

cooperating non-member of the Commission since it became operational in 2005. The United States became a Contracting Party to the Convention and a full member of the Commission when it ratified the Convention in January 2007. Under the Act (16 U.S.C. 6901 *et seq.*), the United States is to be represented on the Commission by five U.S. Commissioners, appointed by the President.

Permanent Advisory Committee

The Act provides in section 6902(d) that the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the U.S. Commissioners to the Commission, will appoint individuals as members of the advisory committee established under the Act, referred to here as the PAC.

The appointed members of the Permanent Advisory Committee are to include not less than 15 nor more than 20 individuals selected from the various groups concerned with the fisheries covered by the Convention, providing, to the extent practicable, an equitable balance among such groups. On behalf of the Secretary of Commerce, NMFS is now seeking nominations for these appointments.

In addition to the 15–20 appointed members, the Permanent Advisory Committee includes the chair of the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council's Advisory Committee (or designee), and officials of the fisheries management authorities of American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (or their designees).

Members of the Permanent Advisory Committee will be invited to attend all non-executive meetings of the U.S. Commissioners to the Commission and at such meetings will be given the opportunity to examine and be heard on all proposed programs of investigation, reports, recommendations, and regulations of the Commission. Members of the Permanent Advisory Committee are also invited to participate in meetings of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, as members of the United States' delegation.

Each appointed member of the Permanent Advisory Committee will serve for a term of 2 years and is eligible for reappointment. This request for nominations is for the term to begin on August 3, 2025, and is for a term of 2 consecutive years.

All members of the Advisory Committee are appointed in their individual professional capacity and undergo a background screening. Any individual appointed to the Committee who is unable to attend all or part of an

Advisory Committee meeting may not appoint another person to attend such meetings as their proxy. Nominees should be able to fulfill the time and travel commitments required to participate in the Committee's meeting(s). The meetings are normally two to three days long and can be held virtually or in Honolulu, Hawaii.

The Secretaries of Commerce and State will furnish the Permanent Advisory Committee with relevant information concerning fisheries and international fishery agreements.

NMFS, on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce, will provide to the Permanent Advisory Committee administrative and technical support services as are necessary for its effective functioning.

Appointed members of the Permanent Advisory Committee will serve without pay, but while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the advisory committee will be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in the Government service are allowed expenses under 5 U.S.C. 5703. They will not be considered Federal employees while performing service as members of the advisory committee except for the purposes of injury compensation or tort claims liability as provided in chapter 81 of title 5 and chapter 171 of title 28.

Procedure for Submitting Nominations

Nominations for the Permanent Advisory Committee should be submitted to NMFS (see **ADDRESSES**). This request for nominations is for first-time nominees as well as previous and current Permanent Advisory Committee members. Self-nominations are acceptable. Nominations should include a letter of interest and a resume or curriculum vitae that covers the following information: (1) full name, address, telephone, and email address of nominee; (2) nominee's organization(s) or professional affiliation(s) serving as the basis for the nomination, if any; and (3) a background statement, not to exceed one page in length, describing the nominee's qualifications, experience and interests, specifically as related to the fisheries covered by the Convention. For those who have submitted a nomination in response to the initial solicitation, 90 FR 7080, those nominations will still count towards consideration for the next PAC term, August 2025 through August 2027. The solicitation period for nominations has been reopened as a result of either not receiving a sufficient number of

nominations and/or meeting an equitable balance among groups.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 6902.

Dated: April 14, 2025.

Kelly Denit,

*Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XE834]

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Application for Exempted Fishing Permits

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Regional Administrator for Sustainable Fisheries, Greater Atlantic Region, NMFS, has made a preliminary determination that an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) application contains all of the required information and warrants further consideration. The EFP would allow federally permitted fishing vessels to fish outside fishery regulations in support of exempted fishing activities proposed by the Gloucester Marine Genomics Institute. Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed EFPs.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before August 1, 2025.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments by the following method:

- *Email:* nmfs.gar.efp@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line “GMGI 2025 Lobster Genomics EFP”.

All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing without change. All personal identifying information (*e.g.*, name, address), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter “anonymous” as the signature if you wish to remain anonymous).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Caroline Potter, Fishery Resource Management Specialist,
Caroline.Potter@noaa.gov, (978) 281–9325.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gloucester Marine Genomics Institute submitted a complete application for an EFP to conduct commercial fishing activities that the regulations would

otherwise restrict. This EFP would exempt the participating vessels from the following Federal regulations:

TABLE 1—REQUESTED EXEMPTIONS

CFR citation	Regulation	Need for exemption
50 CFR 697.20(c)(2)	Lobster Mutilation	Landing legs from ovigerous female lobsters.

TABLE 2—PROJECT SUMMARY

Project title	Genomic population structure of American lobster in U.S. waters for stock delineation.
Project start	06/01/2025.
Project end	01/31/2026.
Project objectives	To assess spatial stock structure and signals of natural selection of American lobster.
Project location	Statistical Areas 515, 562, 526, 537, 616, and 611.
Number of vessels	Up to 7.
Number of trips	Approximately 7.
Trip duration (days)	3.
Total number of days	Approximately 21.
Gear type(s)	Lobster pots.
Number of tows or sets	30 per trip.
Duration of tows or sets	1 day.

Project Narrative

This project would assess spatial stock structure and signals of natural selection of American lobster by using a population genomics approach. The intention is for the project to assist in improving management unit delineations for lobster in the Gulf of Maine, Georges Bank, and Southern New England regions. To achieve this, the project sets four aims: (1) improve the chromosome-level reference genome assembly for the American lobster; (2) build collaborative partnerships with commercial lobstermen and regional lobster biologists by collecting lobster tissue samples from locations throughout U.S. waters and one Canadian location; (3) assess genetic population structure and interpret responses to regional and environmental conditions recorded within the genome; and (4) disseminate results to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's American Lobster Technical Committee to improve stock delineations and management strategies.

While the overall project targets 21 locations in state and Federal waters, this EFP only includes vessels fishing at 7 of these locations of which 6 would be in Federal waters and 1 would be in Long Island Sound. At each of the seven locations, fishermen would fish for lobster using standard lobster pots, which would be configured and set consistent with offshore lobster fishing practices. This fishing activity is planned to be conducted as part of the fishermen's regular fishing activity. Legal lobsters that are harvested during

the trips would be landed for sale. For each late-stage egg-bearing female, the fishermen would remove for collection the smallest walking leg. After recording carapace length and latitude and longitude, the female would be released. A maximum of 280 samples would be collected from across the 7 locations, with a target sample size of 25 at each location. One trip would be taken for each location with each trip lasting three days.

If approved, the applicant may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the year. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and have minimal impacts that do not change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request. Any fishing activity conducted outside the scope of the exempted fishing activity would be prohibited.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: April 14, 2025.

Kelly Denit,

*Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,
 National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[RTID 0648–XE825]

Fisheries of the South Atlantic; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of SEDAR 90 South Atlantic Red Snapper Post Data Workshop Webinar 1.

SUMMARY: The SEDAR 90 assessment process of South Atlantic Red Snapper will consist of a Data Workshop, and a series of assessment webinars, and a Review Workshop. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

DATES: The SEDAR 90 Post Data Workshop Webinar 1 will be held on Monday, May 12, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The established times may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the timely completion of discussion relevant to the assessment process. Such adjustments may result in the meeting being extended from or completed prior to the time established by this notice.

ADDRESSES:

Meeting address: The meeting will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Registration for the webinar is available by contacting the SEDAR coordinator via email at *Emily.Ott@safmc.net*.