

Western Fishboat Owners Association - June 2015
Regulatory Issues for U.S. West Coast Albacore Fishermen

2015 ALBACORE PERMITS: General Information NMFS West Coast Region: <http://tinyurl.com/mdf9cde>

HMS PERMIT UNDER PFMC-FMP: (ALL AREAS and All U.S. west coast based boats fishing HMS species)

Link: <http://tinyurl.com/mdf9cde>

HIGH SEAS FISHERIES COMPLIANCE ACT PERMIT: (OUTSIDE of 200 nm - EEZ)

General Info: <http://tinyurl.com/l5wyset>

High Seas permit info and application: <http://tinyurl.com/mpnj35y>

FOR INFORMATION CALL - NOAA/NMFS SW Region - 562 980 4024

Both applications can be obtained and sent to: Permits Office, NOAA NMFS SWR, 501 W Ocean Blvd #4200, Long Beach, CA 90802

U.S. / CANADA ALBACORE TREATY 2015: General Info: <http://tinyurl.com/lopjffb>

NOTICE - U.S. Canada Albacore Treaty A new three-year regime was negotiated under the US/Canada albacore treaty for 2014. This regime will last through the 2016 season after which it will expire.

U.S. Vessels wishing to fish in Canadian waters pursuant to the treaty must register with NMFS at least 7 days prior to the first planned day in Canada by contacting NMFS at (562) 980-4024 or email albacore.fish@noaa.gov, as well as contacting now **Prince Rupert CG (250) 627-3074** * prior to entering. Additional requirements and instructions can be found in the Guide for Complying with US.-Canada Albacore Treaty.

* FYI, Tofino station was recently closed down and all operations were combined into the Prince Rupert station, Phone 250-627-3074.

Number of Vessels: 45 Canadian Vessels in US EEZ, Historical Number U.S. Vessels in Canadian EEZ.

Fishing Season: Canadians access to US waters from June 15 - September 15, U.S. vessels can fish in Canadian waters outside of 12nm June 15 - October 31.

Port Access Season: U.S. boats June 15 - Dec 31 under regime. Jan 1 - June 15 with approval and application below.

To enter a Canadian port U.S. vessels will need to fill out an application any time of the year. (Not Needed Just For Fishing)

Application to Enter Canada Ports: <http://tinyurl.com/mvy4pvg>

List of Canadian brokers: <http://tinyurl.com/l37knea>

USCG At-Sea Vessel Interaction Report Form: <http://tinyurl.com/ken8zb4>

Copy of Treaty: <http://tinyurl.com/mslth3a>

From NMFS - April 2015 "We are still advising that U.S. Vessels fishing in Canada with no intention to enter a Canadian port do not need an EEZ license. Vessels entering port for weather will not need an

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EEZ license but they should not expect to be able to sell fish, pick up crew etc."

NOTE: Force Majeure applies if a boat seeks entry for bad weather, serious illness or injury on board requiring attention, or even a breakdown of the ice, engine or freezing system. That is international law, treaty or no treaty, fishing regime or no fishing regime.

WCPFC AREA ENDORSEMENTS: (All Vessels West of 150°W, and west of 130°W south of 4°S WCPFC,)

General PIR permit information and links: http://www.fpir.noaa.gov/SFD/SFD_permits_index.html

WCPFC Area Endorsement: <http://tinyurl.com/lywnp6m>

The Following Table Shows Which Permits and Items Are Required Where!

This table may not reflect accurate requirements on VMS at this time. We will resend in June and post on the WFOA website fish report page after NMFS clarifications.

Fishing Where?	HMS Permit	HSFCA Permit	Canadian Port App	Check in Prince Rupert, CG	WCPFC Endorsement	VMS Vessels < 24m (79ft)	VMS Vessels > 24m (79ft)
Inside US EEZ-200nm	X						X JAN 2016
Outside US EEZ - 200nm	X	X				Proposed	X JAN 2016
In Canadian EEZ	X			X			
Enter Canadian Port- Jan 1-June 15	X		X	X			
Enter Canadian Port - June 15 - Dec 31	X		X	X			
West of 150 W*	X	X			X	X	X

* The VMS requirement above under the WCPFC applies to all areas and all vessels once a vessel applies and/or installs and activates the unit. NMFS is preparing to implement domestic requirements under IATTC Resolution C-04-06 requiring VMS on U.S. tuna fishing vessels greater than 24 meters (79ft) in all areas Jan 2016.

USCG UPDATE ON VESSEL REQUIREMENTS: See Links: <http://www.uscg.mil/d13/cfvs/>

GARBAGE DISCHARGE: There have been some changes in MARPOL Regs concerning dumping any garbage at sea. Basically it comes down to the only thing a vessel is allowed to discharge in food items of certain sizes and outside of 12 miles etc.. The coast guard has posted the requirements at: <http://tinyurl.com/lzmgjfh>

LOGBOOKS: All U.S. vessels fishing HMS are required to fill out logbooks and return them to John Childers, SWFSC, 8604 LaJolla Shores Dr., LaJolla, CA 92037-1508 within 30 days if landed in the U.S. Logbooks are available as are e-log options. For Information call 858.546.7192 or john.childers@noaa.gov.

Download Electronic Logbooks: <http://tinyurl.com/mvj45xh>

ARCHIVAL ALBACORE TAGS: Watch for albacore tags this season as over 800 have been tagged since 2001 with at least 200 in the past two seasons. Reward is \$500. Retain whole fish even if you suspect it's a tag.

For More Information See: <http://tinyurl.com/myho44q>