

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ana Victoria Fortes (DFO) at [afortes@usccr.gov](mailto:afortes@usccr.gov) or (213) 894-3437.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Public Call Information:* Dial: 877-260-1479; Conference ID: 2208701.

This meeting is available to the public through the following toll-free call-in number: 877-260-1479, conference ID number: 2208701. Any interested member of the public may call this number and listen to the meeting. Callers can expect to incur charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, and the Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free telephone number. Persons with hearing impairments may also follow the proceedings by first calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 and providing the Service with the conference call number and conference ID number.

Members of the public are entitled to make comments during the open period at the end of the meeting. Members of the public may also submit written comments; the comments must be received in the Regional Programs Unit within 30 days following the meeting. Written comments may be mailed to the Western Regional Office, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, 300 North Los Angeles Street, Suite 2010, Los Angeles, CA 90012. They may be faxed to the Commission at (213) 894-0508, or emailed Ana Victoria Fortes at [afortes@usccr.gov](mailto:afortes@usccr.gov). Persons who desire additional information may contact the Regional Programs Unit at (213) 894-3437.

Records and documents discussed during the meeting will be available for public viewing prior to and after the meetings at <https://facadatabase.gov/committee/meetings.aspx?cid=283>.

Please click on the "Meeting Details" and "Documents" links. Records generated from these meetings may also be inspected and reproduced at the Regional Programs Unit, as they become available, both before and after the meetings. Persons interested in the work of this Committee are directed to the Commission's website, <https://www.usccr.gov>, or may contact the Regional Programs Unit at the above email or street address.

**AGENDA**

- I. Welcome and Roll Call
- II. USCCR Project Stages
- III. Discuss Project Topics
- IV. Vote on Project Topic
- V. Next Steps
  - a. Schedule next meeting
  - b. Project proposal (tentative)

VI. Public Comment

VII. Adjournment

Dated: November 26, 2018.

**David Mussatt,**

*Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.*

[FR Doc. 2018-26022 Filed 11-29-18; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**International Trade Administration**

[A-570-985]

**Xanthan Gum From the People's Republic of China: Continuation of Antidumping Duty Order**

**AGENCY:** Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

**SUMMARY:** As a result of the determinations by the Department of Commerce (Commerce) and the International Trade Commission (ITC) that revocation of the antidumping duty (AD) order on xanthan gum from the People's Republic of China (China) would likely lead to a continuation or recurrence of dumping and material injury to an industry in the United States, Commerce is publishing a notice of continuation of the AD duty order.

**DATES:** Applicable November 30, 2018.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Magd Zalok or Howard Smith, AD/CVD Operations, Office IV, Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: (202) 482-4162 or (202) 482-5193, respectively.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background**

On July 19, 2013, Commerce published in the **Federal Register** the AD order on xanthan gum from China.<sup>1</sup> On June 1, 2018, Commerce published the notice of initiation of this sunset review of the *Order*, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act).<sup>2</sup> Commerce conducted this sunset review on an expedited basis, pursuant to section 751(c)(3)(B) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.218(e)(1)(ii)(C)(2) because it received a complete timely, and adequate response from a domestic

<sup>1</sup> See *Xanthan Gum from the People's Republic of China: Amended Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Antidumping Duty Order*, 78 FR 43143 (July 19, 2013) (*Order*).

<sup>2</sup> See *Initiation of Five-Year (Sunset) Reviews*, 83 FR 25436 (June 1, 2018).

interested party<sup>3</sup> but no substantive responses from respondent interested parties. As a result of its review, Commerce determined pursuant to sections 751(c)(1) and 752(c) of the Act, that revocation of the *Order* would likely lead to a continuation or recurrence of dumping. Commerce also notified the ITC of the magnitude of the dumping margins likely to prevail should the *Order* be revoked.<sup>4</sup> On November 20, 2018, the ITC published its determination, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Act, that revocation of the AD duty order on xanthan gum from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.<sup>5</sup>

**Scope of the Order**

The merchandise covered by the scope of the *Order* includes dry xanthan gum, whether or not coated or blended with other products. Xanthan gum is included in this order regardless of physical form, including, but not limited to, solutions, slurries, dry powders of any particle size, or unground fiber.

Merchandise covered by the scope of the *Order* is classified in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States at subheading 3913.90.20.15. This tariff classification is provided for convenience and customs purposes; however, the written description of the scope is dispositive.<sup>6</sup>

**Continuation of the Order**

As a result of the determinations by Commerce and the ITC that revocation of the *Order* would likely lead to a continuation or recurrence of dumping and material injury to an industry in the United States, pursuant to section 751(d)(2) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.218(a), Commerce hereby orders the continuation of the AD order on

<sup>3</sup> See Letter from ADM to Commerce re, "Five-Year ("Sunset") Review Of Antidumping Duty Order On Xanthan Gum From The People's Republic Of China/Domestic Industry Notice Of Intent To Participate In Sunset Review," dated June 15, 2018, and Letter from CP Kelco to Commerce re, "Xanthan Gum from the People's Republic of China: CP Kelco U.S., Inc.'s Notice Of Intent To Participate," dated June 18, 2018.

<sup>4</sup> See *Xanthan Gum from the People's Republic of China: Final Results of the Expedited First Sunset Review of the Antidumping Duty Order*, 83 FR 48589 (September 26, 2018) (*Final Results*).

<sup>5</sup> See *xanthan gum from China: First Review*, Inv. No. 731-TA-1203, 83 FR 58592 (November 20, 2018).

<sup>6</sup> For complete description of the scope of the *Order*, see "Issues and Decision Memorandum for the Expedited First Sunset Review of the Antidumping Duty Order on Xanthan Gum from the People's Republic of China," dated September 19, 2018.

xanthan gum from China. U.S. Customs and Border Protection will continue to collect AD cash deposits at the rates in effect at the time of entry for all imports of subject merchandise. The effective date of the continuation of the *Order* will be the date of publication in the **Federal Register** of this notice of continuation. Pursuant to section 751(c)(2) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.218(c)(2), Commerce intends to initiate the next sunset review of the *Order* not later than 30 days prior to the fifth anniversary of the effective date of continuation.

This five-year sunset review and this notice are in accordance with section 751(c) and 751(d)(2) of the Act and published pursuant to section 777(i)(1) of the Act and 19 CFR 351.218(f)(4).

Dated: November 27, 2018.

**Gary Taverman,**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Operations, performing the non-exclusive functions and duties of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement and Compliance.*

[FR Doc. 2018-26170 Filed 11-29-18; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XG513

#### Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Application for an Exempted Fishing Permit

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS announces the receipt of an exempted fishing permit application titled, “*Year-round Coastwide Midwater Rockfish EFP: Monitoring and Minimizing Salmon Bycatch When Targeting Rockfish in the Shorebased IFQ Fishery.*” The application, submitted by the West Coast Seafood Processors Association, Environmental Defense Fund, Oregon Trawl Commission, and Midwater Trawlers Cooperative, requests a permit to test whether removing certain gear, time, and area restrictions for vessels fishing under the Trawl Rationalization Program’s Shorebased Individual Fishing Quota Program may impact the nature and extent of bycatch of prohibited species (e.g., Chinook salmon). This exempted fishing permit

would allow participating groundfish bottom and midwater trawl vessels more flexibility than allowed in current regulations to target pelagic rockfish species, such as widow, chilipepper, and yellowtail rockfish. Regulations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and 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 no later than 5 p.m., local time on December 17, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA-NMFS-2018-0112, by any of the following methods:

- **Electronic Submissions:** Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to [www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=NOAA-NMFS-2018-0112](http://www.regulations.gov/), click the “Comment Now!” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments. The EFP application will be available under “Supporting Documents” through the same link.

- **Mail:** Submit written comments to Lynn Massey, West Coast Region, NMFS, 501 W Ocean Blvd., Ste. 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4250.

**Instructions:** Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and would generally be posted for public viewing on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender would be publicly accessible. NMFS would accept anonymous comments (enter “N/A” in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous). Attachments to electronic comments would be accepted in Microsoft Word, Excel, or Adobe PDF file formats only.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lynn Massey, West Coast Region, NMFS, at (562) 436-2462, [lynn.massey@noaa.gov](mailto:lynn.massey@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This action is authorized by the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and implementing regulations at 50 CFR 600.745, which allow NMFS Regional Administrators to authorize exempted fishing permits (EFPs) to test fishing activities that would otherwise be prohibited.

In 2017, NMFS permitted 32 vessels to fish under the 2017 Trawl Gear EFP. The EFP exempted limited entry bottom and midwater trawl vessels from the minimum mesh size requirement, and exempted limited entry bottom trawl vessels from the requirement to use selective flatfish trawl gear shoreward of the Trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) north of 42° North latitude (N lat). The purpose of this EFP was to collect information on potential impacts to prohibited and protected species from modifying or eliminating certain gear and area regulations by allowing participants to configure their gear to re-establish a targeted rockfish fishery for widow, yellowtail, and chilipepper rockfish. From March 2017 to December 2017, a total of 11 limited entry groundfish bottom trawl vessels went on 63 EFP trips and landed 1,355 metric tons (mt) of groundfish, totaling \$1,613,178 in revenue. Prohibited species bycatch included five Chinook salmon and no sturgeon.

To continue collecting information on the impacts of modifying or eliminating gear and area regulations, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) recommended and NMFS issued, a 2018 Trawl Gear EFP that expanded on the 2017 Trawl Gear EFP. As with the 2017 EFP, the 2018 EFP was intended to collect data on if and how the removal of certain gear, time, and area restrictions for the Shorebased Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program may impact the nature and extent of prohibited species bycatch. In addition to the exemptions provided by the 2017 Trawl Gear EFP (i.e., required minimum mesh size and requirement to use a selective flatfish trawl shoreward of the Trawl RCA and north of 42° N lat.), the 2018 Trawl Gear EFP provided participating vessels exemptions from the following limited entry prohibitions:

- Fishing with midwater groundfish trawl gear north of 40°10' N lat. in all areas (i.e., seaward, within, and shoreward of the RCA) prior to May 15th each year;
  - Fishing with midwater groundfish trawl gear south of 40°10' N lat. within the boundaries of the Trawl RCA;
  - Bringing a new haul onboard before a previous haul is stowed; and
  - Carrying and fishing more than one type of groundfish trawl gear (midwater and bottom trawl gear) on the same trip.
- The 2018 Trawl Gear EFP began on January 1, 2018. As of October 23, 2018, a total of 15 vessels (7 midwater-only trawlers, 4 bottom-only trawlers, and 4 that used both gears) have completed 289 EFP trips and landed approximately 9,000 mt of groundfish, totaling