

EFP Proposals Received since Nov. 2008 Council Meeting

1. Monkfish EFP
 - University of Maryland Eastern Shore
2. GB Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP)
Closed Area Exemption
 - Wallace Associates
3. 10.5' Dredge Twine Top
 - GMRI

1. Monkfish EFP

Univ. of Maryland Eastern Shore

Purpose

- Investigate the influence of temperature on monkfish distribution & abundance
- Determine age & growth patterns, spawning frequency, feeding rates & cannibalism

Exemptions

- Revise existing exemption to allow a new vessel to fish in block 122 rather than in block 137 in the GOM rolling closed area I during March 2009 (instead of Dec 2008)

2. GB Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP)

Closed Area Exemption

Wallace Associates

Purpose

- Evaluate protocol for onboard screening & dockside testing of PSP in ocean quahogs & surf clams

Exemptions (176k bu surfclams & 80k bu quahogs)

- An extension of a previously authorized EFP to catch & sell surfclams & ocean quahogs from the Surfclam & Quahog GB Closure Area

3. General Category (10.5') Dredge Twine Top EFP - GMRI

Purpose

- Test hanging ratios & mesh orientation to improve selectivity for scallops & to reduce bycatch

Exemptions (3 vessels x 12)

- Scallop possession restrictions
- Twine top mesh restrictions
- Peak spawning closure restrictions for Great S. Channel (GSC) SNE/GB & GSC-Cape Cod/SNE yellowtail flounder
- Additional exemptions may be granted if minimal