rebuilding plans for snowy grouper, black sea bass, and red porgy;
- Public Hearing Draft of Amendment 15B to the Snapper Grouper FMP, which would evaluate whether to include measures to eliminate the sale of recreationally caught snapper grouper species, change the renewal period for commercial snapper grouper permits, allow individual permit holders to form family-held corporations without purchasing an additional permit, update management reference points for golden tilefish, define allocation for snowy grouper and red porgy, monitor and assess bycatch, and minimize the impacts of incidental take on sea turtles and smalltooth sawfish;
- Draft Fishery Ecosystem Plan Comprehensive Amendment, which would be used to transition from single species management to fishery ecosystem-based management;
- Scoping Document for Snapper Grouper Amendment 16, which would include measures to end overfishing of gag and vermilion snapper;
- Scoping Document for Amendment 19 to the joint CMP FMP, which would include measures to separate management plans, revise king mackerel stock boundaries, and provide for separate permits between the Gulf and South Atlantic regions; and
- Draft Scoping Document for Amendment 7 to the Shrimp FMP, which would address issues in the rock shrimp fishery.

The SAFMC also:

- Analyzed and recommended the transfer of red drum management authority in the South Atlantic EEZ from the SAFMC to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC);

- Administered and actively participated in the Southeast Data Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process for South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico gag, South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico mutton snapper, South Atlantic red snapper, and South Atlantic greater amberjack;
- Developed a Limited Access Privilege Program (LAPP) Workgroup; and
- Continued to support NMFS by participating in activities of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas Advisory Committee, and the Highly Migratory Species and Billfish Advisory Panels.

SAFMC priorities for 2008 include:

- Submit Amendment 15A to the Snapper Grouper FMP to the Secretary;
- Submit Amendment 15B to the Snapper Grouper FMP to the Secretary;
- Submit Amendment 16 to the Snapper Grouper FMP to the Secretary;
- Continue development of Amendment 19 to the joint CMP FMP;
- Continue development of the Ecosystem Management Plan and Comprehensive Amendments;
- Develop Amendment 17 to the Snapper Grouper FMP, which would include, among other actions, annual catch limits (ACL) and accountability measures (AM) for species subject to overfishing;
- Develop Amendment 18 to the Snapper Grouper FMP, which would include a LAPP for the snapper grouper fishery;
- Develop a Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment, which would include ACLs and AMs for species not experiencing overfishing;
- Develop a Comprehensive Allocation Amendment, which would use a variety of techniques to allocate catch for snapper grouper species between commercial and recreational sectors;
- Receive approval for the transfer of the Red Drum FMP from the SAFMC to the ASMFC; and
- Actively participate in the SEDAR process for South Atlantic vermilion snapper, greater amberjack, red snapper, king mackerel, and Spanish mackerel.

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4. Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2007 for three GMFMC members. As a result of the 2007 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives is four commercial, four recreational, and three "other," which reflects a change from four commercial, five recreational, and two "other." The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of at-large seats on the GMFMC remains unchanged. The appointees and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector	**Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**
Michael S. Ray/ "other"	Norman D. Adams III/recreational
Harolyn K. Williams/commercial	Philip D. Horn/commercial
Julie K. Morris/ "other"	Reappointment

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

2007 GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (11 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	RAY, MICHAEL S.	TX	2010	O
O	GILL, ROBERT P.	FL	2009	C
O	VILLERE, SUSAN S.	LA	2009	R
O	WILLIAMS, HAROLYN K.	MS	2010	C
O	WALKER, BOBBI M.	AL	2009	R
A	SHIPP, ROBERT L.	AL	2008	R
A	DAUGHDRILL, WILLIAM K.	FL	2008	R
A	HENDRIX, JOSEPH P. JR.	TX	2008	C
A	MORRIS, JULIE K.	FL	2010	O
A	PEARCE, HARLON H.	LA	2009	C
A	MCILWAIN, THOMAS D.	MS	2009	O

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2008:

1. Robert L. Shipp – recreational fishing sector – at-large seat (Alabama)

2. William K. Daughdrill – recreational fishing sector – at-large seat (Florida)

3. Joseph P. Hendrix, Jr. – commercial fishing sector – at-large seat (Texas)

2008 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Of the eight members whose terms continue beyond 2008, three are from the commercial sector, two are from the recreational sector, and three are from the "other" sector. The remaining commercial members' experience includes harvesting, processing, and seafood marketing, while the recreational members are all rod-and-reel fishermen.

The three council members whose terms expire in 2008 include one outgoing member from the commercial sector and two from the recreational sector. The reauthorized Magnuson-Stevens Act requires a governor of a state submitting a list of names of individuals for appointment by the Secretary to the GMFMC to include at least one nominee each from the commercial, recreational, and charter fishing sectors; and at least one other individual who is knowledgeable regarding the conservation and management of fisheries resources in the jurisdiction of the Council.

DISCUSSION:

The GMFMC has prepared fishery management plans (FMP) and amendments for the following fisheries or living marine resources in the Gulf of Mexico Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ): reef fish, shrimp, coral and coral reefs, red drum, and stone crab. The GMFMC and the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council have prepared joint FMPs for the spiny lobster fishery and coastal migratory pelagic species in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic.

In 2007, the GMFMC's management actions included:

- Amendment to the Reef Fish FMP for vermilion snapper;
- NMFS implementation of Amendment 14/27 to the Reef Fish and Shrimp FMPs, which establishes measures to end overfishing of red snapper by commercial and recreational directed fisheries and the shrimp trawl fishery;
- Public Hearing Draft of Amendment 30A to the Reef Fish FMP, which would include measures to end overfishing of gray triggerfish and greater amberjack, create a gray triggerfish rebuilding plan, and revise the greater amberjack rebuilding plan;
- Public Hearing Draft for the Generic Offshore Aquaculture Amendment, which would include a framework for conducting aquaculture in the EEZ;
- Pre-Public Hearing Draft of Amendment 30B to the Reef Fish FMP, which would include measures to end overfishing of gag, revise reef fish management measures, and adjust the red grouper total allowable catch;
- Draft Scoping Document for Amendment 29 to the Reef Fish FMP, which would address grouper effort management; and
- Amendment 13 to the Shrimp FMP, which includes measures for the issuance of vessel permits to shrimp vessels.

The GMFMC also:

- Actively participated in the Southeast Data Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process for gag, red grouper, and mutton snapper;
- Conducted a series of meetings with the Ad Hoc Shrimp Effort Working Group;
- Convened several meetings of the Ecosystem Scientific and Statistical Committee, who developed ecosystem models for some of the ecosystems; and
- Conducted a series of meetings with the Ad Hoc Grouper Individual Fishing Quota advisory panel.

GMFMC priorities for 2008 include:

- Submit Amendment 30A to the Reef Fish FMP to the Secretary;
- Submit Amendment 30B to the Reef Fish FMP to the Secretary;
- Submit the Generic Offshore Aquaculture Amendment to the Secretary;
- Draft Amendment 29 to the Reef Fish FMP, which would include a limited access program for grouper and tilefish; and
- Draft Amendment 28 to the Reef Fish FMP for allocation of grouper between recreational and commercial user groups.

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5. Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

The term expired in 2007 for one CFMC member. As a result of the 2007 appointment, the composition of fishing sector representatives remains the same at two commercial, one recreational, and one "other." The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of at-large seats on the CFMC remains unchanged. The appointee is as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector	**Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**
Winston J. Ledee/commercial	Monica M. Lester/commercial

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

2007 CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (4 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	BROWN, VIRDIN C.	VI	2009	O
O	PIÑEIRO-SOLER, EUGENIO	PR	2008	C
A	HANKE, MARCOS R.	PR	2009	R
A	LEDEE, WINSTON J.	VI	2010	C

EXPIRING TERM:

The following member's term will expire on August 10, 2008:

1. Eugeñio Pineiro-Soler – commercial fishing sector – Puerto Rico's obligatory seat

2008 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Three remaining members will serve beyond 2008 on the CFMC: one from the commercial fishing sector, one from the recreational fishing sector, and one from the "other" sector. The one upcoming vacancy includes an outgoing member from the commercial fishing sector. The Governor of Puerto Rico is encouraged to nominate nominees from both the commercial and recreational fishing sectors, as well as nominees from the "other" sector, including people with knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources and habitat and ecosystem approaches to management.

DISCUSSION:

The CFMC has prepared Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) and amendments for the following fisheries or living marine resources in the Caribbean Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ): spiny lobster, reef fish, coral and reef associated plants and invertebrates, and queen conch.

In 2007, the CFMC's management actions included:

- Options Paper for Amendment 4 to the Reef Fish FMP and Amendment 3 to the Spiny Lobster FMP, which would require escape vents in fish traps;
- Scoping Document for Amendment 4 to the Spiny Lobster FMP, which would address the illegal harvest and exportation of undersized lobster tails to the United States;
- Consulted with local governments to develop compatible closed season and other regulations to reduce fishing effort; and
- Utilized a St. Croix EEZ Working Group to address issues related to red hind spawning closure and prohibition of bottom tending gear on Lang Bank.

The CFMC also:

- Developed a white paper on the sale of catch by recreational fishermen;
- Actively participated in an international delegation to study how to strengthen the Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission;
- Participated in an international Large Marine Ecosystem project;
- Actively participated in the international Queen Conch Initiative; and
- Actively participated in an international symposium on spiny lobster management and trade.

CFMC priorities for 2008 include:

- Revisit local government consultations to finish developing compatible regulations to reduce fishing effort and protect essential fish habitat;
- Develop Amendment 4 to the Reef Fish FMP and Amendment 3 to the Spiny Lobster FMP;
- Develop Amendment 4 to the Spiny Lobster FMP;
- Consider additional management measures for queen conch to end overfishing;
- Begin development of a Comprehensive Annual Catch Limits Amendment for managed species;
- Determine the feasibility of a limited entry program for U.S. Virgin Islands fisheries; and
- Consider other alternatives for the area closure for bottom tending gear on Lang Bank.

6. Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2007 for two PFMC members. As a result of the 2007 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives remains the same at three commercial, five recreational, and one tribal representative, who is counted as a member of the "other" sector." The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of available at-large seats on the PFMC remains unchanged. The appointee and reappointee are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector	**Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**
David W. Ortmann/recreational	Reappointment
Danny L. Wolford/recreational	Roger Thomas/recreational (ineligible, by law, for a fourth consecutive term)

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

2007 PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (9 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	CEDERGREEN, MARK V.	WA	2008	R
O	ORTMANN, DAVID W.	ID	2010	R
O	FOSMARK, KATHLEEN A.	CA	2009	C
O	WARRENS, FRANK R.	OR	2009	R
	PFMC TRIBAL SEAT (*T):			
O	SONES, DAVID B.	WA	2009	T
A	MYER, DALE D.	WA	2009	C
A	MOORE, RODNEY H.	OR	2008	C
A	HANSEN, DONALD K.	CA	2009	R
A	WOLFORD, DANNY L.	CA	2010	R

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2008:

1. Mark V. Cedergreen – recreational sector – Washington's obligatory seat

2. Rodney H. Moore – commercial fishing sector – at-large seat (Oregon)

2008 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Members who will continue to serve beyond 2008 include two from the commercial sector (harvesters, seafood processors), four from the recreational sector utilizing rod-and-reel and hook-and-line gear, and one from the "other" sector (Tribal).

Four recreational members will remain on the Council after 2008, compared to only two commercial members. The governors are encouraged to provide the Secretary with nominees from the commercial sector with expertise in all fisheries managed by the PFMC to maintain a balance of both sector interests. Also, governors are encouraged to nominate nominees from the "other" sector, including people with knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources and habitat and ecosystem approaches to management.

DISCUSSION:

The PFMC has prepared FMPs for: Pacific Coast groundfish, West Coast salmon, coastal pelagic species (CPS), and highly migratory species (HMS) fisheries.

The PFMC also has responsibility for recommending allocations of Pacific halibut among treaty Indian and non-Indian commercial and recreational users in Area 2A under the Northern Pacific Halibut Act.

In 2007, the Council's management actions included:

- Continued the development of a Ecosystem Plan that will serve as an "umbrella" plan over the four existing FMPs;
- Adopted a final range of intersector allocations alternatives for Groundfish Amendment 21, and adopted preliminary 2009–2010 Groundfish Harvest Specifications;
- Adopted a range of alternatives for a groundfish trawl limited access privilege program, including the possibility of fishing co-ops;
- Recommended an Emergency Rule to limit effort in the Pacific whiting fishery;
- Completed Amendment 15 to the Groundfish FMP to limit effort in the Pacific whiting fishery;
- For the 2007 salmon season, adopted ocean salmon seasons to protect Columbia River and Klamath River Fall Chinook;
- Drafted the final Environmental Assessment (EA) and finalized the sardine long-term allocation amendment to the CPS FMP for the West Coast sardine fishery;
- Completed the Krill FMP amendment to the CPS FMP to prohibit harvest of all species of krill in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone off the West Coast and, working with NMFS, completed the supporting environmental assessment;
- Adopted an FMP amendment for a Pacific-wide response to overfishing of bigeye tuna with particular emphasis on providing recommendations to international fishery management organizations for reducing high seas international longline and purse seine fisheries;

- Adopted recommendations to NMFS to authorize exempted fishing permits that would allow drift gillnet fishing in the current August 15–November 15 closed area and longlining inside the West Coast EEZ;
- Provided input for tropical tuna conservation measures to the General Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC); and
- Provided recommendations to NMFS on characterizing U. S. fishing effort on North Pacific albacore in response to resolutions adopted by the IATTC and Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.

Council priorities for 2007 and 2008 include:

- Complete the process for developing groundfish harvest specifications and management measures for 2009–2010 including the review of nine stock assessments;
- Continue progress on a license limitation program for the open access groundfish fishery;
- Complete development of a limited access privilege program for the groundfish trawl fishery and associated intersector allocations;
- Continue to address the challenge of providing opportunities for commercial, recreational, and treaty Indian fisheries in the ocean while protecting ESA-listed and other depressed salmon stocks;
- Continue efforts to develop an umbrella Ecosystem FMP;
- Complete the HMS FMP to include the high seas shallow-set longline fishery;
- Provide recommendations to the Secretary of State and the Congress to address eastern Pacific Ocean overfishing of yellowfin tuna; and
- Review the sardine allocation formula.

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7. North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2007 for two NPFMC obligatory members. As a result of the 2007 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives on the NPFMC remains unchanged at six commercial and one recreational. There are no available at-large seats on the NPFMC. The appointees are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector	**Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**
Duncan S. Fields/commercial	Douglas W. Hoedel/commercial
Samuel R. Cotten/commercial	Stephanie D. Madsen/commercial

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

2007 NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (7 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	BENSON DAVID W.	WA	2009	C
O	BUNDY, MILTON J.	WA	2008	C
O	MERRIGAN, GERALD P.	AK	2009	C
O	FIELDS, DUNCAN S.	AK	2010	C
O	COTTEN, SAMUEL R.	AK	2010	C
O	OLSON, ERIC A.	AK	2008	C
O	RASMUSON, EDWARD B.	AK	2009	R

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2008:

1. Milton J. Bundy – commercial fishing sector – Washington's obligatory seat; by law, Mr. Bundy, who is completing a third consecutive term, is ineligible for renomination to a fourth consecutive term.

2. Eric A. Olson – commercial fishing sector – Alaska's obligatory seat

2008 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Of the five members whose terms will continue beyond 2008 on the NPFMC, four are from the commercial sector with experience in processing and harvesting, and one is from the recreational fishing sector. The two upcoming vacancies include two outgoing members from the commercial sector. Although commercial fisheries are particularly important in this region, the governors are encouraged to continue to nominate persons from the recreational fishing sector

and from the "other" sector. "Other" sector nominees should include persons with backgrounds in academics, fisheries management, environmental science, economics, or social science, and who have knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources and habitat and ecosystem approaches to management.

DISCUSSION:

The NPFMC has five Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) for: Gulf of Alaska (GOA) groundfish, Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) groundfish, salmon fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone, BSAI king and Tanner crab, and scallop fisheries in the GOA and BSAI.

The Council 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, overfishing definition, and habitat management issues. In addition, under the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982, 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.

Of all fisheries managed under FMPs, only four species are currently under rebuilding plans. These species include the Pribilof Island blue king crab, Bering Sea snow crab, Bering Sea Tanner crab, and St. Matthew blue king crab. After NMFS determined that each of these stocks was overfished, the Council promptly developed rebuilding plans for these species, as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and these plans have been approved by NMFS. Rebuilding plans were approved for Pribilof Island blue king crab in 2004 (FMP Amendment 17), Bering Sea snow crab in 2001 (FMP Amendment 14), St. Matthew blue king crab in 2000 (FMP Amendment 15), and Bering Sea Tanner crab in 2000 (FMP Amendment 11). During 2007, the abundance of only Pribilof Island blue king crab continues to be below its minimum stock size threshold.

The most significant fishery management issues faced by the Council in 2007 that will receive priority attention in 2008 include:

- Assist NFMS in finalizing the Recovery Plan for Steller sea lions, assessing alternatives for possible changes to Steller sea lion protection measures, and re-initiating consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act on an FMP-level biological opinion with particular reference to Steller sea lions;
- Development of measures to manage the harvest of halibut in the charter fishery in IPHC areas 2C and 3A;
- Refinement of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab Rationalization Program and other limited access privilege programs developed by the Council and implemented by NMFS;
- Development of measures to address ongoing concerns about the high level of salmon bycatch in the Bering Sea pollock fishery; and
- Development of a new Arctic Fishery Management Plan.

8. Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPFMC)

BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

Terms expired in 2007 for two WPFMC members. As a result of the 2007 appointments, the composition of fishing sector representatives is two commercial, four recreational, and two "other" representatives, which reflects a change from three commercial, four recreational, and one "other." The current geographical balance regarding the distribution of at-large seats on the WPFMC remains unchanged. The appointees are as follows:

New Member/Fishing Sector	**Outgoing Member/Fishing Sector**
Peter T. Young/ "other"	Edwin A. Ebisui, Jr./recreational
William A. Sword/recreational	Frank W. McCoy/commercial; (ineligible by law, for a fourth consecutive term)

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

2007 WESTERN PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (8 Members)				
Obligatory/ At-large	Appointed Members	State	Appt. Ends	Interest Sector
O	DUENAS, MANUEL P. II	GU	2009	C
O	HALECK, STEPHEN	AmS	2009	R
O	SABLAN, BENIGNO M.	CNMI	2008	O
O	MARTIN, SEAN C.	HI	2009	C
A	YOUNG, PETER T.	HI	2010	O
A	DUERR, FREDERICK E.	HI	2008	R
A	GAFFNEY, MYRICK R.	HI	2008	R
A	SWORD, WILLIAM A.	AmS	2010	R

EXPIRING TERMS:

The following members' terms will expire on August 10, 2008:

1. Benigno M. Sablan – "other" sector – Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands' obligatory seat

2. Frederick E. Duerr – recreational fishing sector – at-large seat (Hawaii)

3. Myrick R. Gaffney – recreational fishing sector – at-large seat (Hawaii)

2008 REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Of the five appointed members who will serve beyond 2008 on the WPFMC, two are from the commercial fishery sector (seafood marketers), two are from the recreational fishery sector, and one is from the "other" sector. Presently, the WPFMC is weighted more heavily toward the recreational fishery sector. To achieve a balance on the WPFMC, the governors are encouraged to nominate representatives from the commercial fishery sector with fishery experience and the recreational fishery sector. Also, the governors are encouraged to nominate from the "other" sector. "Other" sector nominees include those who have backgrounds in academics, fisheries management, environmental science, economics, or social science, and with knowledge and experience in the conservation and management of marine resources and habitat and ecosystem approaches to management.

DISCUSSION:

In 2004, the WPFMC developed and NMFS implemented the nation's first coral reef ecosystem fisheries management plan. The WPFMC developed and recommended (December 20, 2005) additional ecosystem-management approaches to conserve and manage marine resources in the western Pacific region via Fishery Ecosystem Plans (FEPs). The FEPs, which are place-based management plans, will replace the existing fishery management plans that are species-based. For example, all demersal marine resources (crustaceans, bottomfish and seamount groundfish, precious corals, and coral reef fisheries) around Hawaii will be managed under the Hawaiian Archipelago FEP. Similarly, the American Samoa, Mariana Islands, and Pacific Remote Island Areas will each have their own FEP. Due to their wide-ranging nature, pelagic species will continue to be managed together under one Pelagic FEP. Implementation of the five proposed FEPs by NMFS is anticipated to improve understanding and management of the interconnected diversity of marine species that inhabit these areas. This work is being accomplished though the establishment of Regional Ecosystem Advisory Committees, which are able to share information on programs and activities, as well as to coordinate management efforts and resources to address fishing-related and non-fishing-related issues that could affect ocean and coastal resources. The WPFMC believes that these types of community-based management approaches are the necessary foundation for successful and sustainable resource management, and such work will be a priority for 2008.

In response to a determination by NMFS that overfishing of the bottomfish species stock complex was occurring in the Hawaiian Archipelago, the WPFMC took final action on proposed amendments to its bottomfish fishery management plan (May 26, 2006, and June 21, 2007) with measures to end overfishing by reducing effort and mortality in accordance with recommendations from NMFS. This would be accomplished through a phased-in approach utilizing closed seasons during the first 2 years, followed by the use of annual total allowable catches imposed on the recreational and commercial bottomfish fisheries in subsequent years. Ending overfishing will remain a priority for the WPFMC.

The reauthorized Magnuson-Stevens Act established, among other things, new requirements to end and prevent overfishing through the use of annual catch limits and accountability measures.

However, estimates of the maximum sustainable yields (MSY) and stock status for many Pacific management unit species have not been determined. Obtaining MSY estimates and stock status assessments for managed species is one of the WPFMC's highest priorities for 2008.

In 2008, the WPFMC will re-evaluate management of the Hawaii-based swordfish fishery. The 2004 introduction of circle hooks and mackerel-type bait reduced the rate of interactions with sea turtles by approximately 90 percent, and the remaining interactions have been largely external with few long-lasting injuries incurred. The WPFMC will examine whether the annual allowable number of Hawaii-based swordfish sets can be increased to provide greater opportunity to harvest swordfish while continuing to avoid, to the extent practicable, the accidental catch of sea turtles and other protected species. The success of these techniques has also been noted by other fleets and countries. The techniques and the research on which they are based are informing the deliberations of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), which will consider the adoption of turtle bycatch mitigation measures when the WCPFC meets in December 2007.

Another high priority of the WPFMC continues to be working internationally to manage harvests of pelagic species, as well as the impacts of international fishing on protected species such as sea turtles, seabirds, whales, and sharks. In 2007, NMFS partially approved the WPFMC's recommendations of June 6, 2005, to address international overfishing of bigeye and yellowfin tuna. Regulations implementing approved provisions establish a protocol under the Magnuson-Stevens Act for the implementation of recommendations that result from international negotiations concerning overfishing and the rebuilding of overfished stocks.

Lastly, the WPFMC is concerned about increased reliance on imported seafood. There is little information on the fishing practices of many foreign fishing fleets, and the available information indicates that a significant number are experiencing high levels of bycatch and protected species interactions as a result of regulatory controls that are not as stringent as those of the United States. In 2008 the WPFMC will examine this and other aspects of seafood safety, and will seek to expand public awareness and responsiveness to this issue.

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F. Appendix – Statistical Fisheries Data

In addition to assessing the apportionment of membership on each RFMC, this report provides 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.[7/]

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7/The 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 with the following Appendix, which lists FMPs and other statistical data for Atlantic and Gulf HMS.

Appendix

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 2006–2007 fisheries listed by fishery management plan (FMP). Reported landings are for catches throughout the entire range of a fishery managed under the FMP. Beginning from the leftmost column, the listed data are:

1. FMPs developed by each RFMC;
2. 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. Weight of each species or species group in a fishery landed in 2004 (or as otherwise indicated) showing both the landings for commercial and recreational fishermen, if recreational information is available;
5. 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. Range and seasonality of the fishery; and
8. Number of current RFMC members who are commercial or recreational sector participants in each fishery; or their representatives. 8/

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.

8/Vertical sums in the attached appendices may not match the sums entered for interest sectors in Table 1 on page 7. If one or more council member actively participated in more than one fishery, the vertical sum will exceed the number entered in the interest sector column. Also, if a Council member participated in a currently closed fishery, he or she is still listed as a representative of the fishery in the table because of the expertise they bring to the Council regarding the operation of the fishery.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2005	Vessels (permits) 2005	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007	
								Comm.	Rec.
Northeast Multi-Species	C	Commercial		3,607	trawl, dredge, longline, gillnet, hook & line	FMP area/year round	gutted	8	3
		Atlantic cod	5,376						
		Haddock	6,620						
		Pollock	5,743						
		Hakes	9,299						
		Ocean perch (redfish)	564						
		Yellowtail flounder	4,118						
		American plaice	1,350						
		Winter flounder	3,667						
		Witch flounder	2,652						
		Windowpane flounder*	89						
		Atlantic halibut	15						
		Ocean pout	4						
	R	Recreational		741	hook & line	FMP area/year round	gutted, filleted		
		Cod	2,030						
		Pollock	498						
		Winter flounder	145						
Atlantic Sea Scallops	C	Atlantic sea scallops	25,693	3,184	dredge & trawl	FMP area/year round	hand shucking and freezing	3	0
Atlantic Salmon	R	Atlantic salmon	0	none	None	none	none	0	0
Deep-sea Red Crab	C	Deep-sea red crab	1,667	1,610	Traps, trawl	FMP area/year round	whole, partially processed at sea	1	0
Atlantic Herring	C	Atlantic herring	96,795	2,557	Mid-water trawl; purse seines; weirs; otter trawl	FMP area/year round	fresh/canned shoreside/fresh bait	3	0
Monkfish	C	Monkfish	10,027	3,125	gillnets, trawls, dredges	FMP area/year round	fresh	7	0

NEFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2007	Recreational 2007	Other 2007
7	4	1

Commercial fisheries landings statistics were provided by the Northeast Region and are based on information in the Region's data base as of December 2006. Recreational fisheries information was obtained from the Office of Science and Technology at http://www.st.nmfs.gov/st1/recreational/queries/index.html and are based on the results of the 2005 Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey.

A-ii MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (MAFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2006	Vessels (permits) 2006	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007	
								Comm.	Rec.
Atlantic Mackerel, Squid & Butterfish	C	Commercial Atlantic mackerel	56,641	2,493	otter trawl, trap, gillnet	FMP area/ year round	frozen, whole	2	1
	C	Squid, Loligo Squid, Ilex Butterfish	15,907 13,837 554	(Combine) 2,566	trawl; traps	FMP area/ year round	at-sea & ashore, some mackerel fillets		
	R	Recreational Atlantic mackerel	1,633	752		FMP area/year round			
Atlantic Surf Clam & Ocean Quahogs	C	Atlantic surfclams Ocean quahogs	27,177 14,461	1,808 1,814	dredge	FMP area/ year round (ITQ mgmt.)	shucked shoreside	1	
Summer Flounder (fluke)	x	Commercial	6,315	941	hook & line, otter trawl, trap, gillnet	FMP area/ year round	fillets ashore; fresh & frozen	3	3
		Recreational	5,129	839					
Scup	x	Commercial	4,062	801					
		Recreational	1,333	731					
Black Sea Bass	x	Commercial	1,285	850					
		Recreational	882	804					
Tilefish	C	Golden Tilefish	833	2,257	longline, hook & line	FMP area/year round	fresh/frozen	1	
Atlantic Bluefish	X	Commercial	2,990	3,157	hook & line; otter trawl; gillnet	FMP area/year round	fillets fresh/frozen	1	3
	x	Recreational	7,663	884					
Spiny Dogfish	C	Commercial	2,360	2,990	gillnet; trawl	FMP area/year round	fresh/frozen	5	1

MAFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2007	Recreational 2007	Other 2007
5	5	3

Commercial fisheries landings and permit statistics were provided by the Northeast Region and are based on information in the Region's data base as of November 2007. Recreational fisheries landings were obtained from the Office of Science and Technology at http://www.st.nmfs.gov/st1/recreational/queries/index.html and are based on the results of the 2006 Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2006	Vessels (permits:[1] Federal or Florida (FL))	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007	
								Comm.	Rec.
Atlantic Coast Red Drum	n/a[3]	Commercial - Red drum[2] Recreational[2]	77 571	n/a[3]	n/a[3]	n/a[3]	n/a[3]		
Golden Crab	C	Golden Crab	232	11	traps	FMP area/ year-round	fresh		
Snapper/Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic	x	Commercial[4] Groupers Wreckfish Snappers Other species Recreational[5] Groupers Snappers Other Species	 959 Confidential 1,080 1,189 632 882 2,589	800 1,416 (for-hire)	rod and reel, bandit gear, longline, handline handline, rod and reel, bandit gear, spear, powerhead	FMP area/ prohibition on harvest and possession of Nassau grouper and Goliath grouper year-round[6] FMP area	at sea, gutted	2	3
Penaeid Shrimp Fishery of the South Atlantic Region	C	Commercial All Recreational White	 11,906[7] n/a[8]	642 (penaeid) 256 (rock) n/a[8]	trawls n/a[8]	FMP area/ year-round	shore-side processing	1	
Coral, Coral Reefs, and Live/Hard Bottom Habitat of the South Atlantic Region	C	Commercial-Octocoral[9] (2005-2006 landings) (colonies) Recreational	45,340 colonies n/a[3]	56 n/a[3]	hand harvest	south FL/ year-round	fresh	1	
Gulf of Mexico Spiny Lobster	[Shared with GMFMC]							1	1
Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources	[Shared with GMFMC]							2	3

1 Number of vessels with active permits on 11/08/2007.
2 State landings only.
3 Not applicable (Fishery closed in EEZ).
4 NMFS Logbook data (8/30/07).
5 Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey data only (Headboat landings not included).
6 Commercial fishery for gag and black grouper closed during March and April. Commercial fishery for red porgy closed during January-April. Commercial fishery for greater amberjack closed during April. Fishing prohibited year-round in Oculina HAPC.
7 Data from South Carolina and Georgia not available in Accumulated Landings System for 2006. Average of 2003-2005 landings used for these states to represent 2006 data.
8 Not applicable (No recreational fishery in the EEZ).
9 Octocoral landings and number of persons harvesting octocoral provided by State of Florida. Federal permits are not required for octocoral harvest.

SAFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2007	Recreational 2007	Other 2007
3	4	1

Sources: Commercial landings information was obtained from the Accumulative Landings System at the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami, FL and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Marine Fisheries Information System. Recreational landing estimates were obtained from the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey. NMFS Southeast Region Permits Division Permits Team, St. Petersburg, FL, provided the Federal permit information for 2007.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Fishery/Species, Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2006	Vessels (permits:[1] Federal or Florida (FL))	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007	
								Comm.	Rec.
Stone Crab Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial-Stone Crab[2] Recreational	1,838 (claw weight) n/a[3]	FL: 1,496 (2006-2007) n/a[3]	trap, pot trap, pot, hand harvest	FL West Coast/ Oct-Apr	at-sea, declaw; shore-side processing	1	
Red Drum Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	R	Commercial - Red Drum Recreational[4]	15[5] 6,448[5]	n/a[6] n/a[6]	n/a[6] n/a[6]	EEZ Closed n/a[6] EEZ Closed n/a[6]	n/a[6] n/a[6]		3
Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	X	Commercial Grouper Red Snapper Other snapper Other species[7] Recreational[4] Grouper Red Snapper Other snappers Other species[7]	 4,218 2,124 1,351 551 1,430 1,466 1,348 891	936 808[8] n/a[3] (1,335 for-hire vessels)	longline, handline, bandit gear, rod and reel, buoy gear, spear, powerhead spear, powerhead, bandit gear, handline, rod and reel, cast net	FMP area/ year round[9,10] FMP area/ year round[9,11]	at-sea, gutted; shore-side processing	3	5
Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial-All Recreational	129,612 n/a[3]	1,873 n/a[3]	trawl, butterfly net, skimmer, cast net trawl	FMP area/ year round; annual TX closure; seasonal FL closure FMP area/ year round	tail separation at-sea; shore-side processing	1	
Spiny Lobster Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico & South Atlantic [shared w/SAFMC]	C	Commercial Recreational	2,166 461[2]	132 commercial 301 tailing FL: 915 (2006-2007) n/a[3]	trap, pot, dip net, bully net, hoop net, trawl, snare, hand harvest dip net, bully net, pot, trap, snare, hand harvest	Florida/ Aug-Apr FL / 2-day sport-season in July, Aug-Apr	tail separation at-sea; shore-side processing		
Coral & Coral Reefs of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial Octocoral[2] Recreational	3,092 colonies n/a[3]	13 n/a[3]	hand harvest hand harvest	South FL/ year round	fresh	4	3
Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico & South Atlantic [shared w/SAFMC]	X	Commercial King mackerel Spanish mackerel Recreational[3] King mackerel Spanish mackerel	 2,738 2,424 3,774 1,818	 1,542 1,418 n/a[3] n/a[3] (2,835 for-hire vessels)	gillnets, longline, bandit gear, handline, rod and reel, purse net bandit gear, handline, rod and reel, spear	Gulf & South Atlantic: Year round, commercial closures when quotas are reached	At-sea, gutted, Shore-side processing		

from preceding page:

1 Number of vessels with active permits on 11/08/2007.
2 Landings and permits data provided by State of Florida. Federal permits are not required.
3 Not Available (no federal permit or reporting requirements).
4 Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey data only (Headboat and TPWD landings not included).
5 State landings only.
6 Not applicable (fishery closed in federal waters).
7 Includes greater amberjack, lesser amberjack, almaco jack, banded rudderfish, gray triggerfish, tilefishes, and hogfish.
8 Individual Fishing Quotas Program participants.
9 Fishing prohibited year-round on Madison and Swanson sites and Steamboat Lumps. Commercial fishery for gag, red grouper, and black grouper closed February 15 to March 15. Commercial fishery for shallow- and deep-water grouper closes once their respective quotas are met.
10 Commercial vermilion snapper fishery is closed from April 22 through May 31.
11 Recreational fishery for red snapper is closed from January 1 to April 20 and from November 1 through December 31.

GMFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2007	Recreational 2007	Other 2007
4	4	3

Sources: Commercial landings information was obtained from the Accumulative Landings System at the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami, FL and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Marine Fisheries Information System. Recreational landing estimates were obtained from the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey. NMFS Southeast Region, St. Petersburg, FL, provided the Federal permit information for 2007.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2006	Vessel permits [1]	Gear	Fishing Areas/Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007	
							Comm.	Rec.
Spiny Lobster	Commercial	77 (PR) 234[2] (USVI)	n/a	trap/pot, dip net gillnet, snare	year-round	fresh, landed whole	2	1
	Recreational	n/a[4]	n/a	dip net, trap, pot	year-round			
Reef Fish (snappers, groupers, other reef species)	Commercial	327 (PR) 1,123[2] (USVI)	n/a	longline, hook and line, trap, pot,	area closures[5], seasonal closures for red hind, mutton snapper, lane snapper, red grouper, black grouper, tiger grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowedge grouper, black snapper, blackfin snapper, vermilion snapper, and silk snapper; prohibition on harvest and possession of Nassau and Goliath groupers	gutted at-sea, shore-side processing	2	1
	Recreational	143[3] (PR) n/a[4] (USVI)	n/a	dip net, handline, rod and reel, slurp gun, spear				
Coral Reef Resources	Commercial							
	Stony Corals	0	n/a	dip net, slurp gun, hand harvest	year-round	live, fresh		1
	Gorgonians							
	Live Rock	0	n/a					
	Other Invertebrates	0	n/a					
	Algae	0	n/a					
	Seagrasses	0	n/a					
		0	n/a					
		0	n/a					
	Recreational	n/a[4]	n/a	dip net, slurp gun, hand harvest				
Queen Conch	Commercial	70 (PR) 121[2] (USVI)	n/a	hand harvest (no hooka)	closed year round (no harvest) in EEZ except east of St. Croix (portion of Lang Bank) where it is closed seasonally each year July through September	live, landed whole in shell, shore-side processing		
	Recreational	n/a[4]	n/a	hand harvest (no hooka)				

[1] Not applicable (no permits required).
[2] Data from Southeast Fisheries Science Center, Miami for 2006-2007 fishing year. Data are preliminary as of 10/2/2007.
[3] Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey data.
[4] Not available.
[5] Fishing with pots, traps, bottom longlines, gill nets, and trammel nets is prohibited year-round at Grammanik Bank and at various mutton snapper and red hind spawning aggregation sites. Fishing for any species is prohibited year-round within Hind Bank Marine Conservation District.

CFMC MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2007	Recreational 2007	Other 2007
2	1	1

Sources: USVI Commercial landings were obtained from the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami. Puerto Rico commercial landings are from the Accumulated Landings System at the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami, FL. Recreational landing estimates for Puerto Rico were obtained from the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	2006 Landings (salmon in # of fish, others in metric tons)	2006 Permits (Vessels) & Angler Trips	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007**	
								Comm.	Rec.
Ocean Salmon Fisheries off the Coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California 2	x	Commercial Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon Recreational Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon	 668,244 28061 8 207,570 66,262 3,257	CA Troll 1550 OR Troll 1168 WA Troll 157 338,509 Angler Trips	Troll,; hook and line,	WA, OR & CA/ variable dates by area	headed & gutted; fillets; fresh & frozen	0	4
Pacific Coast Groundfish 1	x	Total Pacific whiting Flatfish Rockfish Other groundfish Recreational Groundfish	 248,633 14,415 2,729 6,623 2,550	Limited Entry: 402 Open Access: (965) 507,570 Angler Trips where groundfish was caught	trawl; hook & line; pots; set nets	CA/year round OR/year round WA/year round	headed & gutted; fillets; surimi; fresh & frozen	3	4
Coastal Pelagic Species 3	c	Pacific sardine Pacific mackerel Jack mackerel Market squid Northern Anchovy	86,606 6,569 1,174 49,172 12,960	Limited Entry (S. CA) 65 Open Access North - ca 43	purse seine	CA - year round OR and WA - summer	human consumption bait meal and oil	1	
Highly Migratory Species 4	x	Northern albacore Other tunas Swordfish Sharks	12,754 125 539 210	ca 2032	Surface hook-and line Coastal purse seine Harpoon Drift gillnet High Seas longline	CA/year round OR/year round WA/year round	Fresh and frozen Human consumption		4
Highly Migratory Species 4	x	Northern albacore Other tunas Swordfish Sharks	12,754 125 539 210	ca 2032	Surface hook-and line Coastal purse seine Harpoon Drift gillnet High Seas longline	CA/year round OR/year round WA/year round	Fresh and frozen Human consumption		4

PFMC MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2007	Recreational 2007	Other* 2007
3	5	1

[1] Salmon catch expressed as numbers of fish.
[2] = Not Applicable: permits not required for some species.
* "Other" includes tribal representative
** Council Representatives may represent more than One FMP.

Statistics for the above data:

1) Pacific Coast groundfish fishery data was extracted directly from the PacFin data system (commercial), RecFIN, and Final EIS for 2007-08 Pacific Groundfish Fishery (Recreational).
2) "Review of 2006 Ocean Salmon Fisheries:" (February 2007; Pacific Fishery Management Council).
3) SWR estimates from PacFIN.
4) SWR estimates from PacFIN.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2005	Vessels (permits) 2005	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007	
								Comm.	Rec.
Northeast Multi-Species	C	Commercial		3,607	trawl, dredge, longline, gillnet, hook & line	FMP area/year round	gutted	8	3
		Atlantic cod	5,376						
		Haddock	6,620						
		Pollock	5,743						
		Hakes	9,299						
		Ocean perch (redfish)	564						
		Yellowtail flounder	4,118						
		American plaice	1,350						
		Winter flounder	3,667						
		Witch flounder	2,652						
		Windowpane flounder*	89						
		Atlantic halibut	15						
		Ocean pout	4						
	R	Recreational		741	hook & line	FMP area/year round	gutted, filleted		
		Cod	2,030						
		Pollock	498						
		Winter flounder	145						
Atlantic Sea Scallops	C	Atlantic sea scallops	25,693	3,184	dredge & trawl	FMP area/year round	hand shucking and freezing	3	0
Atlantic Salmon	R	Atlantic salmon	0	none	None	none	none	0	0
Deep-sea Red Crab	C	Deep-sea red crab	1,667	1,610	Traps, trawl	FMP area/year round	whole, partially processed at sea	1	0
Atlantic Herring	C	Atlantic herring	96,795	2,557	Mid-water trawl; purse seines; weirs; otter trawl	FMP area/year round	fresh/canned shoreside/fresh bait	3	0
Monkfish	C	Monkfish	10,027	3,125	gillnets, trawls, dredges	FMP area/year round	fresh	7	0

NEFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2007	Recreational 2007	Other 2007
7	4	1

Commercial fisheries landings statistics were provided by the Northeast Region and are based on information in the Region's data base as of December 2006. Recreational fisheries information was obtained from the Office of Science and Technology at http://www.st.nmfs.gov/st1/recreational/queries/index.html and are based on the results of the 2005 Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey.

A-ii MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (MAFMC)

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2006	Vessels (permits) 2006	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007	
								Comm.	Rec.
Atlantic Mackerel, Squid & Butterfish	C	Commercial Atlantic mackerel	56,641	2,493	otter trawl, trap, gillnet	FMP area/ year round	frozen, whole	2	1
	C	Squid, Loligo Squid, Ilex Butterfish	15,907 13,837 554	(Combine) 2,566	trawl; traps	FMP area/ year round	at-sea & ashore, some mackerel fillets		
	R	Recreational Atlantic mackerel	1,633	752		FMP area/year round			
Atlantic Surf Clam & Ocean Quahogs	C	Atlantic surfclams Ocean quahogs	27,177 14,461	1,808 1,814	dredge	FMP area/ year round (ITQ mgmt.)	shucked shoreside	1	
Summer Flounder (fluke)	x	Commercial	6,315	941	hook & line, otter trawl, trap, gillnet	FMP area/ year round	fillets ashore; fresh & frozen	3	3
		Recreational	5,129	839					
Scup	x	Commercial	4,062	801					
		Recreational	1,333	731					
Black Sea Bass	x	Commercial	1,285	850					
		Recreational	882	804					
Tilefish	C	Golden Tilefish	833	2,257	longline, hook & line	FMP area/year round	fresh/frozen	1	
Atlantic Bluefish	X	Commercial	2,990	3,157	hook & line; otter trawl; gillnet	FMP area/year round	fillets fresh/frozen	1	3
	x	Recreational	7,663	884					
Spiny Dogfish	C	Commercial	2,360	2,990	gillnet; trawl	FMP area/year round	fresh/frozen	5	1

MAFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2007	Recreational 2007	Other 2007
5	5	3

Commercial fisheries landings and permit statistics were provided by the Northeast Region and are based on information in the Region's data base as of November 2007. Recreational fisheries landings were obtained from the Office of Science and Technology at http://www.st.nmfs.gov/st1/recreational/queries/index.html and are based on the results of the 2006 Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2006	Vessels (permits:[1] Federal or Florida (FL))	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007	
								Comm.	Rec.
Atlantic Coast Red Drum	n/a[3]	Commercial - Red drum[2] Recreational[2]	77 571	n/a[3]	n/a[3]	n/a[3]	n/a[3]		
Golden Crab	C	Golden Crab	232	11	traps	FMP area/ year-round	fresh		
Snapper/Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic	x	Commercial[4] Groupers Wreckfish Snappers Other species Recreational[5] Groupers Snappers Other Species	 959 Confidential 1,080 1,189 632 882 2,589	800 1,416 (for-hire)	rod and reel, bandit gear, longline, handline handline, rod and reel, bandit gear, spear, powerhead	FMP area/ prohibition on harvest and possession of Nassau grouper and Goliath grouper year-round[6] FMP area	at sea, gutted	2	3
Penaeid Shrimp Fishery of the South Atlantic Region	C	Commercial All Recreational White	 11,906[7] n/a[8]	642 (penaeid) 256 (rock) n/a[8]	trawls n/a[8]	FMP area/ year-round	shore-side processing	1	
Coral, Coral Reefs, and Live/Hard Bottom Habitat of the South Atlantic Region	C	Commercial-Octocoral[9] (2005-2006 landings) (colonies) Recreational	45,340 colonies n/a[3]	56 n/a[3]	hand harvest	south FL/ year-round	fresh	1	
Gulf of Mexico Spiny Lobster	[Shared with GMFMC]							1	1
Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources	[Shared with GMFMC]							2	3

1 Number of vessels with active permits on 11/08/2007.
2 State landings only.
3 Not applicable (Fishery closed in EEZ).
4 NMFS Logbook data (8/30/07).
5 Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey data only (Headboat landings not included).
6 Commercial fishery for gag and black grouper closed during March and April. Commercial fishery for red porgy closed during January-April. Commercial fishery for greater amberjack closed during April. Fishing prohibited year-round in Oculina HAPC.
7 Data from South Carolina and Georgia not available in Accumulated Landings System for 2006. Average of 2003-2005 landings used for these states to represent 2006 data.
8 Not applicable (No recreational fishery in the EEZ).
9 Octocoral landings and number of persons harvesting octocoral provided by State of Florida. Federal permits are not required for octocoral harvest.

SAFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2007	Recreational 2007	Other 2007
3	4	1

Sources: Commercial landings information was obtained from the Accumulative Landings System at the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami, FL and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Marine Fisheries Information System. Recreational landing estimates were obtained from the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey. NMFS Southeast Region Permits Division Permits Team, St. Petersburg, FL, provided the Federal permit information for 2007.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Fishery/Species, Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2006	Vessels (permits:[1] Federal or Florida (FL))	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007	
								Comm.	Rec.
Stone Crab Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial-Stone Crab[2] Recreational	1,838 (claw weight) n/a[3]	FL: 1,496 (2006-2007) n/a[3]	trap, pot trap, pot, hand harvest	FL West Coast/ Oct-Apr	at-sea, declaw; shore-side processing	1	
Red Drum Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	R	Commercial - Red Drum Recreational[4]	15[5] 6,448[5]	n/a[6] n/a[6]	n/a[6] n/a[6]	EEZ Closed n/a[6] EEZ Closed n/a[6]	n/a[6] n/a[6]		3
Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	X	Commercial Grouper Red Snapper Other snapper Other species[7] Recreational[4] Grouper Red Snapper Other snappers Other species[7]	 4,218 2,124 1,351 551 1,430 1,466 1,348 891	936 808[8] n/a[3] (1,335 for-hire vessels)	longline, handline, bandit gear, rod and reel, buoy gear, spear, powerhead spear, powerhead, bandit gear, handline, rod and reel, cast net	FMP area/ year round[9,10] FMP area/ year round[9,11]	at-sea, gutted; shore-side processing	3	5
Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial-All Recreational	129,612 n/a[3]	1,873 n/a[3]	trawl, butterfly net, skimmer, cast net trawl	FMP area/ year round; annual TX closure; seasonal FL closure FMP area/ year round	tail separation at-sea; shore-side processing	1	
Spiny Lobster Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico & South Atlantic [shared w/SAFMC]	C	Commercial Recreational	2,166 461[2]	132 commercial 301 tailing FL: 915 (2006-2007) n/a[3]	trap, pot, dip net, bully net, hoop net, trawl, snare, hand harvest dip net, bully net, pot, trap, snare, hand harvest	Florida/ Aug-Apr FL / 2-day sport-season in July, Aug-Apr	tail separation at-sea; shore-side processing		
Coral & Coral Reefs of the Gulf of Mexico	C	Commercial Octocoral[2] Recreational	3,092 colonies n/a[3]	13 n/a[3]	hand harvest hand harvest	South FL/ year round	fresh	4	3
Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico & South Atlantic [shared w/SAFMC]	X	Commercial King mackerel Spanish mackerel Recreational[3] King mackerel Spanish mackerel	 2,738 2,424 3,774 1,818	 1,542 1,418 n/a[3] n/a[3] (2,835 for-hire vessels)	gillnets, longline, bandit gear, handline, rod and reel, purse net bandit gear, handline, rod and reel, spear	Gulf & South Atlantic: Year round, commercial closures when quotas are reached	At-sea, gutted, Shore-side processing		

from preceding page:

1 Number of vessels with active permits on 11/08/2007.
2 Landings and permits data provided by State of Florida. Federal permits are not required.
3 Not Available (no federal permit or reporting requirements).
4 Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey data only (Headboat and TPWD landings not included).
5 State landings only.
6 Not applicable (fishery closed in federal waters).
7 Includes greater amberjack, lesser amberjack, almaco jack, banded rudderfish, gray triggerfish, tilefishes, and hogfish.
8 Individual Fishing Quotas Program participants.
9 Fishing prohibited year-round on Madison and Swanson sites and Steamboat Lumps. Commercial fishery for gag, red grouper, and black grouper closed February 15 to March 15. Commercial fishery for shallow- and deep-water grouper closes once their respective quotas are met.
10 Commercial vermilion snapper fishery is closed from April 22 through May 31.
11 Recreational fishery for red snapper is closed from January 1 to April 20 and from November 1 through December 31.

GMFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2007	Recreational 2007	Other 2007
4	4	3

Sources: Commercial landings information was obtained from the Accumulative Landings System at the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami, FL and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Marine Fisheries Information System. Recreational landing estimates were obtained from the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey. NMFS Southeast Region, St. Petersburg, FL, provided the Federal permit information for 2007.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Species/Species Group	Landings (metric tons) 2006	Vessel permits [1]	Gear	Fishing Areas/Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007	
							Comm.	Rec.
Spiny Lobster	Commercial	77 (PR) 234[2] (USVI)	n/a	trap/pot, dip net gillnet, snare	year-round	fresh, landed whole	2	1
	Recreational	n/a[4]	n/a	dip net, trap, pot	year-round			
Reef Fish (snappers, groupers, other reef species)	Commercial	327 (PR) 1,123[2] (USVI)	n/a	longline, hook and line, trap, pot,	area closures[5], seasonal closures for red hind, mutton snapper, lane snapper, red grouper, black grouper, tiger grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowedge grouper, black snapper, blackfin snapper, vermilion snapper, and silk snapper; prohibition on harvest and possession of Nassau and Goliath groupers	gutted at-sea, shore-side processing	2	1
	Recreational	143[3] (PR) n/a[4] (USVI)	n/a	dip net, handline, rod and reel, slurp gun, spear				
Coral Reef Resources	Commercial							
	Stony Corals	0	n/a	dip net, slurp gun, hand harvest	year-round	live, fresh		1
	Gorgonians							
	Live Rock	0	n/a					
	Other Invertebrates	0	n/a					
	Algae	0	n/a					
	Seagrasses	0	n/a					
		0	n/a					
		0	n/a					
	Recreational	n/a[4]	n/a	dip net, slurp gun, hand harvest				
Queen Conch	Commercial	70 (PR) 121[2] (USVI)	n/a	hand harvest (no hooka)	closed year round (no harvest) in EEZ except east of St. Croix (portion of Lang Bank) where it is closed seasonally each year July through September	live, landed whole in shell, shore-side processing		
	Recreational	n/a[4]	n/a	hand harvest (no hooka)				

[1] Not applicable (no permits required).
[2] Data from Southeast Fisheries Science Center, Miami for 2006-2007 fishing year. Data are preliminary as of 10/2/2007.
[3] Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey data.
[4] Not available.
[5] Fishing with pots, traps, bottom longlines, gill nets, and trammel nets is prohibited year-round at Grammanik Bank and at various mutton snapper and red hind spawning aggregation sites. Fishing for any species is prohibited year-round within Hind Bank Marine Conservation District.

CFMC MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2007	Recreational 2007	Other 2007
2	1	1

Sources: USVI Commercial landings were obtained from the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami. Puerto Rico commercial landings are from the Accumulated Landings System at the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), Miami, FL. Recreational landing estimates for Puerto Rico were obtained from the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	2006 Landings (salmon in # of fish, others in metric tons)	2006 Permits (Vessels) & Angler Trips	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007**	
								Comm.	Rec.
Ocean Salmon Fisheries off the Coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California 2	x	Commercial Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon Recreational Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon	 668,244 28061 8 207,570 66,262 3,257	CA Troll 1550 OR Troll 1168 WA Troll 157 338,509 Angler Trips	Troll,; hook and line,	WA, OR & CA/ variable dates by area	headed & gutted; fillets; fresh & frozen	0	4
Pacific Coast Groundfish 1	x	Total Pacific whiting Flatfish Rockfish Other groundfish Recreational Groundfish	 248,633 14,415 2,729 6,623 2,550	Limited Entry: 402 Open Access: (965) 507,570 Angler Trips where groundfish was caught	trawl; hook & line; pots; set nets	CA/year round OR/year round WA/year round	headed & gutted; fillets; surimi; fresh & frozen	3	4
Coastal Pelagic Species 3	c	Pacific sardine Pacific mackerel Jack mackerel Market squid Northern Anchovy	86,606 6,569 1,174 49,172 12,960	Limited Entry (S. CA) 65 Open Access North - ca 43	purse seine	CA - year round OR and WA - summer	human consumption bait meal and oil	1	
Highly Migratory Species 4	x	Northern albacore Other tunas Swordfish Sharks	12,754 125 539 210	ca 2032	Surface hook-and line Coastal purse seine Harpoon Drift gillnet High Seas longline	CA/year round OR/year round WA/year round	Fresh and frozen Human consumption		4
Highly Migratory Species 4	x	Northern albacore Other tunas Swordfish Sharks	12,754 125 539 210	ca 2032	Surface hook-and line Coastal purse seine Harpoon Drift gillnet High Seas longline	CA/year round OR/year round WA/year round	Fresh and frozen Human consumption		4

PFMC MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2007	Recreational 2007	Other* 2007
3	5	1

[1] Salmon catch expressed as numbers of fish.
[2] = Not Applicable: permits not required for some species.
* "Other" includes tribal representative
** Council Representatives may represent more than One FMP.

Statistics for the above data:

1) Pacific Coast groundfish fishery data was extracted directly from the PacFin data system (commercial), RecFIN, and Final EIS for 2007-08 Pacific Groundfish Fishery (Recreational).
2) "Review of 2006 Ocean Salmon Fisheries:" (February 2007; Pacific Fishery Management Council).
3) SWR estimates from PacFIN.
4) SWR estimates from PacFIN.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN§	Type	Species/Species Group	Tonnage (metric tons)*	Fishermen & Crew**	Gear	Fishing Areas and Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007***	
								Comm.	Rec.
Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA)	C	Pollock Pacific cod Flatfish Rockfish Sablefish Atka mackerel Misc. species	43,376 44,775 37,705 22,335 12,090 1,251 5,407	1,277 Federal fishing permits 1,680 LLP permits (some Interim)	trawl; pots; hook & line; jigs	area/time closures adjusted in season LLP permits have gear and area endorsements	hand & machine fillet; headed/gutted; frozen; minced; meal & oil	4	
Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI)	C	Pollock Pacific cod Flatfish Rockfish Sablefish Atka mackerel Misc. species	1,269,189 169,894 210,406 21,611 1,987 52,310 26,944	567 Federal fishing permits 519 LLP permits (some Interim)	trawl; pots; hook & line; jigs	area/time closures adjusted in season LLP permits have gear and area endorsements	hand & machine fillet; headed/gutted; frozen; minced; meal & oil	4	
Commercial King and Tanner Crab Fisheries in the BSAI	C	King Crab Red king crab Golden king crab Tanner Crab C. opilio (snow) C. bairdi	 6,299 2,129 14,833 862	470 Quota Share holders for IFQ crab 347 LLP permits (some Interim)	pots	Deferred to State; generally November and winter months; LLP permits have fishery endorsements for minor crab species.	cooked; refrigerated; frozen	3	
Salmon fisheries in the EEZ off Alaska and adjacent state waters	C	Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon Sockeye salmon Chum salmon	1,433 3,620 177 16 648	3,134 permit holders (2,162 hand troll & 972 power troll).	troll****	Deferred to State; generally West area is closed; southeast area time area limits.	fresh; gutted & gilled; glazed; frozen; canned; smoked		1
Scallop Fishery off Alaska	C	Weathervane scallops (no fisheries for other scallop species listed in FMP)	131	9 LLP permits	dredges	Deferred to State; adjusted inseason	hand shucked and frozen	1	

§ 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 2007, the commercial catch of halibut in and off Alaska through November 1 was 22,706 mt, net weight. The season ends November 15 with about 1,040 mt remaining in available quota. For Pacific halibut, 3,246 persons held IFQ Quota Share as of the end of 2006, and the annual catch was made by 2,381 persons (permit holders and hired masters) authorized to harvest halibut under the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) and Community Development Quota (CDQ) Programs.

* 2006 salmon catch data are from the State of Alaska; these data represent only the southeast AK hand and power troll fisheries that are governed by the Salmon FMP and managed as one fishery, inside and outside State waters by the State of Alaska. The catch data for the BSAI crab fisheries are from the BSAI Crab Rationalization Program Report for Fishing Year 2006/2007, prepared by the Alaska Region, NMFS. The catch data for the Alaska scallop fisheries are for the 2007 portion of the 2007/2008 season which runs from July 1, 2006 to February 15, 2007. All other catch data are from the Alaska Region, NMFS, and reflect catch reports through October 6, 2007. NMFS catch data include retained and discarded catch amounts. Catch data for groundfish include harvests in State managed fisheries. Miscellaneous groundfish species includes squid, skates, sharks, octopus, and sculpin.

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

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN§	Type	Species/Species Group	Tonnage (metric tons)*	Fishermen & Crew**	Gear	Fishing Areas and Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007***	
								Comm.	Rec.
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Salmon fisheries in the EEZ off Alaska and adjacent state waters	C	Chinook salmon Coho salmon Pink salmon Sockeye salmon Chum salmon	1,433 3,620 177 16 648	3,134 permit holders (2,162 hand troll & 972 power troll).	troll****	Deferred to State; generally West area is closed; southeast area time area limits.	fresh; gutted & gilled; glazed; frozen; canned; smoked		1
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§ 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 2007, the commercial catch of halibut in and off Alaska through November 1 was 22,706 mt, net weight. The season ends November 15 with about 1,040 mt remaining in available quota. For Pacific halibut, 3,246 persons held IFQ Quota Share as of the end of 2006, and the annual catch was made by 2,381 persons (permit holders and hired masters) authorized to harvest halibut under the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) and Community Development Quota (CDQ) Programs.

* 2006 salmon catch data are from the State of Alaska; these data represent only the southeast AK hand and power troll fisheries that are governed by the Salmon FMP and managed as one fishery, inside and outside State waters by the State of Alaska. The catch data for the BSAI crab fisheries are from the BSAI Crab Rationalization Program Report for Fishing Year 2006/2007, prepared by the Alaska Region, NMFS. The catch data for the Alaska scallop fisheries are for the 2007 portion of the 2007/2008 season which runs from July 1, 2006 to February 15, 2007. All other catch data are from the Alaska Region, NMFS, and reflect catch reports through October 6, 2007. NMFS catch data include retained and discarded catch amounts. Catch data for groundfish include harvests in State managed fisheries. Miscellaneous groundfish species includes squid, skates, sharks, octopus, and sculpin.

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

**Data represent persons or vessels permitted to harvest fish, not the number of individuals actually involved in the operation of vessels, catching and processing fish. Permit data are as of the end of 2006, except the actual number of License Limitation Program (LLP) permits is as of October, 2007, and of IFQ crab QS holders is as of the end of the 2006/07 crab fishing year, on June 2007. The number of permits actually used to harvest fish is fewer than that indicated by the data. Participation in all FMP fisheries is governed by some form of limited access system. License Limitation Programs (LLP), initially effective in 2000, apply to all fisheries except crab fisheries brought under a new IFQ system in 2005, salmon (which is governed by the State of Alaska limited entry system), demersal shelf rockfish in the Southeast Gulf of Alaska, IFQ sablefish, and IFQ and CDQ halibut fisheries. In 2005, a new IFQ program replaced the LLP license requirement for most BSAI king and Tanner crab fisheries. A total of 489 distinct persons were initially issued one or more types of harvesting quota share for eight crab fisheries (managed as nine fisheries starting July 1, 2007); and IFQ crab was harvested by a total of 114 persons (individual quota holders and Hired Masters). Some LLP crab licenses were re-issued to authorize fishing not managed under the IFQ system. Of the approximate total 2,184 current LLP permits, most (1,828) authorized fishing for groundfish in the BSAI or GOA or both, and 347 still authorized fishing for BSAI crab species not under crab rationalization management; the remaining 9 were for scallop harvest. A number of permits were "interim" and will be revoked following final adjudication of claims.

Also, a total of 869 persons held QS to harvest sablefish as of the end of 2006, with fixed gear in the GOA and BSAI under the IFQ Program. The salmon permit data are from the State of Alaska and represent the number of individual permit holders of hand and power troll permits in 2007. Not all permits holders landed fish in 2007.

***Secretarial appointed NPFMC membership in 2007: Commercial 6; Recreational 1; Other 0

****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 salmon.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	Type	Species/Species Group	Tonnage (metric tons)	Vessels (permits)	Gear	Fishing Areas/ Seasons	Processing	Participants/ Representatives in 2007	
								Comm.	Rec.
Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish	c	Bottomfish Seamount Groundfish	243[a]	3900[b]	handline rod & reel	FMP areas (year round/except Hancock Seamount (closed until year 2010)	fresh fish market	3	3
Crustaceans	C	Spiny lobster, Slipper lobster	0 (NWHI Fishery closed 2000-2007)	15 federal limited entry NWHI permits	traps	NWHI & MHI/ NWHI: 7/1-12/31 MHI- 1/1-4/30 & 9/1-12/31 (NOTE: NWHI Fishery closed 2000-2006)	flash frozen and live market	2	
Pelagics[c]	C/R	Tunas Swordfish Other (inc. sharks) Blue marlin Mahimahi Other billfish Wahoo Estimated Recreational (all species)	12,315 1,485 1,170 581 789 861 785 9,723[e]	Estimated 8,000[d]	troll handline longline	FMP areas/ year round except for area closures around Hawaiian Archipelago, Guam, and American Samoa.	fresh fish market Whole frozen for cannery	3	4
Precious Corals	C	All species combined	Harvest confiden tial	1	manned submersible/ remote operated vessel, hand	FMP area (Makapuu bed and Exploratory Area of EEZ around HI)	shaped/ polished		
Coral Reef Ecosystem	C/R	Currently harvested coral reef taxa, Potentially harvested coral reef taxa	194[f]	0	Hook and line, hand, net, trap, slurp gun, spear, allowable chemical	FMP areas/year round	fresh fish and aquarium markets		

WPFMC - MEMBERSHIP

Commercial 2007	Recreational 2007	Other 2007
2	4	2

[a] Best available 2006. Includes re creational, subsistence, & commercial domestic bottomfish landings from Guam & American Samoa, total commercial domestic landings from Hawaii & commercial sales data from the Northern Mariana Islands.

[b] Best available 2005. Includes H awaii, American Samoa, Guam, and Northern Mariana Islands recreational & commercial bottomfish vessels.

[c] Best available 2006, Includes r ecreational & commercial domestic pelagic landings data, where available. Foreign transshipment or domestic cannery pelagic landings are not included in data.

[d] Includes Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands recreational & commercial pelagic trollers/handliners; Hawaii and A.Samoa longliners, Hawaii pole-and-line vessels.

[e] Best available 2005 recreationa l estimates from draft Appendix 6, Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region 2005 Draft Annual Report (WPFMC). Note: Estimates may be imprecise due to survey sampling error.

[f] Best available 2006 commercial l andings reported by state and territorial

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN	TYPE	SPECIES/ SPECIES GROUP	LANDINGS 2006 MT = METRIC TONS WW = WHOLE WEIGHT DW = DRESSED WEIGHT	2007 VESSELS (PERMITS)	GEAR[7]	FISHING AREAS/SEASONS[8]	PROCESSING	2007 REPRESENTATIVES[9]				
								COMMERCIAL	RECRETIONAL	ACADEMIA/ ENVIROS	FMCs	IAC
Atlantic Billfishes[1]	R	White Marlin; Blue Marlin; Sailfish; Longbill Spearfish (prohibited)	49 mt ww[2] (comm dead discards) 18.2 mt ww[2] (rec)	Charter permits[5] Recreational permit[6]	Rod & reel	Atlantic coast, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea; Year-round	Sale prohibited	12	12	8	5	1
Atlantic Sharks[1]	X	Commercial/Recreational -Large coastal (11 spp) -Pelagics (5 spp) -Small coastal (4 spp) -Prohibited (19 spp)	Comm[3] 1,903 mt dw 1,496 LCS 112 Pel 295 SCS	LIMITED ACCESS[7] Commercial permits - 231 directed - 296 incidental	Longline; Gillnets; Rod & reel; Handline; Bandit	Atlantic coast, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean Sea; Year-round with three four-month seasons: 1/1-4/30, 5/1-8/30, 9/1-12/31	Fins exported; Carcasses/ cartilage to U.S. market	12	12	8	5	1
			Rec[3, 4] 222,153 46,704 LCS 5,400 Pel 119,100 SCS	Charter permits[5] Recreational permit[6]	Rod & reel; Handline	ATL, GOM, CARR; Year-round	Sale Prohibited					
Atlantic Swordfish[1]	X	Commercial	1,995.3 mt ww[2] (includes discards)	LIMITED ACCESS Commercial permits - 180 directed - 160 incidental/ handgear	Longline; Buoy; Handline; Harpoon; Rod & reel; Bandit Ottertrawl (incidental)	North and South Atlantic, Caribbean Sea, and Gulf of Mexico; Year-round. North Atlantic directed semi-annual seasons: 6/1-11/30; 12/1-5/31(starting in 2008, the fishery will be managed on a calendar year basis)	Fresh/frozen U.S. market	12	12	8	5	1
		Recreational	52.7 mt ww[2]	Charter permits[5] Recreational permit[6]	Rod & reel; Handline	Year-round (East Coast of US)	Sale prohibited					
Atlantic Tunas[1]	X	Commercial Bluefin Yellowfin Bigeye Albacore Skipjack	3,146.4 mt ww[2] 313.8 2,168 541 112 11.6	Commercial permits - 218 Longline - 3,616 General - 26 Harpoon - 9 Trap - 4 Purse Seine (VTQ) Charter permits[5]	Rod & reel; Purse seine; Bandit gear; Longline; Handline; Harpoon; Trap	Northwest Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico (No Directed Fishing for Bluefin Tuna), and Caribbean; Year-round 6/1-5/31 (starting in 2008, the fishery will be managed on a calendar year basis)	Bluefin: fresh foreign and U.S. market. Other tunas: fresh/canned foreign and U.S. market	12	12	8	5	1
		Recreational Bluefin Yellowfin Bigeye Albacore Skipjack	5,844.6 mt ww[2] 158.2 4,907 446 284 49.4	Recreational permit[6]	Rod & reel; Handline; Speargun (non-BFT)		Sale prohibited					

1. 2006 Final Consolidated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan.
2. Source: 2007 U.S. National Report submitted to ICCAT. Includes rod and reel recreational landings from the Caribbean
3. Source: Cortes and Neer. 2007. Updated Catches of Sharks.
4. Number of fish (not mt).
5. 3,899 Charter/headboat permits issued as of October 1,2007. Required for all tuna, swordfish, shark, and billfish fishing. These permits are considered commercial for Atlantic tunas.
6. 24,220 recreational angling permits issued as of October 1, 2007. Required for all tuna, swordfish, shark, and billfish recreational fishing.
7. Certain gear types may have restrictions, including time/area closures and gear modifications.
8. Seasons may close when quota is reached.
9. HMS Advisory Panel includes 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. The numbers for tunas, swordfish, billfish, and sharks are not additive.