

FEDERAL PERMIT APPLICATION FOR OFFSHORE AQUACULTURE IN THE GULF OF MEXICO (GULF AQUACULTURE PERMIT)

New Permit Application \$10,000 (10 years)

Renewal Application \$5,000 (5 years)
 (Current Permit # _____)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Date Received	
Gulf Aquaculture Permit Number	
Permit Expiration Date	
Check or Money Order Number	
Violation Date	
Violation Clear Date	
Reviewer Initials and Date	

- Complete all Sections of this application if you are applying for a **new permit**. If you are applying for a **permit renewal**, fill out all Sections except 2, 3, 6 and 7. See the instructions section at the end of this form for more information.
- Prior to beginning the permit application process, applicants are strongly encouraged to schedule an interagency consultation with the various federal permitting agencies. Contact the NOAA Fisheries Regional Aquaculture Coordinator at (727) 824-5301 or email nmfs.ser.aquaculture@noaa.gov for more information.
- A completed application package should be submitted **at least 180 days** prior to the date the applicant desires the permit to become effective. For renewals, all information should be submitted **at least 120 days** prior to the date the permittee desires the renewal to become effective. **An application package is not considered to be complete until NOAA Fisheries has confirmed receipt of all necessary information.**
- Eligibility for a Gulf Aquaculture Permit is limited to U.S. citizens as defined in the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, as amended, and permanent resident aliens lawfully accorded the privilege of residing permanently in the U.S. in accordance with U.S. immigration laws.

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION
 (If permit holder will be a business include a primary contact for the business)

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	Suffix (Sr., II, etc.)
<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>

MAILING ADDRESS	Apt/Suite #
<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>

CITY	STATE	COUNTY	ZIP CODE
<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>

HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER	CELL PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>

DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER or PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIEN ID
<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>

2. BUSINESS INFORMATION

(A) Provide business information, if applicable.

BUSINESS NAME	MAILING ADDRESS		
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		
CITY	STATE	COUNTY	ZIP CODE
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
BUSINESS TELEPHONE NUMBER	DATE WHEN FORMED (MM/DD/YYYY)	STATE WHERE FORMED	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	

(B) Provide information on the names, addresses, and titles of all officers, partners, and/or directors, if applicable. Attach additional sheets with this information, as necessary.

OFFICER/PARTNER/DIRECTOR #1

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	Suffix (Sr., II, etc.)
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
POSITION IN COMPANY	MAILING ADDRESS	Apt/Suite #	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
CITY	STATE	COUNTY	ZIP CODE
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER	CELL PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER or PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIEN ID		
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		

OFFICER/PARTNER/DIRECTOR #2

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	Suffix (Sr., II, etc.)
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
POSITION IN COMPANY	MAILING ADDRESS	Apt/Suite #	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
CITY	STATE	COUNTY	ZIP CODE
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER	CELL PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER or PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIEN ID		
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		

(C) Has any person affiliated with this application (including any shareholder, director, partner, or officer) applied for a Gulf Aquaculture Permit in the past?

Yes
 No
 N/A

If Yes, provide name and contact information for all person(s) who have applied for a permit in the past as well as the date the application was submitted to NOAA Fisheries.

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	Suffix (Sr., II, etc.)
BUSINESS NAME (if applicable)		DATE APPLICATION SUBMITTED (MM/DD/YYYY)	
		/ /	

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	Suffix (Sr., II, etc.)
BUSINESS NAME (if applicable)		DATE APPLICATION SUBMITTED (MM/DD/YYYY)	
		/ /	

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	Suffix (Sr., II, etc.)
BUSINESS NAME (if applicable)		DATE APPLICATION SUBMITTED (MM/DD/YYYY)	
		/ /	

(D) Provide information for all shareholders who own or control **at least 10%** of the outstanding stock and the percentage of outstanding stock currently owned or controlled by each such shareholder. Attach additional sheets, as necessary.

	Name (First, Last, Middle)	Street Address	City, State, Zip	Percentage of Stock
1)	_____	_____	_____	_____
2)	_____	_____	_____	_____
3)	_____	_____	_____	_____
4)	_____	_____	_____	_____
5)	_____	_____	_____	_____
6)	_____	_____	_____	_____
7)	_____	_____	_____	_____
8)	_____	_____	_____	_____
9)	_____	_____	_____	_____
10)	_____	_____	_____	_____

(E) Does the applicant or business, or any shareholder, director, partner, or officer own an interest, either directly or beneficially, in any other Gulf offshore aquaculture venture?

Yes No N/A

If Yes, provide the following information for each person(s).

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	Suffix (Sr., II, etc.)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

AQUACULTURE PERMIT NUMBER FOR OTHER VENTURE	RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER VENTURE
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	Suffix (Sr., II, etc.)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

AQUACULTURE PERMIT NUMBER FOR OTHER VENTURE	RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER VENTURE
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	Suffix (Sr., II, etc.)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

AQUACULTURE PERMIT NUMBER FOR OTHER VENTURE	RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER VENTURE
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

(F) Has the applicant or any shareholder, director, partner, or officer listed in **part D** above ever been arrested, indicted, convicted of, or adjudicated to be responsible for any violation of marine resources or environmental protection law, whether state or federal?

Yes No

If Yes, provide the information for each person(s). Include additional sheets with this information, if needed.

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	Suffix (Sr., II, etc.)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

DATE OF VIOLATION (MM/DD/YYYY)	TYPE OF VIOLATION
<input type="text" value="/ /"/>	<input type="text"/>

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	Suffix (Sr., II, etc.)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

DATE OF VIOLATION (MM/DD/YYYY)	TYPE OF VIOLATION
<input type="text" value="/ /"/>	<input type="text"/>

3. SITE DESCRIPTION

Provide latitude and longitude coordinates for the proposed aquaculture site. Latitude and Longitude must be reported as Degree Minutes and decimal minutes to the third decimal place (e.g., DD MM.MMM). If the proposed site has greater than four coordinates, provide additional coordinates on a separate sheet.

North Point Lat/Long

South Point Lat/Long

West Point Lat/Long

East Point Lat/Long

Attach a NOAA chart or USGS Topographic map of the site to scale which indicates: 1) proposed facility boundaries; 2) depth contours; and 3) location of Federal projects, navigational channels, or other structures or areas (see #5 of the Pre-Application checklist at http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/gulf_fisheries/aquaculture) within 3 nautical miles of proposed site. Additional information may be requested by NOAA Fisheries.

4. LIST OF SPECIES TO BE CULTURED

Provide the following information for each species to be cultured. Do not abbreviate genus or species name.

Genus and Species	Start up Production Level (Pounds)	Annual Maximum Total for Harvest (Pounds)
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1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

5. HATCHERY LOCATION

Provide information for each hatchery which will be providing juvenile organisms for grow-out at the proposed facilities. On a continuing basis, provide a copy of all relevant, valid state or Federal aquaculture permits issued to each hatchery. For hatcheries located offshore, provide GPS coordinates (latitude and longitude). ***A permittee may only obtain juvenile organisms for grow-out at an aquaculture facility from a hatchery located in the U.S.***

HATCHERY #1

HATCHERY NAME		MAILING ADDRESS (OR GPS COORDINATES IF LOCATED OFFSHORE)	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
CITY	STATE	COUNTY	ZIP CODE
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
CONTACT PERSON AND TITLE		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
ALTERNATE CONTACT PERSON AND TITLE		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	

HATCHERY #2

HATCHERY NAME		MAILING ADDRESS (OR GPS COORDINATES IF LOCATED OFFSHORE)	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
CITY	STATE	COUNTY	ZIP CODE
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
CONTACT PERSON AND TITLE		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
ALTERNATE CONTACT PERSON AND TITLE		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	

HATCHERY #3

HATCHERY NAME		MAILING ADDRESS (OR GPS COORDINATES IF LOCATED OFFSHORE)	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
CITY	STATE	COUNTY	ZIP CODE
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
CONTACT PERSON AND TITLE		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	
ALTERNATE CONTACT PERSON AND TITLE		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>		<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	

6. DESCRIPTION OF AQUACULTURE SYSTEMS

Provide a description of all components of the aquaculture system(s) (including mooring and anchoring systems) to be used, including: 1) number, size, dimensions, position relative to sea surface, 2) manufacturer information, and, 3) schematic or photographic renderings of generalized layout of aquaculture system(s) indicating depths from structure(s) to sea floor, from a top and cross-sectional view. Permittees must also provide documentation of the aquaculture system's ability to withstand physical stresses associated with major storm events (e.g., hurricanes, storm surge), including any available engineering analysis, computer and physical oceanographic models, or other documentation. Additional information may be requested by NOAA Fisheries. ***It is recommended that all plans and drawings submitted with the application package be certified by a professional engineer.***

7. DESCRIPTION OF EQUIPMENT AND METHODS

Provide a description of the equipment and methods to be used for feeding, transporting, maintaining, and removing cultured species from aquaculture systems, including: 1) number, size, dimensions, and manufacturer information; 2) type of powered equipment to be used on site (except vessels/aircraft listed in #8 of this application) and frequency and duration of use (e.g., daily, weekly, monthly); 3) frequency and duration of vessel/aircraft traffic; 4) feed schedule and feed techniques; 5) predator control methods; 6) net cleaning and maintenance (methods, frequency); 7) usage of drugs or other chemicals; 8) number, type, wattage, and location of lights at proposed site (except those used for navigation or marking); and 9) off-site facilities or holdings to be used for feed transport, processing, etc. Additional information may be requested by NOAA Fisheries.

8. VESSEL AND AIRCRAFT DOCUMENTATION

Provide all information for each vessel used for transport, harvest, transfer, or sale of cultured animals. Attach a copy of the valid, unexpired U.S. Coast Guard Certificate of documentation (or valid state registration if not documented) for each vessel listed. Also provide documentation or identification numbers for any vehicles or aircraft used.

VESSEL #1

USCG DOC. NUMBER (STATE REG IF NOT DOCUMENTED) VESSEL NAME LENGTH TOTAL HORSEPOWER

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HOMEPORT CITY AND STATE PORT OF LANDING CITY AND STATE HOLD CAP. (TONS) LIVE WELL CAPACITY (GAL)

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VESSEL #1 OWNER INFORMATION CHECK ONE: INDIVIDUAL BUSINESS

NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST, SUFFIX or BUSINESS) HOME or BUSINESS TELEPHONE NUMBER

--	--

MAILING ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP CODE

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SOCIAL SEC. or PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIEN ID DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY) FEDERAL ID # (FEIN) if a BUSINESS

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VESSEL #2

USCG DOC. NUMBER (STATE REG IF NOT DOCUMENTED) VESSEL NAME LENGTH TOTAL HORSEPOWER

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HOMEPORT CITY AND STATE PORT OF LANDING CITY AND STATE HOLD CAP. (TONS) LIVE WELL CAPACITY (GAL)

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VESSEL #2 OWNER INFORMATION CHECK ONE: INDIVIDUAL BUSINESS

NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST, SUFFIX or BUSINESS) HOME or BUSINESS TELEPHONE NUMBER

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MAILING ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP CODE

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SOCIAL SEC. or PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIEN ID DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY) FEDERAL ID # (FEIN) if a BUSINESS

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9. CERTIFICATION OF REMOVAL

I _____ certify that I will remove all components of the
(Print Full Applicant Name)
aquaculture facility, including cultured animals remaining in allowable aquaculture systems, from the Gulf EEZ if it is discovered that the organisms are genetically engineered or transgenic, that a World Organization of Animal Health (OIE)-reportable pathogen or pathogen identified as reportable in the National Aquatic Animal Health Plan is found at the facility, or there are any other violations of the permit conditions or regulations which causes NOAA Fisheries to order such removal.

10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. The following information **must** be submitted with a new application:
 - a) Copy of a baseline environmental survey and all other field surveys of the proposed site. Survey guidance can be found at: http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/gulf_fisheries/aquaculture/.
 - b) Documentation certifying the applicant has posted an assurance bond sufficient to cover the costs of removal of all components of the aquaculture facility, including cultured animals remaining in allowable aquaculture systems, from the Gulf EEZ. Assurance Bond guidance can be found at: http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/gulf_fisheries/aquaculture/.
 - c) Copy of an emergency disaster plan, developed for and to be used by the aquaculture facility, that includes, but is not limited to, procedures for preparing or if necessary removing aquaculture systems, aquaculture equipment, and cultured animals in the event of disaster (e.g., hurricane, tsunami, harmful algal bloom, chemical or oil spill, etc.).
 - d) Copy of a contractual arrangement with an aquatic animal health expert to provide services to the aquaculture facility. An aquatic animal health expert is defined as a licensed doctor of veterinary medicine or a person who is certified by the American Fisheries Society, Fish Health Section, as a "Fish Pathologist" or "Fish Health Inspector". A copy of the expert's license or certification must also be provided.
 - e) Certification by the applicant that: 1) all broodstock, or progeny of such broodstock, used to provide juveniles to the aquaculture facility will be or were originally harvested from U.S. waters of the Gulf, and will be or were from the same population or subpopulation (based on the best scientific information available) where the facility is located, and that each individual broodstock was marked or tagged at the hatchery to allow for identification of those individuals used in spawning, and 2) certification by the applicant that no genetically engineered or transgenic animals are used or possessed for culture purposes at the aquaculture facility. This *Certification for Broodstock and Juveniles* document can be found at: <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/permits/>.
2. Once a new permit or renewal permit has been issued, an Annual Report along with payment of \$1,000.00 must be received by NOAA Fisheries by January 31 of each year for permits to remain active. Fees may change slightly each year. The Annual Report form can be found at: <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/permits/>.
3. Prior to *issuance* of a new permit or a renewal permit, the applicant must provide NOAA Fisheries a copy of currently valid state or Federal permits (e.g., Army Corps of Engineers Section 10 permit,

Environmental Protection Agency National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit) applicable to the proposed aquaculture site, facilities, or operations. **A NOAA Fisheries Gulf Aquaculture permit will not be issued until all other applicable permits have been secured.**

4. After NOAA Fisheries issues a new permit or renewal permit, permittees must continue to provide NOAA Fisheries with valid copies of all state and Federal permits required for conducting offshore aquaculture. Permittees must also report any changes applicable to those permits to NOAA Fisheries.
5. The permittee must provide NOAA Fisheries current copies of valid state or Federal permits for each hatchery from which fingerlings or other juvenile animals are obtained and alert NOAA Fisheries to any changes to those permits within 30 days.
6. The NOAA Fisheries Gulf Aquaculture permit must be prominently displayed and available at the aquaculture facility. The permit number should also be included on the buoys or other floating devices used to mark the restricted access zone of the operation per § 622.104(c). In addition, the aquaculture facility's permit (if the fish have not yet been purchased by a dealer), must accompany each vehicle that is used to receive fish harvested from an aquaculture facility in federal waters of the Gulf. A vehicle operator must present the permit or a copy for inspection upon the request of an authorized officer.
7. NOAA Fisheries Gulf Aquaculture permit holders must notify the Regional Aquaculture Coordinator within 30 days after any change in the application information specified in 50 CFR 622.101(d)(11). The NOAA Fisheries Gulf Aquaculture permit is void if any change in the information is not reported within 30 days.
8. The permittee must comply with all monitoring and requirements specified in their NOAA Fisheries Gulf Aquaculture permit. The permittee must also comply with all applicable monitoring and reporting requirements specified in their other valid federal permits for each particular operation.
9. The permittee must conduct inspections of permitted aquaculture systems for entanglements and interactions with marine mammals, protected species, and migratory birds. The frequency of these inspections will be specified in the conditions of their NOAA Fisheries Gulf Aquaculture permit.
10. The permittee must conduct feed monitoring and management practices in compliance with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations at 40 CFR 451.21.
11. The permittee must comply with the use of drugs, pesticides, and biologics per all applicable Food and Drug Administration, EPA, and U.S. Department of Agriculture requirements (e.g., Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 301 *et seq.*; Clean Water Act, 40 CFR part 122; 9 CFR parts 101-124; 21 CFR parts 500-599; and 40 CFR parts 150-189).
12. The permittee must maintain and make available to NOAA Fisheries monitoring reports required by applicable state and federal agencies for the most recent three years.
13. The permittee must maintain a minimum of one properly functioning electronic locating device (e.g., GPS device, pinger with radio signal) on each aquaculture system (i.e., net pen or cage).
14. The permittee must provide NOAA Fisheries or authorized officers access to operations in order to conduct on-site inspections to monitor compliance with the conditions and requirements specified in the permit and/or applicable aquaculture regulations.
15. The permittee must comply with all other operational, monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting requirements as outlined in subpart F of 50 CFR part 622.
16. A NOAA Fisheries Gulf Aquaculture permit may be revoked, suspended, or modified, and such permit applications may be denied, in accordance with the procedures governing enforcement-related permit sanctions and denials found at subpart D of 15 CFR part 904.

11. SIGNATURE

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing information is true and correct (28 U.S.C. section 1746; 18 U.S.C. section 1621; 18 U.S.C. section 1001).

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

DATE SIGNED (MM/DD/YYYY)

PRINTED NAME

POSITION IN COMPANY

**Mail this completed form and all supporting documentation to:
NMFS Permits Office (F/SER14), Attn: Regional Aquaculture Coordinator, 263 13th
Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 3 hours per response, including 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 other suggestions for reducing this burden to PRA Officer, National Marine Fisheries Service, F/SER26, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.

The National Marine Fisheries Service requires this information for the conservation and management of marine fishery resources. The data reported will be used to develop, implement, and monitor fishery management activities for a variety of other uses. Responses to this collection are required to obtain or retain a fisheries permit under the Magnuson - Stevens Act. Non-confidential information may be released via a NOAA Fisheries website. Non-confidential information means: Name, Street Address, City, State, Zip Code, Effective Date of Permit, Permit Types, Vessel Name, Vessel Identification Number, and in the case of a "for hire" vessel the Passenger Capacity, or individual, corporate and lease holders of permits. All other data submitted will be handled as confidential material in accordance with NOAA Administrative Order 216-100, Protection of Confidential Fishery Statistics. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subjected 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 the Federal Permit Application to Conduct Offshore Aquaculture in the Gulf of Mexico

General Instructions:

Applicants with specific questions may contact the Regional Aquaculture Coordinator at (727) 824-5301 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, or email nmfs.ser.aquaculture@noaa.gov.

1. Complete all sections of this application form. Applications should be typed. Incomplete or illegible applications will be returned.
2. The application fee for a **new permit** is **\$10,000** and is **non-refundable** (\$5,000 non-refundable fee for permit renewal). A check or money order payable to the **U.S. TREASURY** must accompany each application.
3. Mail the completed application, payment, and all required supporting documentation to: **NMFS Permits Office (F/SER14), Attn: Regional Aquaculture Coordinator, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701.**

APPLICATION SECTION 1 Eligibility for a Gulf Aquaculture permit is limited to U.S. citizens as defined in the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, as amended, and permanent resident aliens lawfully accorded the privilege of residing permanently in the U.S. in accordance with U.S. immigration laws.

APPLICATION SECTION 2 For businesses or corporations, include a copy of the Articles of Incorporation or Certificate of Limited Partnership or documentation of the formation of a General Partnership.

APPLICATION SECTION 3 See 50 CFR 622.103(a) for additional information on facility siting requirements and conditions.

APPLICATION SECTION 4 Only federally managed species that are native to the Gulf of Mexico and are not genetically engineered may be used or possessed at an aquaculture facility (shrimp and corals are exempted from culture). A list of species that can be cultured under a NOAA Fisheries Gulf Aquaculture permit can be found at 50 CFR 622.105(b).

APPLICATION SECTION 5 Include a copy of all relevant, valid state or Federal aquaculture permits issued to each hatchery.

APPLICATION SECTION 7 All feed monitoring and management practices must be conducted in compliance with EPA regulations at 40 CFR 451.21. The permittee must comply with the use of drugs, pesticides, and biologics per all applicable Food and Drug Administration, EPA, and USDA requirements (e.g., Federal, Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 301 *et seq.*; Clean Water Act, 40 CFR part 122; 9 CFR parts 101-124; 21 CFR parts 500-599; and 40 CFR parts 150-189).

APPLICATION SECTION 8 Provide a copy of the valid U.S. Coast Guard certificate of documentation or, if not documented, a copy of the valid state registration certificate for each vessel as well as documentation or identification numbers for any aircraft used for transport, harvest, transfer, or sale of cultured species at the approved site.

APPLICATION SECTION 11 Applicant must sign and date this section for the application to be considered complete.