

PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS (EFPs) FOR 2010

Exempted fishing permits (EFPs) provide a process for testing innovative fishing gears and strategies to substantiate methods for prosecuting sustainable and risk-averse fishing opportunities. Applications for EFPs proposed for 2010 are provided as Agenda Item E.8.a, Attachments 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, and 8.

The first proposed EFP is designed to test a trolled longline strategy to selectively harvest abundant chilipepper rockfish off central California (Attachment 1). The second proposed EFP, sponsored by The Nature Conservancy, Environmental Defense, California Department of Fish and Game, and others, seeks to test hook-and-line and trap gears in central California using limited entry trawl permits purchased by The Nature Conservancy (Attachment 2). Additionally, a report on the implementation of this EFP in 2008 is provided as Attachment 3. The third EFP, sponsored by the Oregon Chapter of the Recreational Fishing Alliance, seeks to test floated, long leader gear to selectively harvest yellowtail rockfish within the Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) in waters off Oregon (Attachment 4). The fourth EFP, sponsored by the Recreational Fishing Alliance and the Golden Gate Fishermen's Association, seeks to test the use of recreational hook-and-line gear to catch underutilized chilipepper rockfish, yellowtail rockfish, and slope rockfish on Commercial Party Fishing Vessels (CPFVs) within and seaward of the non-trawl RCA in waters off California north of Pt. Conception (Attachment 5). A report on the implementation of this EFP in 2008 is provided as Attachment 6. The fifth EFP, sponsored by the San Francisco Fishermen's Cooperative, seeks to harvest chilipepper rockfish and other healthy shelf rockfish in a specific area within the non-trawl RCA off San Francisco (Attachment 7). The sixth EFP is one sponsored by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and seeks to collect biological data from yelloweye rockfish encountered in the Oregon sport charter fishery (Attachment 8).

Under this agenda item, the Council will review these EFP applications, consider public and advisory body comments, and consider moving the 2010 EFP applications forward for public review. Any recommended modifications to these EFP applications will be communicated to the EFP sponsors and the public. The Council is scheduled to decide their final recommendations for 2010 EFPs at the November meeting in Costa Mesa, California.

Council Action:

Consider EFP applications for 2010 and provide preliminary recommendations for public review.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item E.8.a, Attachment 1: Application for an Exempted Fishing Permit sponsored by Steve Fosmark entitled, "Evaluation of an epibenthic trolled longline to selectively catch chilipepper rockfish (*Sebastes goodei*)."

2. Agenda Item E.8.a, Attachment 2: Application for Issuance of an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) to Fish Trawl Permits with Longline, Trap, Pot, and Hook-and-line Gear in a Community Based Fishing Association off the Central California Coast.
3. Agenda Item E.8.a, Attachment 3: Testing a Community-based Fishing Association: Report on Implementation of the 2008 Morro Bay/Port San Luis Exempted Fishing Permit.
4. Agenda Item E.8.a, Attachment 4: Application for an Exempted Fishing Permit sponsored by the Recreational Fishing Alliance Entitled, "Oregon Recreational Yellowtail Rockfish EFP."
5. Agenda Item E.8.a, Attachment 5: Application for an Exempted Fishing Permit sponsored by the Recreational Fishing Alliance and the Golden Gate Fishermen's Association Entitled, "Recreational Rockfish Catch Composition Seaward of the Rockfish Conservation Area."
6. Agenda Item E.8.a, Attachment 6: Report on Implementation of the 2008 Exempted Fishing Permit Activities ("Recreational Rockfish Catch Composition Seaward of the Rockfish Conservation Area") Sponsored by the Recreational Fishing Alliance and the Golden Gate Fishermen's Association.
7. Agenda Item E.8.a, Attachment 7: Application for an Exempted Fishing Permit sponsored by the San Francisco Fishermen's Cooperative Entitled, "Evaluation of Modified Vertical Hook and Line Gear to Avoid Depressed Rockfish Species While Fishing in Certain Parts of the Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)."
8. Agenda Item E.8.a, Attachment 8: Application for an Exempted Fishing Permit sponsored by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Entitled, "Application to the Pacific Fishery Management Council for an Exempted Fishing Permit to Collect Biological Information from Yelloweye Rockfish Encountered in the Oregon Sport Charter Fishery."

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Adopt Preliminary Recommendations for EFPs

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