

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

652. REGULATIONS GOVERNING PROCESSED FISHERY PRODUCTS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 7 USC 1621 to 1630**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 260**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: NMFS is amending its regulations to introduce new marks for use on inspected products and in inspected facilities. NMFS is also proposing new language associated with one of its marks to more accurately reflect its regulatory requirements. NMFS' actions are a result of industry and consumer comments.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/95	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

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RIN: 0648-AH18**653. REVISED REGULATIONS GOVERNING PERMITS FOR THE TAKING, IMPORTING AND EXPORTING OF PROTECTED SPECIES FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND PUBLIC DISPLAY****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1361 et seq, Marine Mammal Protection Act; 16 USC 1531 et seq, Endangered Species Act; 16 USC 1151 et seq, Fur Seal Act

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 216; 50 CFR 215; 50 CFR 222

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These proposed revisions would update and consolidate existing permit regulations that have been promulgated for the taking, import, export, or conduct of an otherwise prohibited activity involving protected species (i.e., marine mammals and endangered or threatened species) for purposes of scientific research, public display, or enhancement under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, the Endangered Species Act, and the Fur

Seal Act. These revisions would implement amendments to the Marine Mammal Protection Act enacted in 1988 and 1994, and clarify when a permit is required and the scope and extent of permit authority under these Acts. The final rule would add permit-specific and generally applicable terms and conditions, which would clarify permit requirements and review procedures, and would amend the criteria for deciding whether to issue or deny permits, and revise administrative requirements and procedures. These revisions are intended to provide a comprehensive regulatory foundation for these special exception permits and to make administration of the NMFS permit program more efficient, consistent and predictable. The NMFS is proposing to (cont)

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/14/93	58 FR 53320
NPRM Comment Period End	01/28/94	58 FR 68848
Second NRPM	08/00/95	
NRPM Comment Period End	11/00/95	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** Federal

Additional Information: ABSTRACT CONT: consolidate permit regulations into a single part of title 50.

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RIN: 0648-AD11**654. PROCEDURE FOR SETTING QUOTAS ON REMOVAL OF ATLANTIC BOTTLENOSE DOLPHINS FROM THE WATERS OF THE GULF OF MEXICO AND FLORIDA'S EAST COAST****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1361**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 216**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Regulations will establish a procedure for setting and revising quotas to govern the removal of Atlantic bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) from the Gulf of Mexico and Florida's east coast. Regulations will be

supported by an EIS that will provide a comprehensive review of the status of stocks of bottlenose dolphins in the southeast region and the validity of the 2 percent rule for determining the allowable take to the extent reliable data are available. These regulations and quotas will take into account other types of taking such as those that may occur incidentally to commercial fisheries.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	05/31/90	55 FR 22042
ANPRM Comment Period End	07/02/90	
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Additional Information: Action to be taken will be reevaluated in the context of the Marine Mammal Protection Act as reauthorized in 1994.

Agency Contact: Katherine Wang, Fishery Biologist, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of Protected Resources, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910, **301 713-2289**

RIN: 0648-AD39**655. SEA TURTLE MONITORING AND CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR NONSHRIMP FISHERIES****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1531 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 217; 50 CFR 222; 50 CFR 227

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NMFS proposes to protect sea turtles through the implementation of sea turtle conservation measures on nonshrimp fisheries. Bottom trawlers in the mid-Atlantic take sea turtles when not using turtle excluder devices (TEDs) and may jeopardize the continued existence of endangered sea turtles. NMFS proposes to require TEDs in all bottom trawlers operating from Texas through Delaware. Other nonshrimp fisheries using tow lines, gill nets, or other gear probably take significant numbers of sea turtles. In order to better quantify that level of take, NMFS proposes to require