

reports must be delivered or post marked and mailed to the Regional Director within 72 hours after weighout has been completed.

(b) The master or other person in charge of a fishing vessel, subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, except vessels proceeding directly to Puerto Rico or to any other U.S. port for unloading, must report to the Regional Director not less than 48 hours prior to entering the regulatory area via the Panama Canal. In addition, the master or other person in charge of a vessel, subject to the jurisdiction of the United States except a vessel without fish on board, must notify the Regional Director not less than 48 hours prior to leaving the regulatory area via the Panama Canal. Each report must include the name of the reporting vessel, the tonnage by species on board, and whether the fish were caught in Pacific or Atlantic waters.

(c) All such fishing vessels entering or leaving the regulatory area via the Panama Canal are subject to inspection. Official seals will be affixed to wells containing fish taken within or outside the regulatory area, as appropriate and the same will be noted on the vessel log. The official seals may be removed only by a designated agent of NMFS upon arrival at point of sale or delivery.

(d) The master or other person in charge of a fishing vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, must notify the Regional Director not less than 48 hours prior to any transfer of Atlantic tuna taken in the regulatory area to another vessel for the purpose of transshipment. Such reports must include the date and place of unloading, name and destination of the oncarrying vessel, and the tonnage by species of tuna transferred.

(e) The failure to file the reports or to follow the procedures required by this section, the tampering with or the removal of an official seal, or the alteration of a fishing vessel's log by any person or fishing vessel subject to the jurisdiction of the United States is a prohibited act within the meaning of § 285.3.

(f) Any person authorized to carry out enforcement activities under the Act or these regulations has power, without warrant or other process, to inspect, at any reasonable time, catch on board the vessel, log books, catch reports, statistical records, or other reports as required by the regulations in this part to be made, kept or furnished.

(g) Owners and operators of vessels fishing for Atlantic yellowfin, bigeye, albacore, and skipjack tunas and Atlantic bonito shoreward of the outer boundary of the EEZ around Puerto Rico

and the Virgin Islands with only handgear on board are exempt from the reporting requirements of this section.

#### **§ 285.55 Dealer permits.**

(a) *General.* Effective November 15, 1995, a dealer purchasing or attempting to purchase, receiving, possessing, importing or exporting Atlantic yellowfin, bigeye, albacore, and skipjack tunas and Atlantic bonito must have a valid permit required under this section.

(b) *Application.* Applications for a dealer permit must be in writing on an appropriate form obtained from the Regional Director. The application must be signed by the applicant, and be submitted to the Regional Director at least 30 days before the date upon which the applicant desires the permit to be effective. The application must contain the following information: Company name; principal place of business; owner or owners' names; applicant's name (if different from owner or owners) and mailing address and telephone number; and any other information required by the Regional Director.

(c) *Issuance.* (1) Except as provided in subpart D of 15 CFR part 904, the Regional Director will issue a permit within 30 days of receipt of a completed application.

(2) The Regional Director will notify the applicant of any deficiency in the application. If the applicant fails to correct the deficiency within 15 days following the date of notification, the application will be considered abandoned.

(d) *Duration.* Any permit issued under this section remains valid until December 31 of the year for which it is issued, unless suspended or revoked.

(e) *Alteration.* Any permit which is substantially altered, erased, or mutilated is invalid.

(f) *Replacement.* The Regional Director may issue replacement permits. An application for a replacement permit is not considered a new application.

(g) *Transfer.* A permit issued under this section is not transferable or assignable; it is valid only for the dealer to whom it is issued.

(h) *Inspection.* The dealer must keep the permit issued under this section at his/her principal place of business. The permit must be displayed for inspection upon request of any authorized officer, or any employee of NMFS designated by the Regional Director for such purpose.

(i) *Sanctions.* The Administrator may suspend, revoke, modify, or deny a permit issued or sought under this section. Procedures governing permit sanctions and denials are found at subpart D of 15 CFR part 904.

(j) *Fees.* The Regional Director may charge a fee to recover the administrative expenses of permit issuance. The amount of the fee is calculated, at least annually, in accordance with the procedures of the NOAA Finance Handbook for determining administrative costs of each special product or service. The fee may not exceed such costs and is specified on each application form. The appropriate fee must accompany each application. Failure to pay the fee will preclude issuance of the permit. Payment by a commercial instrument later determined to be insufficiently funded shall invalidate any permit.

(k) *Change in application information.* Within 15 days after any change in the information contained in an application submitted under this section, the dealer issued a permit will report the change in writing to the Regional Director.

(l) *Exemptions.* Dealers issued valid permits for the Atlantic bluefin tuna fishery under § 285.28 of this part, dealers issued valid permits for the Atlantic shark fishery (50 CFR part 678) or the Atlantic swordfish fishery (50 CFR part 630), and dealers located in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands who purchase, sell, or re-sell only Atlantic yellowfin, bigeye, albacore, and skipjack tunas and Atlantic bonito taken shoreward of the outer boundary of the EEZ around Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands by handgear are exempt from the permit requirements of this section.

#### **§ 285.56 Dealer recordkeeping and reporting.**

(a) A dealer who has been issued a dealer permit pursuant to § 285.55 must submit reports to the Fisheries Science Center Director as specified in paragraph (b) of this section. A report form is available from the Science and Research Director. The following information must be included in each report:

(1) Name, address, and permit number of the dealer.

(2) Names and official numbers of fishing vessels from which Atlantic yellowfin, bigeye, albacore, and skipjack tunas and Atlantic bonito were received.

(3) Dates of receipt of Atlantic yellowfin, bigeye, albacore, and skipjack tunas and Atlantic bonito.

(4) Listed by each port and county where Atlantic yellowfin, bigeye, albacore, and skipjack tunas and Atlantic bonito were offloaded from fishing vessels:

(i) Total weight (pounds) for Atlantic yellowfin, bigeye, albacore, and skipjack tunas and Atlantic bonito by market category, if applicable, and for other