



NOAA FISHERIES SERVICE

Pacific Islands
Regional Office

Compliance
Guide

Deepwater Shrimp Fishing in the Western Pacific

revised June 20, 2012

This guide provides information for fishermen on how to comply with recent regulatory changes implemented by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for deepwater shrimp harvesting in the western Pacific. The information pertains only to the final rules published in the *Federal Register* on November 21, 2008 (73 FR 70603), December 12, 2008 (73 FR 75622), and May 29, 2009 (74 FR 25650). For the complete set of official regulations, see Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 665 (50 CFR 665).

Regulations change, so fishermen must familiarize themselves with these changes and comply with them. Any discrepancy between this compliance guide and the regulations will be resolved in the favor of the regulations published in the *Federal Register* and the Code of Federal Regulations. This compliance guide is issued in accordance with Section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996: Title II of Public Law 104-21.

Q1. How did the regulations come about and what are their purposes?

Amendment 13 to the Fishery Management Plan for Crustacean Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region (Crustaceans FMP) designates deepwater shrimp of the genus *Heterocarpus* as management unit species (MUS). The amendment established Federal requirements for permits and fishing reports for deepwater shrimp fishing in the U.S. and western Pacific Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) (See Q3.). The MUS designation, permits, and collection of information requirements are intended to monitor and improve understanding of U.S. deepwater shrimp fisheries and their impact on marine ecosystems.

Q2. When did the regulations take effect, and for how long are they effective?

The regulations were effective on June 29, 2009, and will remain in effect until revised or removed by NMFS.

Q3. Who is affected by the regulations?

The regulations apply to owners and operators of all vessels that fish for deepwater shrimp in the U.S. EEZ or Federal waters of the western Pacific. Unless otherwise stated below these waters are between 3 and 200 nautical miles from the shoreline of a state, Territory, or Commonwealth (See Q4).

Q4. Where are the crustacean permit areas?

- *Crustaceans Permit Area 1* means the EEZ around the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI), including Midway Atoll.
- *Crustaceans Permit Area 2* means the EEZ around the main Hawaiian Islands.
- *Crustaceans Permit Area 3* means the EEZ around American Samoa.
- *Crustacean Permit Area 4* means the EEZ around Palmyra Atoll, Kingman Reef, Jarvis Island, Baker Island, Howland Island, Johnston Atoll, and Wake Island.
- *Crustaceans Permit Area 5* means the EEZ around Guam and the portion of the EEZ from 3 - 200 nm around the Northern Mariana Islands.

Please note other restrictions, including a prohibition of commercial fishing, apply within the boundaries of the NWHI Marine National Monument, Rose Atoll Marine National Monument (American Samoa), Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument, and the Islands Unit of the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument.

Q5. What are the crustacean management unit species?

Common Name	Scientific Name
Spiny lobsters	<i>Panulirus marginatus</i> and <i>P. penicillatus</i>
Slipper lobsters	Family Scyllaridae
Kona crab	<i>Ranina ranina</i>
Deepwater shrimp	<i>Heterocarpus</i> spp. <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>H. ensifer</i>○ <i>H. laevigatus</i>○ <i>H. sibogae</i>○ <i>H. gibbosus</i>○ <i>H. lepidus</i>○ <i>H. dorsalis</i>○ <i>H. tricarinatus</i>○ <i>H. longirostris</i>

Q6. How much does a permit cost?

The nonrefundable application fee for new and renewed permits is \$27.00. Permits may be renewed annually.

Q7. How do I get a permit and where do I send it?

You may obtain a permit application in several ways:

- From the website: www.fpir.noaa.gov/SFD/SFD_permits_index.html
- By email: piro-permits@noaa.gov
- Phone: (808) 944-2200, ask for fishing permits
- Fax: (808) 973-2940
- Or from the address below

Mail the completed application, fee (check) of \$27.00, a copy of the vessel's current U. S. Coast Guard Certificate of Documentation or the state vessel registration and, if needed, verification of a designated agent to:

NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office
ATTN: Permits
1601 Kapiolani Blvd. 1110
Honolulu, HI 96814-4733

**Please note that the permit or a legible copy must be carried on board the vessel.

Q8. What are the required reports?

The operator of the vessel must record, within 24 hours after the completion of each fishing day, reports of catch, fishing effort, and other information on NMFS forms (i.e., logbook). Each form must be signed and dated by the fishing vessel operator. The operator must submit the original logbook to NMFS within 72 hours of each landing.

Q9. Where do I get a logbook and where do I send it after a fishing trip?

To obtain or submit logbooks, contact:

NMFS, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center
ATTN: Fisheries Monitoring and Socioeconomics Division
2570 Dole St.
Honolulu, HI 96822
Tel: (808) 983-5326
Fax: (808) 983-2902
www.pifsc.noaa.gov/
www.pifsc.noaa.gov/wpacfin/

Q10. What are the vessel marking requirements?

The vessel's official number must be displayed on the port and starboard sides of the deckhouse or hull, and on an appropriate weather deck, so as to be visible from enforcement vessels and aircraft. Affix the official number to the vessel in block Arabic numerals at least 18 inches (45.7 cm) in height for fishing and receiving vessels of 65 ft (19.8 m) in length overall or longer, and at least 10 inches (25.4 cm) in height for all other vessels. Marking must be legible and of a color that contrasts with the background. The vessel operator must ensure that the official number is clearly legible and in good repair.

Q11. Where can I obtain additional copies of this guide or more information on these regulations?

NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office
1601 Kapiolani Blvd. 1110
Honolulu, HI 96814
www.fpir.noaa.gov/SFD/SFD_regs_2.html

You can read the notices for this rule published in the *Federal Register* on November 21, 2008 (73 FR 70603), December 12, 2008 (73 FR 75622), and May 29, 2009 (74 FR 25650).

Search the *Federal Register* at www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/search.html.

Search the Code of Federal Regulations at ecfr.gpoaccess.gov.