
Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

PRESS RELEASE



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NMFS Extends Research Proposal Deadline

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has extended the closing date for accepting research proposals submitted under the new research set-aside program. The new closing date is September 14, 2001. Due to the late publication of the request for proposals (RFP) published on July 25, 2001, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council and NMFS decided that more time was needed to make prospective applicants aware of the opportunity to apply for the research set-aside allocations. In addition, all applicants that have submitted proposals prior to the original closing date of August 24, 2001, will be allowed to modify their proposals by providing a supplement, addendum, or resubmission of their research proposal.

The new research set-aside program is intended to foster cooperative research efforts by the fishing industry and scientists and encourage the collection of information needed to improve fisheries management. An allocation of up to three percent of a species' annual quota will be set-aside for research purposes. Applicants may submit proposals for summer flounder, scup, black sea bass, *Loligo* squid, *Illex* squid, Atlantic mackerel, butterfish, bluefish, and tilefish.

Applications must be submitted on or before September 14, 2001, to the NMFS Northeast Regional Office, Patricia A. Kurkul, Regional Administrator, 1 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930, Attention: Mid-Atlantic Research Proposals. To download a copy of the standard forms for submission of research proposals visit the NMFS website at: <http://www.ofa.noaa.gov/~grants/index.html>. For more information regarding the research program, contact David Gouveia, NMFS Fishery Policy Analyst, at 978-281-9280 or call the Council office at 302-674-2331.

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