

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR FOREIGN FISHING APPLICATIONS
REQUESTING PERMITS TO BE ISSUED UNDER SECTION 204 OF
THE MAGNUSON-STEVENS FISHERY CONSERVATION AND
MANAGEMENT ACT**

Requests for permits to be issued under Section 204(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA) must be submitted by an authorized representative of a foreign nation having a Governing International Fishery Agreement with the United States. Representatives of applicant foreign fishing nations must complete Vessel Identification Forms (VIFs), as appropriate, complete and sign the basic application form for vessel permits to be issued under Section 204(b), and answer the supplemental questions on joint venture operations.

This material must be submitted to the Department of State's Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Office of Marine Conservation, Washington, D.C. 20520 (Phone (202) 647-3940, Fax (202) 736-7350). At the time the application material is submitted to the Department of State, an application fee of \$817.00 per vessel must be submitted to the Department of Commerce's National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of International Affairs, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 (Phone (301) 427-8365, Fax (301) 713-2313). Checks must be drawn on U.S. banks and made payable to "Department of Commerce - NOAA." Processing of applications does not begin until application fees are paid.

Requests for permits to be issued under Section 204(d) of the MSFCMA may be submitted by any person. Applicants must complete VIFs, as appropriate, together with a cover letter describing the nature of the transshipments to be conducted and confirming that the applicant will comply with the requirements of Section 201(c)(2) of the MSFCMA with respect to activities authorized by any permit issued pursuant to the application. This material, together with an application fee of \$817.00 per vessel, must be submitted to the Department of Commerce's National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of International Affairs, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910 (Phone (301) 427-8350, Fax (301) 713-2313). Checks must be drawn on U.S. banks and made payable to "Department of Commerce - NOAA." Processing of applications does not begin until application fees are paid.

Submission of application information is mandatory in order to be considered for a permit and is used in determining if a permit should be issued. Except for any price information considered and identified as confidential by applicants, application information is not confidential. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average slightly over 2 hours for joint venture applications, 1.5 hours for fishing applications, and 0.75 hours for transshipment applications.

These estimates include the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of reducing this burden to the Office of International Affairs (F/IA), National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING FISHING VESSEL
IDENTIFICATION FORMS (VIF's) FOR FOREIGN FISHING PERMITS TO BE
ISSUED UNDER THE MAGNUSON-STEVENSON FISHERY CONSERVATION
AND MANAGEMENT ACT (MSFCMA)**

Complete a VIF form for each vessel for which a permit is requested. Please read the instructions carefully before beginning to enter information. VIFs for permits to be issued under Section 204(b) of the MSFCMA (e.g., joint venture permits) should be submitted together with other appropriate application material to the Department of State. VIFs for permits to be issued under Section 204(d) of the MSFCMA (i.e., transshipment permits) should be submitted together with other appropriate application material to the Department of Commerce. Timely submissions of completed applications will ensure prompt consideration of requests.

Type the form in English. Complete all appropriate items, except the space near the top, right-hand corner labeled "NO:."

- (1) Vessel Name: Enter the name of the vessel. Where necessary, transliterate into Roman characters. Do not translate the name into English.
- (2) Call Sign: Enter the vessel identifying markings permanently affixed to the vessel as required by the foreign fishing regulations, normally the international radio call sign.
- (3) Hull Number: Enter the hull number or other alphanumeric mark on the vessel.
- (4) Vessel Type: Enter one of the following vessel types:

Stern Trawler/Processor	Factory Ship
(small: 0 - 289 GRT)	Refrigerated
Transport (medium: 290 - 1,399 GRT)	Cargo
Transport	
(large: 1,400 plus GRT)	Tanker

If other than one of the above, identify and describe the type.

- (5) Length: Enter the vessel's overall length to the nearest meter.
- (6) Gross Tons: Enter the gross registered tonnage, rounded to the nearest metric ton.

(7) Net Tons: Enter the net registered tonnage, rounded to the nearest metric ton.

(8) Maximum Speed: Enter the vessel's maximum speed in nautical miles per hour.

(9) Owner Name and Address: Enter the names and mailing addresses of all owners of the vessel. If there is more than one owner, enter the first name and address on the form and the other names and addresses on attached pages. "Owner" includes any person, company, or government agency that own(s) the vessels; any charterer, whether bare boat, time, or voyage; and any person or company that acts in the capacity of a charterer, including, but not limited to, parties to a management agreement, operating agreement, or any similar agreement that bestows control over the destination, function, or operation of the vessel.

(10) Agent Name and Address: Enter the name and address of the person in the United States that will act as agent for the vessel in accordance with the requirement at Section 201(c)(2) (F) of the MSFCMA.

(11) Processing Equipment: List any fish processing equipment aboard the vessel such as fillet lines, freezers, surimi plant, fish meal/oil plant, etc.

(12) Hold Capacity: Enter in cubic meters the hold capacity for each hold or other space (including flash freezers) in which fish or fish products may be stored. Use bale capacity only. If there are more than four (4) holds, give the total hold capacity in cubic meters. Otherwise, list the holds individually. Record this information accurately; the information is used by NMFS enforcement and U.S. Coast Guard personnel to determine the quantity of fish or fish products aboard the vessel.

(13) Indicate if the vessel has fished in the EEZ in prior years by listing the last permit application number. If the vessel has never applied for a permit, indicate "none" in the space provided.

(14) If joint venture activities are requested, place an "X" after "YES" and attach the required supplemental information (see supplemental questions on joint ventures).

(15) Indicate if the vessel is certified to be in compliance with the flag nation's health and safety standards by placing an "X" in the space provided.

(16) Fisheries for Which a Permit is Requested:

Fishery: If the vessel is applying for a permit to be issued under Section 204(b) of the MSFCMA (e.g., a joint venture permit), enter the three letter code from the following list for each fishery for which an application is made:

NWA - Northwest Atlantic Ocean

Requested Species: If the vessel is applying for a permit to be issued under Section 204(b) of the MSFCMA, list the species requested for joint ventures.

Gear: Leave blank.

Catch: Leave blank.

Process: Leave blank.

Activity - Other: If the vessel is applying for a permit to be issued under Section 204(b) of the MSFCMA, using the Activity Codes listed in Attachment 1, designate the activities requested in each fishery using the format shown in Attachment 2.

(17) If the vessel is applying for a permit to be issued under Section 204(d) of the MSFCMA, enter the latitude and longitude of the transshipment point requested.

(18) If the vessel is applying for a permit to be issued under Section 204(d) of the MSFCMA, indicate whether the transshipment point requested above is in the internal or territorial waters of a State and identify the State.

FISHING VESSEL IDENTIFICATION FORM (VIF)

NO: _

- (1) VESSEL NAME: _____
- (2) CALL SIGN: _
- (3) HULL NO: _____
- (4) VESSEL TYPE: _
- (5) LENGTH (METERS): _____
- (6) GROSS TONS: _
- (7) NET TONS: _____
- (8) MAX SPEED (KNOTS): _
- (9) OWNER NAME: _
 ADDRESS: _
- (10) AGENT NAME: _
 ADDRESS: _
- (11) PROCESSING EQUIPMENT: _
- (12) HOLD CAPACITY (IN CUBIC METERS - BALE CAPACITY ONLY):
 HOLD #1: _____ HOLD #2: _____ HOLD #3: _____ HOLD #4: _
 (IF MORE THAN 4 HOLDS, GIVE TOTAL HOLD CAPACITY) _
- (13) LIST LAST APPLICATION NUMBER _____ IF NONE, CHECK _
- (14) ARE JOINT VENTURE OPERATIONS BEING REQUESTED? YES NO (IF YES, ATTACH JOINT VENTURE SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSES)
- (15) CHECK IF VESSEL IS CERTIFIED TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE FLAG NATION'S HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS _
- (16) FISHERY FOR WHICH PERMIT IS REQUESTED:

FISHERY	SPECIES/TRANSHP. LOCATION	GEAR	ACTIVITY		
			CATCH	PROCESS	OTHER

- (17) TRANSSHIPMENT POINT (LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE) _
- (18) IS TRANSSHIPMENT POINT WITHIN THE INTERNAL OR TERRITORIAL WATERS OF A STATE? YES NO IF YES, IDENTIFY STATE

