

Nathan Perez  
F/V Bear Flag 3  
March 29, 2020

# DSBG Application

## F/V Bear Flag 3

To whom it may concern:

My name is Nathan Perez and I am a commercial fisherman in southern California, currently fishing Deep Set Buoy Gear (DSBG). I work for a company with six restaurants and more developments on the way. We are trying to source seafood responsibly and locally, and to avoid importing seafood when local fish is available. As our restaurants expand, our fishing fleet is expanding as well. We have recently purchased a new vessel, and it is being custom-built for fishing DSBG. The name of the vessel is going to be F/V Bear Flag 3. It is currently 80% complete and will be arriving in Newport Beach early this summer. We do not currently have a CDFW number or registration number as of yet, but will soon. We have a haul number and serial number for the motor if that information is needed to move forward.

Having two vessels fishing DSBG will help us keep up with producing the amount of local swordfish we need. It will also give us the ability to fish other fisheries while having one boat dedicated to fishing DSBG. Two vessels will also allow us to expand our fishing grounds and be able to fish new areas. We will potentially be able to fish north of Point Conception when the weather is fishable. Currently we fish from July to December on F/V Bear Flag 2 and produce enough fish to feed the restaurants until March. In March, we must buy imported seafood as the surplus runs out. Ideally we would utilize another fishing vessel to help build a surplus of swordfish for the rest of the year and avoid the need for imports.

I would like to apply for a two year standard DSBG permit with the option to renew until gear is authorized. F/V Bear Flag 3 is large enough to fish multiple day trips and hold a decent amount of swordfish in its fish hold. It will be a faster vessel, which will allow it to fish short weather windows and still be economical. Either I or Thomas Carson will be captaining this vessel. The both of us have a substantial amount of experience fishing DSBG over the past few years. We

years. We understand the need and purpose of having observers and are able to accommodate having them on our vessel. With this EFP we are trying to fish approximately 100 days per season and target swordfish or any other marketable HMS species such as tuna, opah, etc. As we fish there will be by-catch such as big eye thresher and blue sharks which we'll release in a timely manner to ensure their safe release.

Please consider this application. If you have any further questions or concerns please feel free to contact me. I am hopeful that in getting this permit we can rely more on locally sourced fish to provide for and stimulate the local economy.

Thank you.

Nathan Perez



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