

### § 905.3

1361 *et seq.*, and implementing regulations.

*Secretary* means the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of the Interior, their chosen designees, or any other Federal agency authorized to enforce the provisions of the Magnuson Act, MMPA, or ESA.

*Vessel* means any vessel as defined at 16 U.S.C. 1802(31).

*Voluntary fishery data collector* means:

- (1) Any person, including an observer or a sea sampler;
- (2) Placed aboard a vessel by the Secretary;
- (3) For the purpose of collecting information; and
- (4) Whose presence aboard that vessel is not required by the Secretary pursuant to provisions of the Magnuson Act, MMPA, or ESA, or their implementing regulations.

#### § 905.3 Access to information.

Information collected by a voluntary fishery data collector:

- (a) Is subject to disclosure to both the Secretary and the public, to the extent required or authorized by law; and
- (b) Is subject to discovery by any party to an enforcement proceeding, to the extent required or authorized by law.

#### § 905.4 Use of information.

(a) Except as provided for in paragraph (b) of this section, information collected by a voluntary fishery data collector may not be introduced by the Secretary as evidence against any consenting owner that is a party to an enforcement proceeding.

(b) Provided that all applicable evidentiary requirements are satisfied:

(1) Information collected by a voluntary fishery data collector may be introduced in an enforcement proceeding by any party except the Secretary;

(2) If information is introduced pursuant to paragraph (b)(1) of this section, all information collected by a voluntary fishery data collector may be introduced by any other party, including the Secretary.

(c) Independent evidence derived from information collected by a voluntary fishery data collector may be introduced by any party, including the

### 15 CFR Ch. IX (1-1-03 Edition)

Secretary, in an enforcement proceeding.

#### § 905.5 Exceptions.

The provisions of this part shall not apply in any enforcement proceeding against a consenting owner that alleges the actual or attempted:

- (a) Assault, intimidation, or harassment (including sexual harassment) of any person; or
- (b) Impairment or interference with the duties of a voluntary fishery data collector.

## PART 908—MAINTAINING RECORDS AND SUBMITTING REPORTS ON WEATHER MODIFICATION ACTIVITIES

Sec.	
908.1	Definitions.
908.2	Persons subject to reporting.
908.3	Activities subject to reporting.
908.4	Initial report.
908.5	Interim reports.
908.6	Final report.
908.7	Supplemental reports.
908.8	Maintenance of records.
908.9	Retention of records.
908.10	Penalties.
908.11	Maintenance of records of related activities.
908.12	Public disclosure of information.
908.13	Address of letters.
908.14	Business to be transacted in writing.
908.15	Times for taking action; expiration on Saturday, Sunday, or holiday.
908.16	Signature.
908.17	Suspension or waiver of rules.
908.18	Matters not specifically provided for in rules.
908.19	Publication of notice of proposed amendments.
908.20	Effective date.
908.21	Report form.

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SOURCE: 41 FR 23394, June 10, 1976, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 908.1 Definitions.

As used in this part, terms shall have the meaning ascribed in this section.

(a) *Administrator*. The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(b) *Person*. Any individual, corporation, company, association, firm, partnership, society, joint stock company, any State or local government or any

agency thereof, or any other organization, whether commercial or nonprofit, except where acting solely as an employee, agent, or independent contractor of the Federal government.

(c) *Weather modification activity.* Any activity performed with the intention of producing artificial changes in the composition, behavior, or dynamics of the atmosphere.

(d) *United States.* The several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and any territory or insular possession of the United States.

(e) *Persons whose activities relate to weather modification.* Persons engaged in weather modification activities or engaged in the distribution or sale of weather modification apparatus or materials known by them to be destined for use in weather modification activities.

(f) *Project.* A related series of weather modification activities having a common objective.

(g) *Target area.* The ground area within which the effects of the weather modification activity are expected to be found.

(h) *Control area.* A preselected, untreated ground area used for comparison with a target area.

(i) *Weather modification apparatus.* Any apparatus used with the intention of producing artificial changes in the composition, behavior, or dynamics of the atmosphere. For example: Seeding generators, propane devices, flares, rockets, artillery projectiles, jet engines, etc.

(j) *Sponsor.* The primary person for whom the weather modification activity is performed.

(k) *Operator.* The person who is primarily responsible for carrying out the weather modification activity.

[41 FR 23394, June 10, 1976, as amended at 46 FR 32233, June 22, 1981]

#### § 908.2 Persons subject to reporting.

Any person engaged or intending to engage in any weather modification activity in the United States shall be subject to the reporting provisions of this part.

#### § 908.3 Activities subject to reporting.

(a) The following, when conducted as weather modification activities, shall be subject to reporting:

(1) Seeding or dispersing of any substance into clouds or fog, to alter drop size distribution, produce ice crystals or coagulation of droplets, alter the development of hail or lightning, or influence in any way the natural development cycle of clouds or their environment;

(2) Using fires or heat sources to influence convective circulation or to evaporate fog;

(3) Modifying the solar radiation exchange of the earth or clouds, through the release of gases, dusts, liquids, or aerosols into the atmosphere;

(4) Modifying the characteristics of land or water surfaces by dusting or treating with powders, liquid sprays, dyes, or other materials;

(5) Releasing electrically charged or radioactive particles, or ions, into the atmosphere;

(6) Applying shock waves, sonic energy sources, or other explosive or acoustic sources to the atmosphere;

(7) Using aircraft propeller downwash, jet wash, or other sources of artificial wind generation; or

(8) Using lasers or other sources of electromagnetic radiation.

(b) In addition to the activities listed above, other similar activities falling within the definition of weather modification as set forth in § 908.1 are also subject to reporting.

(c) The requirement for reporting shall not apply to activities of a purely local nature that can reasonably be expected not to modify the weather outside of the area of operation. This exception is presently restricted to the use of lightning deflection or static discharge devices in aircraft, boats, or buildings, and to the use of small heat sources, fans, fogging devices, aircraft downwash, or sprays to prevent the occurrence of frost in tracts or fields planted with crops susceptible to frost or freeze damage. Also expected from the requirement for reporting are religious activities or other ceremonies, rites and rituals intended to modify the weather.

(d) All activities noted in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section are subject to