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the fishery vote in favor of the Reduction Program is accordance with 18 U.S.C. 1861a(d)(1)(B).

(k)(1) *Fee payment and collection system.* Upon successful completion of the Referendum discussed above as authorized by Public Law 108-447 and in accordance with 16 U.S.C. 1861a and § 600.1012 this fee collection system establishes:

(i) The subsector members' obligation to repay the reduction loan, and

(ii) The loan's principal amount, interest rate, and repayment term; and

(iii) In accordance with §§ 600.1013 through 600.1016, implements an industry fee system for the reduction fishery.

(2) *Reduction loan amount.* The reduction loan's original principal amount is \$2,700,000.

(3) *Interest accrual from inception.* Interest begins accruing on the reduction loan from the date which NMFS disburses such loan.

(4) *Interest rate.* The reduction loan's interest rate shall be the applicable rate which the U.S. Treasury determines at the end of fiscal year in which loan is disbursed plus 2 percent.

(5) *Repayment terms.* For the purpose of determining fee rates, the reduction loan's repayment term is 30 years from the date NMFS disburses the loan. However, fee collections shall continue indefinitely until the loan is fully repaid.

(6) *Reduction loan repayment.* The subsector members shall repay the reduction loan in accordance with § 600.1012. Both fish buyers and fish sellers are considered subsector members for purposes of fee collection, deposit, disbursement, and accounting in accordance with § 600.1013.

(i) Subsector members in the reduction fishery shall collect and pay the fee amount in accordance with § 600.1105;

(ii) Subsector members in the reduction fishery shall deposit and disburse, as well as keep records for and submit reports about, the applicable fees in accordance with § 600.1014, except the requirements under paragraphs (c) and (e) of this section. All collected fee revenue a fish buyer collects to repay the loan identified in paragraph (c) of this section shall be made to NMFS no later

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than fifteen (15) calendar days following the end of each calendar month. The annual reports identified in paragraph (e) of this section shall be submitted to NMFS by February 1 of each calendar year.

(iii) The reduction loan is, in all other respects, subject to the provisions of §§ 600.1012 through 600.1017.

(1) *Enforcement for failure to pay fees.* The provisions and requirements of § 600.1016 (Enforcement) shall also apply to fish sellers and fish buyers subject to this fishery.

[77 FR 58779, Sept. 24, 2012]

Subpart N—Shark Fin Removal, Possession, Transfer and Landing

SOURCE: 81 FR 42289, June 29, 2016, unless otherwise noted.

§ 600.1200 Purpose and scope.

The regulations in this subpart implement the Shark Conservation Act of 2010.

§ 600.1201 Relation to other laws.

(a) Regulations pertaining to conservation and management (including record keeping and reporting) for certain shark fisheries are also set forth in parts 635 (for Federal Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean shark fisheries), 648 (for spiny dogfish fisheries), 660 (for fisheries off West Coast states), and 665 (for fisheries in the western Pacific) of this chapter.

(b) This subpart does not apply to an individual engaged in commercial fishing for smooth dogfish (*Mustelus canis*) when the conditions in § 635.30(c)(5) have been met.

(c) This subpart does not supersede state laws or regulations governing conservation and management of state shark fisheries in state waters.

§ 600.1202 Definitions.

(a) In addition to the definitions in the Magnuson-Stevens Act and in § 600.10, the terms used in this subpart have the following meanings:

Fin means any of the fins of a shark (including the tail) or a portion thereof.

Land or landing means offloading fish, or causing fish to be offloaded,

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from a fishing vessel, either to another vessel or to a shore side location or facility, or arriving in port, or at a dock, berth, beach, seawall, or ramp to begin offloading fish.

Naturally attached, with respect to a shark fin, means attached to the corresponding shark carcass through some portion of uncut skin.

(b) If there is any difference between a definition in this section and in § 600.10, the definition in this section is the operative definition for the purposes of this subpart.

§ 600.1203 Prohibitions.

(a) It is unlawful for any person to do, or attempt to do, any of the following:

- (1) Remove a fin at sea.
- (2) To have custody, control, or possession of a fin, aboard a fishing vessel, unless the fin is naturally attached.
- (3) Transfer a fin from one vessel to another vessel at sea unless the fin is naturally attached.
- (4) Receive a fin in a transfer from one vessel to another vessel at sea unless the fin is naturally attached.
- (5) Land a fin unless the fin is naturally attached.
- (6) Land a shark carcass without all of its fins naturally attached.
- (7) Possess, purchase, offer to sell, or sell fins or shark carcasses taken, transferred, landed, or possessed in violation of this section.
- (8) When requested, fail to allow an authorized officer or any employee of NMFS designated by a Regional Administrator, or by the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries in the case of the Atlantic Highly Migratory Species, access to or inspection or copying of any records pertaining to the landing, sale, transfer, purchase, or other disposition of fins or shark carcasses.

(b) For purposes of this section, it is a rebuttable presumption that:

- (1) If a fin is found aboard a vessel, other than a fishing vessel, without being naturally attached, such fin was transferred in violation of this section.
- (2) If, after landing, the total weight of fins landed from any vessel exceeds five percent of the total weight of shark carcasses landed, such fins were

taken, held, or landed in violation of this section.

Subpart O—Limited Access Privilege Programs

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

SOURCE: 73 FR 75973, Dec. 15, 2008, unless otherwise noted.

§§ 600.1300–600.1309 [Reserved]

§ 600.1310 New England and Gulf of Mexico Individual Fishing Quota Referenda.

(a) *Purpose and scope.* This section establishes procedures and guidelines for referenda to be conducted on Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) program proposals developed by the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC) and the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC). These procedures and guidelines also apply to IFQ program proposals developed by NMFS for fisheries under the jurisdiction of the NEFMC or GMFMC, except for certain provisions that only apply to a fishery management council. This section provides guidance on developing voter eligibility and vote weighting, and establishes general procedures to ensure referenda are conducted in a fair and equitable manner.

(b) *Initiating IFQ referenda.* (1) The NEFMC and the GMFMC shall not submit, and the Secretary shall not approve, an FMP or FMP amendment that would create an IFQ program until the IFQ program proposal, as ultimately developed, has been approved by a referendum of eligible voters. Paragraph (h) of this section provides criteria for determining the outcome of IFQ referenda.

(2) To initiate a referendum on a proposed IFQ program:

- (i) The relevant Council must have held public hearings on the FMP or FMP amendment in which the IFQ program is proposed;
- (ii) The relevant Council must have considered public comments on the proposed IFQ program;
- (iii) The relevant Council must have selected preferred alternatives for the proposed IFQ program;