

TABLE 2—LIST OF FISHERIES—Continued
Commercial Fisheries in the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean

Fishery Description	Estimated number of vessels/ persons	Marine mammal species/stocks incidentally injured/killed
Gulf of Maine, U.S. mid-Atlantic mixed species trap/pot	100	North Atlantic right whale, WNA*+, Humpback whale, WNA*+ Minke whale, Canadian east coast Harbor porpoise, GME/BF* Harbor seal, WNA Gray seal, Northwest North Atlantic
U.S. mid-Atlantic and Southeast U.S. Atlantic black sea bass trap/pot.	30	None documented
U.S. mid-Atlantic eel trap/pot	>700	None documented
Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico blue crab trap/pot	20,500	Bottlenose dolphin, WNA coastal* Bottlenose dolphin, Western GMX coastal Bottlenose dolphin, Northern GMX coastal Bottlenose dolphin, Eastern GMX coastal Bottlenose dolphin, GMX Bay, Sound, & Estuarine* West Indian manatee, FL*+
Southeastern U.S. Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean spiny lobster trap/pot.	4,847	West Indian manatee, FL*+ Bottlenose dolphin, WNA coastal*+
STOP SEINE/WEIR/POUND FISHERIES:		
Gulf of Maine herring and Atlantic mackerel stop seine/weir	50	North Atlantic right whale, WNA* Humpback whale, WNA*+ Minke whale, Canadian east coast Harbor porpoise, GME/BF* Harbor seal, WNA Gray seal, Northwest North Atlantic
U.S. mid-Atlantic mixed species stop/seine/weir (except the North Carolina roe mullet stop net).	500	None documented
U.S. mid-Atlantic crab stop seine/weir	2,600	None documented
DREDGE FISHERIES:		
Gulf of Maine, U.S. mid-Atlantic sea scallop dredge	233	None documented
U.S. mid-Atlantic offshore surfclam and quahog dredge	100	None documented
Gulf of Maine mussel	>50	None documented
U.S. mid-Atlantic/Gulf of Mexico oyster	7,000	None documented
HAUL SEINE FISHERIES:		
Southeastern U.S. Atlantic, Caribbean haul seine	25	None documented
BEACH SEINE FISHERIES:		
Caribbean beach seine	15	West Indian manatee, FL+
DIVE, HAND/MECHANICAL COLLECTION FISHERIES:		
Gulf of Maine urchin dive, hand/mechanical collection	>50	None documented
Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean shellfish dive, hand/mechanical collection.	20,000	None documented
COMMERCIAL PASSENGER FISHING VESSEL (CHARTER BOAT) FISHERIES:.		
Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean commercial passenger fishing vessel.	4,000	None documented

¹* Marine mammal stock is strategic or is proposed to be listed as strategic in the draft SARs for 1998.

²*+ Stock is listed as threatened or endangered under the ESA or as depleted under the MMPA.

³*List of Abbreviations Used in Table 2 FL - Florida NC - North Carolina GA - Georgia SC - South Carolina GME/BF - Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy TX - Texas GMX - Gulf of Mexico WNA - Western North Atlantic

List of Fisheries for 2001

NMFS is currently conducting a thorough review of the current fisheries classifications and will publish proposed changes to the LOF in the summer of 2000.

Dated: April 19, 2000.

Andrew A. Rosenberg,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 041200B]

Incidental Take of Marine Mammals; Taking of Ringed Seals Incidental to On-ice Seismic Activities

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

ACTION: Notice of issuance of a letter of authorization.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), as amended, and with implementing regulations, notification is hereby given that a letter of authorization (LOA) to take ringed and bearded seals incidental to an on-ice shallow-water seismic survey in the Beaufort Sea off Alaska was issued on April 20, 2000, to Western Geophysical of Anchorage, AK.

DATES: This letter of authorization is effective from April 20, 2000, through May 31, 2000.

ADDRESSES: The application letters and LOA are available for review in the

following offices: Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, and Western Alaska Field Office, NMFS, 701 C Street, Anchorage, AK 99513.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth R. Hollingshead, NMFS, (301) 713-2055, ext 128 or Brad Smith, Western Alaska Field Office, NMFS, (907) 271-5006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 101(a)(5)(A) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) directs NMFS to allow, on request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region, if certain findings are made by NMFS and regulations are issued. Under the MMPA, the term "taking" means to harass, hunt, capture, or kill or to attempt to harass, hunt, capture or kill marine mammals.

Permission may be granted for periods up to 5 years if NMFS finds, after notification and opportunity for public comment, that the taking will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) of marine mammals and will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the availability of the species or stock(s) for subsistence uses. In addition, NMFS must prescribe regulations that include permissible methods of taking and other means effecting the least practicable adverse impact on the species and its habitat and on the availability of the species for subsistence uses, paying particular attention to rookeries, mating grounds, and areas of similar significance. The regulations must include requirements pertaining to the monitoring and reporting of such taking. Regulations governing the taking of ringed and bearded seals incidental to on-ice seismic surveys were published on February 2, 1998 (63 FR 5277), and remain in effect until December 31, 2002.

Summary of Request

NMFS received requests for letters of authorization from Western Geophysical on September 23, 1999, and October 14, 1999. LOAs for these activities were issued on January 28, 2000 (see 65 FR 4949, February 2, 2000). A third application from Western Geophysical was received on January 31, 2000, and amended by letter on February 21, 2000. The letters requested a take by mortality, injury, and harassment of a small number of ringed seals incidental to conducting shallow-water seismic surveys on the ice in the Beaufort Sea off Alaska.

Issuance of this new letter of authorization is based on findings that the total takings by this activity will have a negligible impact on the ringed seal stocks of the Western Beaufort Sea and that the applicants have met the requirements contained in the implementing regulations, including monitoring and reporting requirements.

Dated: April 20, 2000.

Donald R. Knowles,

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 042100A]

Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Council's Recreational Fisheries Data Task Force (RFDTF) will hold a meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held May 11, 2000, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council office, 1164 Bishop St., Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kitty M. Simonds, Executive Director; telephone: 808-522-8220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This will be the fifth meeting of the RFDTF which will discuss the following topics: review of minutes from fourth Task Force meeting, review of proposal for redefining commercial fishermen, review of a rapid survey instrument to establish total pelagic catch in Hawaii, review of longer term strategies for obtaining recreational fishery data in Hawaii, and an update on the recent (sixth) meeting to establish an international management regime for tuna and tuna-like species in the Central-Western Pacific.

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come the RFDTF for discussion, in accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be subject of formal action during this meeting. Action will be restricted to those issues

specifically identified in this agenda and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under Section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Kitty M. Simonds, 808-522-8220 (voice) or 808-522-8226 (fax), at least 5 days prior to meeting date.

Dated: April 21, 2000.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Adjustment of import Limits for Certain Cotton and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the Dominican Republic

April 20, 2000.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs adjusting limits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 1, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Naomi Freeman, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the quota status of these limits, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port, call (202) 927-5850, or refer to the U.S. Customs website at <http://www.customs.gov>. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

The current limits for certain categories are being adjusted for swing.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the **CORRELATION:** Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff