

including but not limited to implementation of the statutory prohibition of making an award to corporations that have an unpaid Federal tax liability (see FAR 9.104–5(b)).

(b) *Notice.* Pursuant to 26 U.S.C. 6103(a) taxpayer return information, with few exceptions, is confidential. Under the authority of 26 U.S.C. 6103(h)(1), officers and employees of the Department of the Treasury, including the IRS, may have access to taxpayer return information as necessary for purposes of tax administration. The Department of the Treasury has determined that an IRS contractor’s compliance with the tax laws is a tax administration matter and that the access to and use of taxpayer return information is needed for determining an offeror’s eligibility to receive an award, including but not limited to implementation of the statutory prohibition of making an award to corporations that have an unpaid Federal tax liability (see FAR 9.104–5).

(1) The performance of a tax check is one means that will be used for determining an offeror’s eligibility to receive an award in response to this solicitation (see FAR 9.104). As a result, the offeror may want to take steps to confirm it does not have a delinquent Federal tax liability prior to submission of its response to this solicitation. If the offeror recently settled a delinquent Federal tax liability, the offeror may want to take steps to obtain information in order to demonstrate the offeror’s responsibility to the contracting officer (see FAR 9.104–5).

(c) The offeror shall execute the consent to disclosure provided in paragraph (d) of this provision and include it with the submission of its offer. The consent to disclosure shall be signed by an authorized person as required and defined in 26 U.S.C. 6103(c) and 26 CFR 301.6103(c)–1(e)(4).

(d) Consent to disclosure. I hereby consent to the disclosure of taxpayer return information (as defined in 26 U.S.C. 6103(b)(2)) as follows:

The Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service, may disclose the results of the tax check conducted in connection with the offeror’s response to this solicitation, including taxpayer return information as necessary to resolve any matters pertaining to the results of the tax check, to the authorized representatives of [insert OFFEROR NAME] on this offer.

I am aware that in the absence of this authorization, the taxpayer return information of [insert OFFEROR NAME]

is confidential and may not be disclosed, which subsequently may remove the offer from eligibility to receive an award under this solicitation.

I consent to disclosure of taxpayer return information to the following person(s):

[insert PERSON(S) NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION]: _____

I certify that I have the authority to execute this consent on behalf of [insert OFFEROR NAME].

Offeror Name: _____

Offeror Taxpayer Identification Number: _____

Offeror Address: _____

Name of Individual Executing Consent: _____

Title of Individual Executing Consent: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

(End of provision)

Dated: November 6, 2017.

Iris B. Cooper,
Senior Procurement Executive, Office of the Procurement Executive.

[FR Doc. 2017–24911 Filed 11–15–17; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810–25–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 161017970–6999–02]

RIN 0648–XF814

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder Fishery; Commercial Quota Harvested for the State of Rhode Island

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Temporary rule; closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces that the 2017 summer flounder commercial quota allocated to the State of Rhode Island has been harvested. Vessels issued a commercial Federal fisheries permit for summer flounder may not land summer flounder in Rhode Island for the remainder of calendar year 2017, unless additional quota becomes available through a transfer from another state. Regulations governing the

summer flounder fishery require publication of this notification to advise vessel and dealer permit holders that Federal commercial quota is no longer available to land summer flounder in Rhode Island.

DATES: Effective 0001 hours, November 14, 2017, through December 31, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cynthia Hanson, (978) 281–9180, or *Cynthia.Hanson@noaa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Regulations governing the summer flounder fishery are found at 50 CFR part 648. The regulations require annual specification of a commercial quota that is apportioned on a percentage basis among the coastal states from Maine through North Carolina. The process to set the annual commercial quota and the percent allocated to each state is described in § 648.102.

The coastwide commercial quota for summer flounder for the 2017 calendar year is 5,658,260 lb (2,566,544 kg) (81 FR 93842, December 22, 2016). The percent allocated to vessels landing summer flounder in Rhode Island is 15.68298 percent, resulting in an initial commercial quota of 887,542 lb (402,582 kg). Rhode Island has received one quota transfer of 380 lb (172 kg) from New Jersey on October 4, 2017 (82 FR 46936), bringing its commercial quota to 887,922 lb (402,755 kg).

The NMFS Administrator for the Greater Atlantic Region (Regional Administrator) monitors the state commercial landings and determines when a state’s commercial quota has been harvested. NMFS is required to publish a notice in the **Federal Register** advising and notifying commercial vessels and dealer permit holders that, effective upon a specific date, the state’s commercial quota has been harvested and no commercial summer flounder quota is available to land in that state. The Regional Administrator has determined, based on dealer reports and other available information, that the 2017 Rhode Island commercial summer flounder quota will be harvested by November 14, 2017.

Section 648.4(b) provides that Federal permit holders agree, as a condition of the permit, not to land summer flounder in any state that the Regional Administrator has determined no longer has commercial quota available. Therefore, effective 0001 hours, November 14, 2017, landings of summer flounder in Rhode Island by vessels holding summer flounder commercial Federal fisheries permits are prohibited for the remainder of the 2017 calendar year, unless additional quota becomes available through a transfer and is

announced in the **Federal Register**. Effective 0001 hours, November 14, 2017, federally permitted dealers are also notified that they may not purchase summer flounder from federally permitted vessels that land in Rhode Island for the remainder of the calendar year, or until additional quota becomes available through a transfer from another state.

Classification

This action is required by 50 CFR part 648 and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA, finds good cause pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) to waive prior notice and the opportunity for public comment because it would be contrary to the public interest. This action closes the commercial summer flounder fishery for Rhode Island until January 1, 2018, under current regulations. The regulations at § 648.103(b) require such action to ensure that summer flounder vessels do not exceed quotas allocated to the states. If implementation of this closure was delayed to solicit prior public comment, the quota for this fishing year will be

exceeded, thereby undermining the conservation objectives of the Summer Flounder Fishery Management Plan. The Assistant Administrator further finds, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), good cause to waive the 30-day delayed effectiveness period for the reason stated above.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: November 13, 2017.

Emily H. Menashes,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2017-24880 Filed 11-13-17; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P