



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
NORTHEAST REGION
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

EXEMPTED FISHING PERMIT

14012

Principal Investigator: **Katie A. Burchard**
NEFSC Narragansett Laboratory
28 Tarzwell Drive
Narragansett, RI 02882-1199
401-782-3208

Permit Issued Date: **May 22, 2014**
Permit Effective Date: **May 22, 2014**
Permit Expiration Date: **April 30, 2015**

Vessel Owner - Vessel Operator	Vessel Name	Hull Number	Federal Permit Number
CORVO LLC - Manny Magalhaes	<i>Hera</i>	945600	410501
K & K Fishing Corp. – Pat Kavanagh	<i>Mary K</i>	971153	410527

In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act provisions (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), 50 CFR 600.745 and 50 CFR 648.12 (subpart F), the above named vessels are exempt from the regulations specified below while participating in the Northeast Fisheries Science Center Study Fleet Program.

The Northeast Fisheries Science Center Study Fleet Program is an ongoing research program designed to enhance electronic logbook reporting and improve biological understanding of certain fish species. The goal of the Study Fleet program is to use study fleets to enhance data collection on high priority species and data limited stocks. This EFP will enable trained vessel operators and crew members to collect biological data for the NEFSC during commercial fishing operations and, in limited situations, retain specific amounts of fish in whole or round weight conditions, including some undersized individuals, which would be delivered to Study Fleet Program technicians for research only. In addition, the above named vessels are authorized to fish portions of Closed Area I and II as part of a pilot study investigating the catch composition by vessels targeting haddock with selective bottom trawls. For the purpose of this experiment, the above-named vessels are exempt from the following regulations while conducting experimental fishing activities in accordance with applicable scientific protocol during the specified participation period and in accordance with the conditions and requirements specified below:

EXEMPTIONS

1. Prohibition from fishing in Closed Areas I and II at § 648.81(a) and (b);
2. Northeast (NE) multispecies minimum size at § 648.83 for the following species: Haddock; yellowtail flounder; winter flounder; cod; and Atlantic halibut;
3. Monkfish minimum size at § 648.93;

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4. Summer flounder minimum size at § 648.104;
5. Possession limit of Atlantic halibut at § 648.86(c);
6. Zero retention of Atlantic wolffish and windowpane flounder at § 648.86(l);
7. Monkfish possession limits at § 648.94;
8. Summer flounder possession restrictions § 648.106;
9. Skate possession and landing restrictions at § 648.322;
10. Spiny dogfish possession and landing restrictions at § 648.235; and
11. If on a monkfish-only day-at-sea (DAS) per § 648.92(b)(2)(i), the vessel is exempt from the prohibition of landing NE multispecies as listed in § 648.92(b)(2)(i), provided all NE multispecies are landed for research purposes and transferred directly to NEFSC staff.

CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

Exemptions are valid provided the above listed vessels comply with the following conditions and requirements:

1. This EFP must be carried aboard the vessel and accompany valid Federal fishery permits for any species which is landed;
2. The vessel must comply with all other applicable requirements and restrictions specified at 50 CFR part 648, unless specifically exempted in this EFP. The vessel fishing under this EFP remain subject to permit conditions at § 648.4(b);
3. This EFP does not exempt the vessel from any requirement imposed by any state;
4. The vessel is exempted from minimum fish sizes for species listed in Table 1 for the purpose of at-sea sampling and for the retention of fish in limited situations; such retained species must not exceed any of the NEFSC Study Fleet Program's biological sampling needs that are detailed in Table 1. All such fish must be transferred to the NEFSC upon landing;
5. Participating vessels must obtain written approval from the NEFSC Study Fleet Program prior to landing any fish in excess of possession limits and/or below minimum size limits;
6. All sampling must be done in accordance with the NEFSC sampling protocols;
7. The vessel is exempt from the prohibition from fishing in certain portions of Closed Area I and II during time periods and under specific conditions, including that all trips into closed areas must be accompanied by a representative from the NEFSC.

Closed Area I - The central portion of Closed Area I is open through December 31, 2014. The vessel must use selective trawl gear (haddock separator trawl or Ruhle trawl) when fishing in the access area to Closed Area I defined by straight lines connecting the following points:

Point	N. lat.	W. long.
A	41°04'	69°01'
B	41°26'	68°30'
C	40°58'	68°30'
D	40°55'	68°53'
A	41°04'	69°01'



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Closed Area II - The central portion of Closed Area II is open through June 15, 2014, and from November 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014. The vessel must use selective trawl gear (haddock separator trawl or Ruhle trawl) when fishing in the access area to Closed Area II defined by straight lines connecting the following points:

Point	N. lat.	W. long.	Note
A	41°30'	(66°34.8')	(1)
B	41°30'	67°20'	
C	41°50'	67°20'	
D	41°50'	67°10'	
E	42°00'	67°10'	
F	42°00'	(67°00.63')	(2), (3)
A	41°30'	(66°34.8')	(1)

¹ The intersection of 41°30' N. latitude and the U.S.-Canada Maritime Boundary, approximate longitude in parentheses.

² The intersection of 42°00' N. latitude and the U.S.-Canada Maritime Boundary, approximate longitude in parentheses.

³ From POINT F back to POINT A along the U.S.-Canada Maritime Boundary.

- In accordance with the vessel monitoring system (VMS) instructions issued for this project (attached), the vessel must notify NMFS prior to the start and at the end of each designated EFP trip via their VMS.
- A copy of the final report must be provided to NMFS Northeast Regional Office within 6 months of the expiration of the EFP.

Activities that do not comply with these provisions automatically render this EFP null and void as of the date of the violation and may subject the violator to fines and/or permit sanctions.

Authorized by,



John K. Bullard

Regional Administrator

I agree to comply with the conditions of this permit.

Signature of Principal Investigator
(permit not valid until signed)

Date

Signature of vessel owner or operator
(permit not valid until signed)

Date



Table 1. NEFSC’s sampling objectives

Species	Stock Area*	Gear Types[#]	Collection Frequency	Individual fish Per Collection Period	Maximum weight allowed per trip (lb)	Maximum Allowance (lb)
Haddock	GB, GOM	OTF, LLB, GNS, DRS	Monthly	30/month	120	1,440
Yellowtail Flounder	GOM, GB, SNE	OTF, GNS, DRS	Monthly	200/stock area	100	3,000
Summer Flounder	GOM, GB, SNE	OTF, GNS, DRS	Monthly	200/stock area	150	4,500
Winter Flounder	GOM, GB, SNE	OTF, GNS, DRS	Monthly	200/stock area	100	3,000
Windowpane Flounder	GB, GOM	OTF, DRS	Monthly	40/month	30	360
Spiny Dogfish	GOM, GB, SNE	OTF, LLB, GNS, DRS	Monthly	60/month	350	4,200
Monkfish	GOM, GB, SNE	OTF, GNS, DRS	Monthly	10/month	100	1,200
Atlantic Cod	GOM, GB, SNE	OTF, LLB, GNS, DRS	Monthly	200/stock area	300	8,500
Barndoor Skate	GOM, GB, SNE	OTF, GNS, DRS	Quarterly	20/quarter	75	300
Thorny Skate	GOM, GB, SNE	OTF, GNS, DRS	Quarterly	20/quarter	75	300
Black Sea Bass	GB, SNE	PTF, OTF	Quarterly	75/quarter	250	1,000
Atlantic wolffish	GOM, GB	OTF, GNS, LLB	Monthly	30/month	120	3,000
Cusk	GOM, GB	OTF, GNS, LLB	Monthly	30/month	100	2,300
Atlantic halibut	GOM, GB	OTF, GNS, LLB	Monthly	10/month	300	10,000

* Stock area abbreviations: Gulf of Maine (GOM), Georges Bank (GB), Southern New England (SNE)

Gear abbreviations: Otter trawl (OTF), bottom longline (LLB), sink gill net (GNS), sea scallop dredge (DRS), fish pot (PTF)