

PROPOSED DEEP-SET BUOY GEAR EXEMPTED FISHING PERMITS

In June 2016, the Council announced it would accept for review applications for exempted fishing permits (EFPs) to test deep-set buoy gear (DSBG) at any Council meeting when Highly Migratory Species (HMS) items are on the agenda.

At its September 2017 meeting, the Council made recommendations on the issuance of EFPs for 13 applications. Attachment 1 summarizes those recommendations. The Council recommended 12 applications for EFP issuance by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) but requested four applicants submit missing information (vessel name and/or anticipated amount of fishing effort by area) before NMFS proceeds to consider the application. NMFS will report on the receipt of this information along with other matters related to issuing EFPs for this activity. The thirteenth application, from Mr. Steve Mintz, was submitted after the September deadline as public comment. The Council followed the HMS Management Team recommendation that it be resubmitted for consideration at this Council meeting. It is included as Attachment 3.

Attachment 2 provides summary information on the applications submitted for review at the November 2017 Council meeting. Six new applications were received by the October 19 deadline and are listed below in the reference materials as Attachments 3 through 8.

Council Action:

Provide recommendations to NMFS on exempted fishing permit applications to test deep-set buoy gear.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item H.3, Attachment 1: Council September 2017 Recommendations on Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permit Issuance.
2. Agenda Item H.3, Attachment 2: Summary of Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permit Applications Submitted for the November 2017 Council Meeting.
3. Agenda Item H.3, Attachment 3: DSBG EFP Application from Mr. Stephen Mintz.
4. Agenda Item H.3, Attachment 4: DSBG EFP Application from Mr. Donald Brockman.
5. Agenda Item H.3, Attachment 5: DSBG EFP Application from Mr. Thomas Carson.
6. Agenda Item H.3, Attachment 6: DSBG EFP Application from Mr. Christopher Ekstrom.
7. Agenda Item H.3, Attachment 7: DSBG EFP Application from Mr. John Foster.
8. Agenda Item H.3, Attachment 8: DSBG EFP Application from Mr. Stephen Greyshock.
9. Agenda Item H.3.b, Public Comment 1.

Agenda Order:

- H.3 Proposed Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permits Kit Dahl
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Provide Recommendations to National Marine Fisheries Service on Exempted Fishing Permit Applications to Test Deep-Set Buoy Gear