

Pacific Fishery Management Council
Attn: HMS EFP Application
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, OR 97220

February 8, 2018

Re: Amendment to Thomas Carson EFP for testing DSBG

To whom it may concern,

Please find the attached Amended EFP Application for the F/V Bear Flag 2. My application to test DSBG was recommended for approval during the November 2017 PFMC meeting. Since that time, I have hired a new Captain, Mr. Nathan Perez, who has ample experience as a crew member and Captain of the F/V Gold Coast, a vessel which has been fishing DSBG under the PIER EFP.

The purpose of this proposed Amendment is threefold:

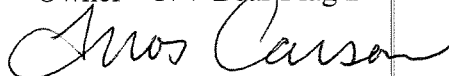
1. A ministerial correction which adds "2" to the name of my vessel. In my rush to submit my original application I neglected to include that. The other information relative to the vessel is the same;
2. Adds Mr. Perez as an applicant to my PFMC approved EFP application; and
3. Adds standard Linked Buoy Gear (LBG) to that EFP application.

Adding Mr. Perez is responsive to concerns raised about my application by some individuals and groups. Requesting the addition of LBG will help gather information on the viability and efficacy of that gear type.

I thank you in advance for your consideration of the attached revised EFP application. Should you have any questions, comments and/or concerns – please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

Thomas Carson
Owner – F/V Bear Flag 2

 2-8-18

PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permit Application Form

Please refer to the instructions for specifics on filling out your application.

1) Application Date: Feb 8, 2018

2) Applicant(s)*:

a) Name: Thomas Carson Phone No: (949) 887 - 1926

Email: info@bearflagfishco.com

Address: 407 31st Street, Newport Beach, Ca 92663

Commercial Fishing Permits Held: Swordfish - Harpoon

Commercial Fishing Experience:

	Years of experience	Gear type / Type of participation (captain, crew, vessel owner, etc.)
DSBG		
Other swordfish gear	15	Harpoon - 3 as Capt; 12 as crew
Other gear type(s)	20	Rod & Reel yellowtail, white seabass, tuna (albacore, YFT), dorado, Ca Halibut

b) Name: Nathan Perez Phone No: (858) 232 - 2027

Email: NathanJPerez@Gmail.com

Address: 3158 Brilene Lane, San Diego, 92111

Commercial Fishing Permits Held: General Gill Net, Drift Gill Net, Harpoon, Crewmember Trap

Commercial Fishing Experience:

	Years of Experience	Gear type / Type of participation (captain, crew, vessel owner, etc.)
DSBG	3	Captain and Crew aboard FV GoldCoast; Crew on FV Three Boys
Other swordfish gear	15	Drift Gill Net/Harpoon
Other gear type(s)	5	Market Squid; General Gill Net (White Sea Bass); Trap Fisheries - Crewmember

3) Number of vessels*: 1

a) Vessel Name: Bear Flag 2 Registration Number: 558683

Name of Operator: Nathan Perez

Commercial Fishing Permits Held: Swordfish - Harpoon, General

b) Vessel Name: _____ Registration Number: _____

Name of Operator: _____

Commercial Fishing Permits Held: _____

***List information for additional EFP applicants/vessels/participants on a separate page.**

4) Do any of the applicants/vessel operators have current/pending state or federal violations in any commercial fishery? Yes No (If yes, follow-up on the nature and status of any violations may be required as part of the application review process.)

5) **Duration:** The EFP will normally be issued for a two-year period from the date of issuance. If you have good reason for receiving an EFP for a longer period, specify the requested number of years and provide justification for the longer duration:

Two Years

6) **Intended DSBG Configuration** (see Attachment A): Standard Linked

Describe proposed gear modifications (if any) that differ from the descriptions in Attachment A:

<p>Applicant Carson was previously approved for a DSBG EFP by the Council during its November 2017 meeting. Applicant Perez is being added to the Carson EFP and will be actively fishing the vessel moving forward. Applicants are seeking to add LBG to the application currently pending with NMFS.</p> <p>Applicants intend to utilize LBG in conjunction with (but at separate times) previously submitted EFP for DSBG.</p> <p>All gear will be marked as required</p>
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7) Do you intend to target any species other than swordfish? Yes No

(This does not include other species that may be caught incidentally when targeting swordfish.)

If you do plan to use the gear to catch other species, list the species and how the fishing method you plan to use would differ (depth, time of day, season, etc.):

Target will be swordfish; but other marketable species, caught incidentally, will be retained.

8) Fishing Area and Effort:

Area	Number of vessels / Vessel names	Estimated fishing effort in number of days or sets
Southern California Bight (Pt. Conception to the U.S.-Mex. Border)	1	180 days
Central California (Point Reyes to Point Conception)	1	90 days
Northern California (42° N. latitude to Point Reyes)		
Oregon (Columbia River to 42° N. latitude)		

Please note that the Council is prioritizing applications to fish outside the Southern California Bight.

Additional information you think would be helpful in reviewing the application concerning where you plan to fish and the amount of fishing:

As previously noted, a prior EFP submitted by Applicant Carson was recommended for approval by the Council in November of last year. This Amended EFP serves two purposes: (1) It adds Nathan Perez, as a co-applicant, to the previously submitted EFP; and (2) would allow Mssrs. Perez and Carson to supplement their DSBG tests with LBG tests if weather and ocean conditions allow.

Mr. Perez has extensive experience fishing with DSBG as both crewmember and operator aboard the F/V Gold Coast. Mr. Perez will be the primary operator of F/V Bear Flag.

We plan on fishing outside the light north of Point Conception in order to follow the migration of swordfish.

9) Data Gaps: Will your EFP fishing specifically address any of the following data gaps? (See Attachment B for descriptions)

- Active gear tending
- Gear conflicts/number of vessels
- Gear configuration
- Concurrent gear use

Explain what methods you would use, or information you plan to gather, to address the data gaps you checked off above

Active tending - use of hi-powered binos and logging of data that pertains to DSBG - time of day, location, water conditions, length of time soaking, sea surface temps, presence of protected species or other species of concern.

Gear conflicts/number of vessels - Record interactions with other commercial/CPFV vessels.

Gear configuration - Catch information and interactions with protected species will be noted and recorded.

Concurrent gear use - While fishing with DSBG/LBG we intend to harpoon as well. Gear will be actively tended at all times.

10) Reporting Requirements and Observer Coverage:

- You must maintain a logbook for reporting catch and other operational information (such as time and location of catch) in a format specified by National Marine Fisheries Service
 - Up to 100% observer coverage may be required on your EFP fishing trips
 - Data gathered as part of the EFP will be publicly available
- I acknowledge the above conditions, and verify that I am willing and able to cover the cost of any level of observer coverage required under permit terms and conditions.

If you are unable to cover the entire cost of the observer coverage requirement, please explain what portion you may be able to cover and identify other sources of funding which may be available to help you cover observer costs.

We would ask that trips where Mr. Perez is aboard would fall under Level 2 observer coverage. Until Mr. Carson has been on the vessel for the requisite 10 trips (as indicated on the vessel's logbook), he would fall under Level 1 observer coverage.

11) Applicant(s) Signature:

