

SUMMARY OF [E.O. 13921](#)

**Preamble:** This executive order is intended to strengthen the American economy;

- improve the competitiveness of American industry;
- ensure food security;
- provide environmentally safe and sustainable seafood;
- support American workers;
- ensure coordinated, predictable, and transparent Federal actions; and
- remove unnecessary regulatory burdens

**Sec 1.** Purpose: protect our aquatic environments; revitalize our Nation's seafood industry; get more Americans back to work; and put healthy, safe food on our families' tables. strengthen the American economy; by

- removing outdated and unnecessarily burdensome regulations;
- strengthening efforts to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing;
- improving the transparency and efficiency of environmental reviews; and
- renewing our focus on long-term strategic planning to facilitate aquaculture projects

Also featured in the purpose statement are concerns about imports and permitting aquaculture operations.

**Sec 2.** The policy section of the EO covers the above concerns and elaborates in the following areas.

"The Federal policy is to....

(c) provide good stewardship of public funds and stakeholder time and resources, and avoid duplicative, wasteful, or inconclusive permitting processes;

....

(e) safeguard our communities and maintain a healthy aquatic environment;

(f) further fair and reciprocal trade in seafood products; and

(g) continue to hold imported seafood to the same food-safety requirements as domestically produced products."

**Sec 3.** Definitions

**Sec 4.** Removing Barriers to American Fishing.

"(a) The Secretary of Commerce shall request each Regional Fishery Management Council to submit, within 180 days [Nov 3, 2020] of the date of this order, a prioritized list of recommended actions to reduce burdens on domestic fishing and to increase production within sustainable fisheries, including a proposal for initiating each recommended action within 1 year [May 6, 2021] of the date of this order.

(i) Recommended actions may include changes to regulations, orders, guidance documents, or other similar agency actions.

- (ii) Recommended actions shall be consistent with the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.); the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.); the Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.); and other applicable laws.
- (iii) Consistent with section 302(f) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1852(f)), and within existing appropriations, the Secretary of Commerce shall provide administrative and technical support to the Regional Fishery Management Councils to carry out this subsection."
- (b) provides that the results from (a) will be reviewed by the Secretary of Commerce and used to update the agency's Unified Regulatory Agenda.
- (c) provides for a progress report within 1 year (May 6, 2021) and biennial progress reports thereafter.

**Sec 5. Combating Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing**

- (a) Calls for implementation of a June 5 2016 FAO agreement on IUU within 90 days (Port State Measures Agreement).
- (b) public-private and interagency coordination to promote awareness and coordination with respect to at-sea transshipment and effective enforcement.
- (c) training and technical assistance for sustainable management, enforcement and to implement the FAO agreement.

**Sections 6-10 deal with the promotion of the aquaculture industry:**

- Sec 6.** Removal of Barriers to Aquaculture Permitting ....
- Sec 7.** Aquaculture Opportunity Areas ....
- Sec 8.** Regulatory Transparency for Aquaculture ....
- Sec 9.** Updating the National Aquaculture Development Plan ....
- Sec 10.** Promoting Aquatic Animal Health ....

**Sec 11. International seafood trade.**

- (a) Establish a Seafood Trade Task Force....
- (b) Lists of members, including Administrators of NOAA ....
- (c) Requires a report within 90 days (Aug 5, 2020) ....
- (d) Requires a report to the President within 90 days the report in subsection (c) ....

**Sec 12. General provisions. General saving clause limiting the legal scope and requiring consistency with applicable law and available appropriations.**