

Appendix 3

Bottomfish FMP Plan Administration and Management Actions

A. Plan Administration

On May 27, 2005, the Pacific Islands Regional Administrator sent a letter to the Council that (1) notified the Council of the determination that overfishing is occurring in the bottomfish complex around Hawaii, (2) explained the Council's obligation to act in response to a determination that overfishing is occurring, and (3) requested the Council to take appropriate action to end overfishing (70 FR 34452, June 14, 2005). The determination was based on information provided by the Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center on the status of western Pacific bottomfish stock complexes.

NMFS published a *Federal Register* notice (70 FR 40305) on July 13, 2005, announcing that persons who enter the bottomfish fishery in the U.S. exclusive economic zone (EEZ) around the main Hawaiian Islands (MHI) after June 2, 2005, ("control date") are not guaranteed future participation in the fishery if the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) prepares and NMFS approves a program limiting entry or effort. This action does not commit the Council or NMFS to limit entry, or prevent any other date from being selected for eligibility to participate in the MHI bottomfish fishery. The Council or NMFS may also use other criteria to limit fishing effort or participation in a limited entry program that is developed in the future.

B. Use-it or Lose it Requirement for Permit Renewal (Calendar Yr 2005)

The NOAA Fisheries Service Pacific Islands Regional Office renewed eight NWHI bottomfish limited entry permits for calendar year 2005, four in the Mau Zone and four in the Ho'omalulu Zone. One Mau Zone permit from 2004 was not renewed because the permit holder did not meet the annual minimum landings requirement for renewal of their permit and did not provide a current U.S. Coast Guard Certificate of Documentation (COD) or State of Hawaii vessel registration. PIRO staff confirmed that neither a current COD or state vessel registration were available for the permit holder's vessel in 2005.

C. Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) Bottomfish Fisheries

Regarding Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) bottomfish fisheries during the Calendar year 2005, PIRO issued a total of 8 permits for the NWHI bottomfish fishery. Four vessels fished in the Mau Zone and four vessels fished in the Ho'omalulu Zone. Five vessels were registered to fish in the Mau Zone and four vessels were registered to fish in the Ho'omalulu Zone. The vessels are listed by zone below.

Mau Zone

1. F/V *Imua/Hoku**
2. F/V *Jamie Elizabeth*
3. F/V *Kai Pali*
4. F/V *Wahine Kapaloa*

* Temporarily registered F/V *Hoku* to permit while F/V *Imua* was being repaired.

** Sold F/V *Kealailani*, replaced with F/V *Fiskinn II* late in 2005.

Ho'omalulu Zone

1. F/V *Fortuna*
2. F/V *Ka Imi Kai*
3. F/V *Kealailani/Fiskinn II* **
4. F/V *Laysan*