

Management Act and the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act require publication of this notification to provide interested parties the opportunity to comment on applications for proposed Exempted Fishing Permits.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before July 28, 2016.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments by any of the following methods:

- *Email to:* nmfs.gar.efp@noaa.gov. Include in the subject line "MA DMF Climate Change Lobster EFP."

- *Mail to:* John K. Bullard, Regional Administrator, NMFS, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope "Comments on MA DMF Climate Change Lobster EFP."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cynthia Hanson, NOAA Affiliate, 978-281-9180.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (MA DMF) submitted a complete application for an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) on June 27, 2016, to conduct commercial fishing activities that the regulations would otherwise restrict. The EFP would authorize one vessel to possess and transport approximately 600 sublegal-sized male, and egg-bearing, v-notched, and sublegal-sized female lobsters during normal fishing operations in Lobster Management Area (LMA) 2. These lobsters will be delivered to MA DMF staff for use in laboratory research. The research will study the effects of climate change and thermal stress on reproduction in lobsters and requires reproductively capable lobsters to examine/observe mating success, fecundity, egg quality, and overall reproductive capacity.

Funding for this study has been awarded under the Saltonstall-Kennedy Research Program (Grant #NA16NMF4270242). This study is designed to investigate the decline and recruitment failure of the Southern New England lobster stock. MA DMF is requesting specific exemptions from Federal lobster regulations on:

1. Minimum legal size harvest and possession requirements specified at 50 CFR 697.20(a)(4);
2. Restrictions on the harvest, possession, and transport of egg-bearing females at § 697.20(d)(1) through (3); and
3. Restrictions on the harvest and possession of standard v-notch females detailed at § 697.20(g)(3) through (4).

If the EFP is approved, all exempted collections would take place on designated collection days during the normal commercial fishing activity of the participating vessel. No additional and/or modified gear or effort would be used, so no additional impacts to bycatch, marine mammals, or endangered species are anticipated beyond the risks associated with normal fishing operations. This project will collect approximately 400 egg-bearing females and 200 otherwise restricted lobsters for scientific study. All lobsters caught under the EFP for research purposes would be banded with a different color to distinguish them from the legally harvestable commercial catch, and any egg-bearing females would be held separately from the remainder of the catch. A MA DMF staff member would meet the vessel at the dock after each collection trip to take possession of the EFP-authorized lobsters and bring them to the MA DMF facility for processing and experimental study. No more than a total of four collection days/trips of typical commercial fishing activity are anticipated under this EFP.

If approved, MA DMF may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the study period. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and have minimal impacts that do not change the scope or impact of the initially approved EFP request. Any fishing activity conducted outside the scope of the exempted fishing activity would be prohibited.

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

Dated: July 8, 2016.

Emily H. Menashes,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2016-16571 Filed 7-12-16; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL 9949-01-ORD]

Office of Research and Development; Ambient Air Monitoring Reference and Equivalent Methods: Designation of One New Reference Method and Four New Equivalent Methods

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Notice of the designation of a new reference method and four new

equivalent methods for monitoring ambient air quality.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has designated, in accordance with 40 CFR part 53, one new reference method for measuring concentrations of sulfur dioxide (SO₂), four new equivalent methods for measuring concentrations of PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀ and PM_{10-2.5} in ambient air.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Vanderpool, Exposure Methods and Measurement Division (MD-D205-03), National Exposure Research Laboratory, U.S. EPA, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711. Email: Vanderpool.Robert@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with regulations at 40 CFR part 53, the EPA evaluates various methods for monitoring the concentrations of those ambient air pollutants for which EPA has established National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQSs) as set forth in 40 CFR part 50. Monitoring methods that are determined to meet specific requirements for adequacy are designated by the EPA as either reference or equivalent methods (as applicable), thereby permitting their use under 40 CFR part 58 by States and other agencies for determining compliance with the NAAQSs. A list of all reference or equivalent methods that have been previously designated by EPA may be found at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/amt/criteria.html>.

The EPA hereby announces the designation of one new reference method for measuring concentrations of SO₂ in ambient air and two new equivalent methods for measuring pollutant concentrations of PM_{2.5}, one new equivalent method for measuring pollutant concentrations of PM₁₀, and one for measuring pollutant concentrations of PM_{10-2.5}. These designations are made under the provisions of 40 CFR part 53, as amended on October 26, 2015 (80 FR 65291).

The new reference method for SO₂ is an automated method (analyzer) utilizing a measurement principle based on ultraviolet fluorescence and is identified as follows:

RFSA-0616-237, "Sutron Model 6020 Sulfur Dioxide Fluorescent Analyzer", operated at any of the following measurement ranges: 0-0.5 ppm, at any ambient temperature in the range of 5-40 °C, at any line voltage in the range of 90-260 VAC, at any sample flow rate in the range of 0.4-0.8 L/min, and in accordance with the Model 6020 SO₂ Analyzer Operation Manual, with or

without the following options: Zero/span ports for external calibration; an optional inlet filter; or an optional second gas measurement module co-located inside of the enclosure.

This application for a reference method determination for this SO₂ method was received by the Office of Research and Development on April 25, 2016. This analyzer is commercially available from the applicant, Sutron Air Quality Division, 2548 Shell Road, Georgetown, TX 78628.

The four new PM equivalent methods are automated monitoring methods utilizing a measurement principle based on active sampling of ambient aerosols and contemporaneous analysis by means of a light-scattering technique for determination of particle size and mass concentration. These newly designated equivalent methods for PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀ and PM_{10-2.5}, are identified as follows:

EQPM-0516-236, "Teledyne Advanced Pollution Instrumentation Model T640 PM mass monitor," continuous ambient particulate monitor operated at a volumetric flow rate of 5.0 Lpm, equipped with a TAPI 5-Lpm sample inlet (P/N: 081050000), TAPI aerosol sample conditioner (P/N: 081040000), configured for operation with firmware version 1.0.2.126 or later, and operated in accordance with the Teledyne Model T640 Operations Manual. This designation applies to PM_{2.5} measurements only.

EQPM-0516-238, "Teledyne Advanced Pollution Instrumentation Model T640 PM mass monitor with 640X option," continuous ambient particulate monitor operated at a volumetric flow rate of 16.67 Lpm, equipped with the louvered PM₁₀ inlet specified in 40 CFR 50 Appendix L, Figs. L-2 thru L-19, TAPI aerosol sample conditioner (P/N: 081040000), configured for operation with firmware version 1.0.2.126 or later, in accordance with the Teledyne Model T640 Operations Manual. This designation applies to PM_{2.5} measurements only.

EQPM-0516-239, "Teledyne Advanced Pollution Instrumentation Model T640 PM mass monitor with 640X option," continuous ambient particulate monitor operated at a volumetric flow rate of 16.67 Lpm, equipped with the louvered PM₁₀ inlet specified in 40 CFR 50 Appendix L, Figs. L-2 thru L-19, TAPI aerosol sample conditioner (P/N: 081040000), configured for operation with firmware version 1.0.2.126 or later, in accordance with the Teledyne Model T640 Operations Manual. This designation applies to PM₁₀ measurements only.

EQPM-0516-240, "Teledyne Advanced Pollution Instrumentation

Model T640 PM mass monitor with 640X option," continuous ambient particulate monitor operated at a volumetric flow rate of 16.67 Lpm, equipped with the louvered PM₁₀ inlet specified in 40 CFR 50 Appendix L, Figs. L-2 thru L-19, TAPI aerosol sample conditioner (P/N: 081040000), configured for operation with firmware version 1.0.2.126 or later, in accordance with the Teledyne Model T640 Operations Manual. This designation applies to PM_{10-2.5} measurements only.

The four applications for equivalent method determination for the PM candidate methods were received by the Office of Research and Development on May 2, 2016, June 1, 2016, June 9, 2016 and June 14, 2016 respectively. The monitors are commercially available from the applicant, Teledyne Advanced Pollution Instrumentation, Inc., 9480 Carroll Park Drive, San Diego, CA 92121-2251.

Representative test analyzers have been tested in accordance with the applicable test procedures specified in 40 CFR part 53, as amended on October 26, 2015. After reviewing the results of those tests and other information submitted by the applicant, EPA has determined, in accordance with part 53, that these methods should be designated as a reference or equivalent method.

As a designated reference or equivalent method, these methods are acceptable for use by states and other air monitoring agencies under the requirements of 40 CFR part 58, Ambient Air Quality Surveillance. For such purposes, each method must be used in strict accordance with the operation or instruction manual associated with the method and subject to any specifications and limitations (e.g., configuration or operational settings) specified in the designated method description (see the identification of the method above).

Use of the method also should be in general accordance with the guidance and recommendations of applicable sections of the "Quality Assurance Handbook for Air Pollution Measurement Systems, Volume I," EPA/600/R-94/038a and "Quality Assurance Handbook for Air Pollution Measurement Systems, Volume II, Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Program," EPA-454/B-13-003, (both available at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/amtic/qalist.html>). Provisions concerning modification of such methods by users are specified under Section 2.8 (Modifications of Methods by Users) of Appendix C to 40 CFR part 58.

Consistent or repeated noncompliance with any of these conditions should be

reported to: Director, Exposure Methods and Measurement Division (MD-E205-01), National Exposure Research Laboratory, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711.

Designation of these reference and equivalent methods is intended to assist the States in establishing and operating their air quality surveillance systems under 40 CFR part 58. Questions concerning the commercial availability or technical aspects of the method should be directed to the applicant.

Dated: July 1, 2016.

Jennifer Orme-Zavaleta,

Director, National Exposure Research Laboratory.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OW-2004-0019; FRL 9949-02-OW]

Recommended Aquatic Life Ambient Water Quality Criterion for Selenium in Freshwater

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing the release of a final updated Clean Water Act (CWA) section 304(a) recommended national chronic aquatic life criterion for the pollutant selenium in fresh water. The final criterion supersedes EPA's 1999 CWA section 304(a) recommended national acute and chronic aquatic life criteria for selenium. The 2016 recommended criterion reflects the latest scientific information, which indicates that selenium toxicity to aquatic life is primarily based on organisms consuming selenium-contaminated food rather than direct exposure to selenium dissolved in water. Draft versions of the criterion underwent public review in 2014 and 2015 and external peer review in 2015. EPA considered all public comments and peer reviewer comments in the development of the 2016 final selenium criterion document. EPA's water quality criterion for selenium provides recommendations to states and tribes authorized to establish water quality standards under the CWA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joe Beaman, Health and Ecological Criteria Division, Office of Water (Mail Code 4304T), Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue