



National Marine Fisheries Service, Northwest Region  
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[www.nwr.noaa.gov](http://www.nwr.noaa.gov)



## PUBLIC NOTICE

For Information Contact:  
The Groundfish Branch (206) 526-6140  
Toll-free trawl program hotline (888) 522-0267

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 3, 2010

### **PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHERY**

#### **Trawl Rationalization Program: Final Rule Available, First Receiver Site Licenses Available, and Accepting Requests for Vessel Accounts**

In preparation for implementation of the trawl rationalization program on January 1, 2011 or shortly thereafter, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) announces the following:

1. A final rule implementing additional details for the trawl rationalization program (program).
2. Applications available for first receiver site licenses.
3. Accepting requests for vessel accounts.

A version of the final rule as it was delivered to the *Federal Register*, along with other useful information including fact sheets, frequently asked questions, first receiver site license applications, and a template for vessel account requests, are posted on NMFS Trawl Program website at: <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/Groundfish-Halibut/Groundfish-Fishery-Management/Trawl-Program/index.cfm>.

#### **Program Components Final Rule**

The “program components” final rule, effective January 1, 2011, implements additional program details for the trawl rationalization program, including gear switching, observer programs, retention requirements, equipment requirements,

catch monitors, catch weighing requirements, coop permits, coop agreement requirements, first receiver site licenses, quota share (QS) accounts, vessel accounts, further tracking and monitoring components, and economic data collection requirements.

A small entity compliance guide (compliance guide) will be available soon. The compliance guide will provide a plain language guide to the program.

#### **First Receiver Site License Applications**

NMFS has mailed first receiver site license applications to our list of first receivers. In addition, applications, along with guidelines for catch monitor plans, are available on NMFS Trawl Program website.

Any shorebased first receiver of groundfish who anticipates accepting Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) landings from trawlers in 2011 must obtain an Interim First Receiver Site License for each physical landing site. NMFS will issue Interim First Receiver Site Licenses for all completed applications. Once a catch monitoring plan is reviewed and accepted by NMFS, including a

completed site inspection, a regular First Receiver Site License would be issued, replacing the interim license.

In addition, each first receiver taking delivery of IFQ species would be required to have a certified catch monitor present for the entire duration of any IFQ landing. A list of catch monitor providers is available on our website and in this public notice.

A complete application for a First Receiver Site License will require the following items:

1. A complete First Receiver Site License application form;
2. A catch monitor plan including a written request for a site inspection;
3. A copy of your state buyer's license;
4. An application fee - check or money order payable the USDC/NOAA in the amount of \$50.

If you have questions about the First Receiver Site License, please contact the Fisheries Permit Office at 206-526-4353 or email Sarah Towne at [Sarah.Towne@noaa.gov](mailto:Sarah.Towne@noaa.gov).

## **Vessel Accounts**

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Any vessel owner who anticipates fishing in the 2011 Shorebased IFQ Program must have an online vessel account and sufficient quota pounds to cover any landing of IFQ species. NMFS is currently working to finish development of the online quota share (QS) and vessel account system and hopes to have these completed in mid-December. To provide participants as much time as possible to prepare for the 2011 Shorebased IFQ fishery, NMFS is now accepting requests for a vessel account from vessel owners. For NMFS to process your request for a vessel account, your vessel must be registered to a trawl-endorsed Pacific coast groundfish limited entry permit. A template to request a vessel account is available on the NMFS Trawl Program website.

## **Observer and Catch Monitor Providers**

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In addition, NMFS encourages participants to begin contacting observer providers and catch monitor providers so that providers can adequately plan for participants' needs in 2011. Contacts for observer providers are available on the NMFS Fact Sheet: *Observer Program Frequently Asked Questions* listed on NMFS Trawl Program website. Contacts for catch monitor providers are available on the NMFS Fact Sheet: *Catch Monitor Providers for IFQ First Receivers*. These providers are also listed below:

1. **Alaskan Observer, Inc.,**  
Contact: David Edick,  
(206) 283-7310,  
[aoistaff@alaskanobservers.com](mailto:aoistaff@alaskanobservers.com)
2. **MRAG Americas, Inc.,**  
Contact: Bryan Belay,  
(907) 677-8772,  
[bryan.belay@mragamericas.com](mailto:bryan.belay@mragamericas.com)
3. **NWO, Inc.,**  
Contact: Stacey Hanson,  
(425) 673-6445,  
[alaska@nwoinc.com](mailto:alaska@nwoinc.com)
4. **Saltwater, Inc.,**  
Contact: Tim Carroll/Kathy Robinson,  
(907) 276-3241,  
[tim@saltwaterinc.com](mailto:tim@saltwaterinc.com),  
[kathy@saltwaterinc.com](mailto:kathy@saltwaterinc.com)
5. **TechSea International, Inc.,**  
Contact: Troy Quinlan,  
(206) 285-1408,  
[Info@Techsea.com](mailto:Info@Techsea.com)

### **Groundfish E-mail Group**

Subscribe to "wgroundfish" by visiting the following website: [http://listserver.afsc.noaa.gov/read/all\\_forums/subscribe?name=wgroundfish](http://listserver.afsc.noaa.gov/read/all_forums/subscribe?name=wgroundfish)