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Trip means the time period that begins when a fishing vessel departs from a dock, berth, beach, seawall, ramp, or port to carry out fishing operations and that terminates with a return to a dock, berth, beach, seawall, ramp, or port.

U.S. observer or *observer* means any person serving in the capacity of an observer employed by NMFS, either directly or under contract, or certified as a supplementary observer by NMFS.

Vessel of the United States or *U.S. vessel* means:

- (1) Any vessel documented under chapter 121 of title 46, United States Code;
- (2) Any vessel numbered under chapter 123 of title 46, United States Code, and measuring less than 5 net tons;
- (3) Any vessel numbered under chapter 123 of title 46, United States Code, and used exclusively for pleasure; or
- (4) Any vessel not equipped with propulsion machinery of any kind and used exclusively for pleasure.

White marlin means the species *Tetrapturus albidus*, or a part thereof.

Yellowfin tuna means the species *Thunnus albacares*, or a part thereof.

[61 FR 32540, June 24, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 14646, Mar. 27, 1997; 62 FR 66551, Dec. 19, 1997; 63 FR 7073, 7075, Feb. 12, 1998; 64 FR 4036, Jan. 27, 1999; 64 FR 29133, May 28, 1999; 64 FR 67516, Dec. 2, 1999; 67 FR 2375, Jan. 17, 2002]

§ 600.15 Other acronyms.

- (a) *Fishery management terms.* (1) ABC—acceptable biological catch
- (2) ATCA—Atlantic Tunas Convention Act
- (3) BFT (Atlantic bluefin tuna) means the subspecies of bluefin tuna, *Thunnus thynnus thynnus*, or a part thereof, that occurs in the Atlantic Ocean.
- (4) BSD means the ICCAT bluefin tuna statistical document.
- (5) DAH—estimated domestic annual harvest
- (6) DAP—estimated domestic annual processing
- (7) EIS—environmental impact statement
- (8) EY—equilibrium yield
- (9) FMP—fishery management plan
- (10) ICCAT means the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.
- (11) JVP—joint venture processing

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- (12) MSY—maximum sustainable yield
- (13) PMP—preliminary FMP
- (14) TAC—total allowable catch
- (15) TALFF—total allowable level of foreign fishing
- (b) *Legislation.* (1) APA—Administrative Procedure Act
- (2) CZMA—Coastal Zone Management Act
- (3) ESA—Endangered Species Act
- (4) FACA—Federal Advisory Committee Act
- (5) FOIA—Freedom of Information Act
- (6) FLSA—Fair Labor Standards Act
- (7) MMPA—Marine Mammal Protection Act
- (8) MPRSA—Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act
- (9) NEPA—National Environmental Policy Act
- (10) PA—Privacy Act
- (11) PRA—Paperwork Reduction Act
- (12) RFA—Regulatory Flexibility Act
- (c) *Federal agencies.* (1) CEQ—Council on Environmental Quality
- (2) DOC—Department of Commerce
- (3) DOI—Department of the Interior
- (4) DOS—Department of State
- (5) EPA—Environmental Protection Agency
- (6) FWS—Fish and Wildlife Service
- (7) GSA—General Services Administration
- (8) NMFS—National Marine Fisheries Service
- (9) NOAA—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- (10) OMB—Office of Management and Budget
- (11) OPM—Office of Personnel Management
- (12) SBA—Small Business Administration
- (13) USCG—United States Coast Guard

[61 FR 32540, June 24, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 7073, Feb. 12, 1998; 64 FR 29134, May 28, 1999]

Subpart B—Regional Fishery Management Councils

§ 600.105 Intercouncil boundaries.

- (a) *New England and Mid-Atlantic Councils.* The boundary begins at the intersection point of Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New York at

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41°18'16.249" N. lat. and 71°54'28.477" W. long. and proceeds south 37°22'32.75" East to the point of intersection with the outward boundary of the EEZ as specified in the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

(b) *Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic Councils.* The boundary begins at the seaward boundary between the States of Virginia and North Carolina (36°31'00.8" N. lat.), and proceeds due east to the point of intersection with the outward boundary of the EEZ as specified in the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

(c) *South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Councils.* The boundary coincides with the line of demarcation between the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico, which begins at the intersection of the outer boundary of the EEZ, as specified in the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and 83°00' W. long., proceeds northward along that meridian to 24°35' N. lat., (near the Dry Tortugas Islands), thence eastward along that parallel, through Rebecca Shoal and the Quicksand Shoal, to the Marquesas Keys, and then through the Florida Keys to the mainland at the eastern end of Florida Bay, the line so running that the narrow waters within the Dry Tortugas Islands, the Marquesas Keys and the Florida Keys, and between the Florida Keys and the mainland, are within the Gulf of Mexico.

[61 FR 32540, June 24, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 7075, Feb. 12, 1998]

§ 600.110 Intercouncil fisheries.

If any fishery extends beyond the geographical area of authority of any one Council, the Secretary may—

(a) Designate a single Council to prepare the FMP for such fishery and any amendments to such FMP, in consultation with the other Councils concerned; or

(b) Require that the FMP and any amendments be prepared jointly by all the Councils concerned.

(1) A jointly prepared FMP or amendment must be adopted by a majority of the voting members, present and voting, of each participating Council. Different conservation and management measures may be developed for specific geographic areas, but the FMP should address the entire geographic range of the stock(s).

(2) In the case of joint FMP or amendment preparation, one Council will be designated as the "administrative lead." The "administrative lead" Council is responsible for the preparation of the FMP or any amendments and other required documents for submission to the Secretary.

(3) None of the Councils involved in joint preparation may withdraw without Secretarial approval. If Councils cannot agree on approach or management measures within a reasonable period of time, the Secretary may designate a single Council to prepare the FMP or may issue the FMP under Secretarial authority.

§ 600.115 Statement of organization, practices, and procedures (SOPP).

(a) Councils are required to publish and make available to the public a SOPP in accordance with such uniform standards as are prescribed by the Secretary (section 302(f)(6)) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. The purpose of the SOPP is to inform the public how the Council operates within the framework of the Secretary's uniform standards.

(b) Amendments to current SOPPs must be consistent with the guidelines in this section and the terms and conditions of the cooperative agreement, the statutory requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act and other applicable law. Upon approval of a Council's SOPP amendment by the Secretary, a Notice of Availability will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER, including an address where the public may write to request copies.

(c) Councils may deviate, where lawful, from the guidelines with appropriate supporting rationale, and Secretarial approval of each amendment to a SOPP would constitute approval of any such deviations for that particular Council.

[61 FR 32540, June 24, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 7075, Feb. 12, 1998]

§ 600.120 Employment practices.

(a) Council staff positions must be filled solely on the basis of merit, fitness for duty, competence, and qualifications. Employment actions must be free from discrimination based on race, religion, color, national origin, sex,