SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Justin Kavanaugh, EM Program Coordinator, phone: 206–526–4353, justin.kavanaugh@noaa.gov.

Electronic Access
The EM Program Guidelines documents are posted online at: https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/permit/electronic-monitoring-program-service-provider-application-and-service-plan.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
The regulations at 50 CFR part 660, subpart J, describe the requirements for an EM program for the West Coast Groundfish Trawl Catch Share Program. Vessels participating in the EM program may use EM systems (cameras and associated sensors) in lieu of human observers to meet the requirements of the Catch Share Program for 100-percent at-sea monitoring. Interested vessel owners must submit an application to NMFS, including a VMP that describes how fishing operations on the vessel will be conducted and how the EM system and associated equipment will be configured to effectively monitor fishing activities and document any discards. Required components of the VMP are described in the Federal regulations at 50 CFR 660.604(e)(3)(iii). NMFS will review the VMP to ensure that the equipment installed and the proposed operations of the vessel would effectively monitor vessel operations. NMFS has created VMP Guidelines to provide vessel owners additional information on what NMFS is looking for in a VMP and describes best practices and suggested language to satisfy the required components. Vessel owners may propose and NMFS may consider alternative, but equivalent, methods to meet the requirements of the EM program in the VMP. Through this Federal Register notice, NMFS is notifying interested vessel owners of the availability of the VMP Guidelines on its website.

Vessel owners authorized to use EM are required to obtain an EM system from a NMFS-permitted service provider, as well as services to install and maintain the EM system, and to process, store, and report EM data to NMFS. EM service providers interested in providing EM services to participating vessels must apply to NMFS for a permit. EM service providers must develop and submit an EMSP as part of the application for an EM provider permit, and must describe in detail how the applicant will provide EM services to vessels. The required components of an EMSP are described in Federal regulations at 50 CFR 660.603(b)(1)(vii). NMFS will review EMSPs as part of the application to ensure that it meets all required components, and would effectively fulfill the EM service provider responsibilities. NMFS has created EMSP Guidelines that describe the requirements for EM service providers, the required elements of the EMSP, as well as best practices, recommendations, and other information that NMFS will use to evaluate proposed EMSPs and to evaluate the performance of EM service providers in meeting the regulations to achieve the purpose of the EM Program. Specific requirements and standards for EM data processing, reporting, and other services are contained in the EM Program Manual on NMFS’s website. The EMSP need only address the regulations at 50 CFR 660.603 “Electronic monitoring provider permits and responsibilities”; additional best practices and recommendations in this document are only examples of how the EM service provider may meet the requirements. If the provider does not utilize the recommended best practices or procedures, the EM service provider should explain in its EMSP how it would otherwise meet the EM Program requirements. An EM service provider may propose alternative, but equivalent methods to any of the recommendations in this document in their EMSP, and NMFS may consider and approve those methods if they achieve the purpose of the EM program as defined at 50 CFR 660.600(b) “EM program purpose”.

Through this Federal Register notice, NMFS is notifying interested EM service providers of the availability of the EM Program Guidelines and EM Program Manual on its website, as required by 50 CFR 660.600(b).

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.
Dated: May 18, 2021.

Jennifer M. Wallace,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Marianas Trench Marine National Monument; Monument Management Plan; Extension of Public Comment Period

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Interior; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The FWS and NOAA are extending by 60 days the comment period for a draft monument management plan (MMP) for the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument (Monument). The draft MMP describes proposed goals, objectives, and strategies for managing the Monument over a 15-year period.

DATES: The public comment period is extended by 60 days to July 26, 2021. Comments must be received by July 26, 2021, as specified under ADDRESSES. Comments received after this date may not be accepted.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2021–0003, by either of the following methods:
• Electronic Submission: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=NOAA-NMFS-2021-0003, click the “Comment Now!” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.
• Mail: Send written comments to Superintendent, Marianas Trench Marine National Monument, P.O. Box 8134, MOU–3, Dededo, GU 96912.

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 will generally be posted for public viewing on 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 will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter ‘‘N/
The draft MMP includes an environmental assessment (EA) of the potential impacts of the MMP on the human environment. You may review the draft MMP and EA at www.regulations.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Tammy Summers, FWS, (671) 355–5096, or Heidi Hirsh, NOAA, (808) 725–5016.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On February 24, 2021, NMFS published a notice of availability of a draft MMP for the Monument (86 FR 11238). Presidential Proclamation 8335 (January 12, 2009, 74 FR 1557) requires the Secretaries of the Interior and Commerce to prepare management plans and promulgate implementing regulations that address specific actions necessary for the proper care and management of the Monument. The draft MMP includes elements similar to a National Wildlife Refuge System Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP), and we are conducting the planning process for those elements in a manner similar to the CCP planning and public involvement process. The National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (Refuge Administration Act, 16 U.S.C. 668dd-668ee), as amended by the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, requires the FWS to develop a CCP for each national wildlife refuge. This draft MMP would incorporate CCP requirements and would define each agency’s management roles and responsibilities.

The draft MMP lays out the goals, objectives, and proposed management activities for the next 15 years, consistent with sound principles of fish and wildlife management, conservation, legal mandates, and consistent with FWS and NMFS policies. The draft MMP includes an environmental assessment to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of implementing the MMP. The FWS and NMFS would review and update the MMP at least every 15 years, in accordance with the Refuge Administration Act.

More information about the Monument’s history, wildlife, and habitats is available in a Notice of Intent published on April 5, 2011 (76 FR 18773).

The FWS and NMFS seek comments on the draft MMP and EA. We will consider comments received when deciding whether to approve or modify the MMP. The original public comment period for the notice of availability of the MMP was scheduled to close on May 25, 2021. In response to a request from Mr. Ralph D.L.G. Torres, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the FWS and NMFS are extending the comment period for 60 days, and are accepting public comments through July 26, 2021. The public may submit comments as described under ADDRESSES.

Dated: May 18, 2021.

Jennifer M. Wallace, Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648–XB118]

Adjustment of Fees for Seafood Inspection Services

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

ACTION: Notice of a revised fee schedule for seafood inspection services.

SUMMARY: The NMFS Seafood Inspection Program is notifying program participants of a revised fee schedule.

DATES: The revised fee schedule applies to services rendered as of June 1, 2021, until notified otherwise.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Wilson, Office of International Affairs and Seafood Inspection, 301–427–8350 or at steven.wilson@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) operates a voluntary fee-for-service seafood inspection program (Program) under the authorities of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended, the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, and the Reorganization Plan No. 4 of 1970. The regulations implementing the Program are contained in 50 CFR part 260. The program offers inspection grading and certification services, including the use of official quality grade marks which indicate that specific products have been federally inspected. Those wishing to participate in the program must request the services and submit specific compliance information. In July 1992, NMFS announced new inspection services, which were fully based on guidelines recommended by the National Academy of Sciences, known as Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP).

Under the implementing regulations for the Program, fees are reviewed annually to ascertain that the hourly fees charged are adequate to recover the costs of the services rendered. Any necessary adjustments to fees are made in accordance with the requirements of 50 CFR 260.81 and notice is provided to program participants. This Federal Register notice serves to inform program participants of an adjusted fee schedule, effective June 1, 2021.

The Program will increase its fees as outlined in this notice, which will apply until notified otherwise. Fees will be charged to contract and non-contract customers requesting services as listed below. The cost of other applicable services rendered will be recovered through fee collection using the base rate of $143 per hour.

Revised Fees and Charges for the USDC Seafood Inspection Program

Effective June 1, 2021, per hour fees and charges for fishery products inspection services will be as follows, which represent an increase of 10% from prior levels and will apply until notified otherwise.

Contract Rates

Regular time: Services provided during any 8-hour shift.

Overtime: Services provided outside the inspector’s normal work schedule. In addition to any hourly service charge, a night differential fee equal to 10 percent of the employee’s hourly salary will be charged for each hour of service provided after 6 p.m. and before 6 a.m. A guarantee of payment is required for all contracts equal to 3 months of service or $10,000, whichever is greater.

Non-Contract Rates

Regular time: Services provided within the inspector’s normal work schedule, Monday through Friday.

Overtime: Services provided outside the inspector’s normal work schedule. Any services under contract in excess of the contracted hours will be charged at the non-contract rate.

Contract Rates

Non-HACCP Contracts

Regular Time: $143.00.

Overtime: $215.00.

Sunday & Holidays: $286.00.

HACCP/QMP Contracts

HACCP Regular: $308.00.

HACCP Overtime: $462.00.

HACCP Sunday & Holidays: $616.00.

All Non-Contract Work Rates

Regular Time: $215.00.