

Administrator's letter must be present onboard the vessel while it is engaged in such fishing in order for the vessel to be authorized. If the appeal is ultimately denied, the Regional Administrator's letter authorizing fishing during the appeal will become invalid 5 days after receipt of the notice of appellate denial or 15 days after the date on the notice of appellate denial, whichever occurs first.

\* \* \* \* \*

(f) \* \* \*

(1) \* \* \*(v) The application is for initial qualification for access to Area 3, 4 or 5 pursuant to the historical participation process in paragraphs(a)(7)(vi)(D), (a)(vii)(D), and (a)(viii)(D) of this section.

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 4. In § 697.18, paragraphs (a), (b), and (h) are revised to read as follows:

**§ 697.18 Lobster management areas.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(a) *EEZ Nearshore Management Area 1.* EEZ Nearshore Management Area 1 is defined by the area, including state and Federal waters that are nearshore in the Gulf of Maine, bounded by straight lines connecting the following points, in the order stated, and the coastline of Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts to the northernmost point of Cape Cod:

Point	Latitude	Longitude
A	43°58'N.	67°22'W.
B	43°41'N.	68°00'N.
C	43°12'N.	69°00'W.
D	42°49'N.	69°40'W.
E	42°15.5'N.	70°40'W.
F	42°10'N.	69°56'W.
G	42°05.5'N.	70°14'W.
G1	42°04.25'N.	70°17.22'W.
G2	42°02.84'N.	70°16.1'W.
G3	42°03.35'N.	70°14.2'W.

(1) From point "G3" along the coastline of Massachusetts, including the southwestern end of the Cape Cod Canal, continuing along the coastlines of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, and the seaward EEZ boundary back to Point A.

(2) [Reserved]

(b) *EEZ Nearshore Management Area 2.* EEZ Nearshore Management Area 2 is defined by the area, including state and Federal waters that are nearshore in Southern New England, bounded by straight lines connecting the following points, in the order stated:

Point	Latitude	Longitude
H	41°40'N.	70°05'W.
I	41°15'N.	70°05'N.
J	41°21.5'N.	69°16.5'W.
K	41°10'N.	69°06.5'W.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
L	40°55'N.	68°54'W.
M	40°27.5'N.	71°14'W.
N	40°45.5'N.	71°34'W.
O	41°07'N.	71°43'W.
P	41°06.5'N.	71°47'W.
Q	41°11.5'N.	71°47.25'W.
R	41°18.5'N.	71°54.5'W.

(1) From point "R" along the maritime boundary between Connecticut and Rhode Island to the coastal Connecticut/Rhode Island boundary and then back to point "H" along the Rhode Island and Massachusetts coast, including the northeastern end of the Cape Cod Canal.

(2) [Reserved]

\* \* \* \* \*

(h) *EEZ Nearshore Outer Cape Lobster Management Area.* EEZ Nearshore Outer Cape Lobster Management Area is defined by the area, including state and Federal waters off Cape Cod, bounded by straight lines connecting the following points, in the order stated:

Point	Latitude	Longitude
F	42°10'N.	69°56'W.
G	42°05.5'N.	70°14'W.
G1	42°04.25'N.	70°17.22'W.
G2	42°02.84'N.	70°16.1'W.
G4	41°52'N.	70°07.49'W.
G5	41°54.46'N.	70°03.99'W.

(1) From Point "G5" along the outer Cape Cod coast to Point "H":

Point	Latitude	Longitude
H	41°40'N.	70°05'W.
H1	41°18'N.	70°05'W.

(2) From Point "H1" along the eastern coast of Nantucket Island to Point "I":

Point	Latitude	Longitude
I	41°15'N.	70°00'W.
J	41°21.5'N.	69°16'W.

(3) From Point "J" back to Point "F".

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 5. Section 697.19 is revised to read as follows:

**§ 697.19 Trap limits and trap tag requirements for vessels fishing with lobster traps.**

(a) *Trap limits for vessels fishing or authorized to fish in any Nearshore Management Area.* (1) Through August 31, 2003, vessels fishing in or issued a management area designation certificate or valid limited access American lobster permit specifying one or more EEZ Nearshore Management Area(s), whether or not in combination with the Area 2/3 Overlap, shall not fish with,

deploy in, possess in, or haul back from such area more than 800 lobster traps.

(2) Beginning September 1, 2003, vessels fishing in or issued a valid limited access American lobster permit specifying one or more of EEZ Nearshore Management Areas 1, 2, or the Outer Cape Management Area, regardless of whether it is in combination with the Area 2/3 Overlap, shall not fish with, deploy in, possess in, or haul back from such area(s) more than 800 lobster traps, except as noted in paragraph (d) of this section.

(3) Beginning September 1, 2003, vessels fishing in or issued a management area designation certificate or valid limited access American lobster permit specifying EEZ Management Area 4 may not fish with, deploy in, possess in, or haul back from such areas more than the number of lobster traps allocated by the Regional Administrator pursuant to the qualification process set forth at § 697.4(a)(7)(vii), which will not exceed 1,440 lobster traps, except as noted in paragraphs (c) and (e) of this section.

(4) Beginning September 1, 2003, vessels fishing in or issued a management area designation certificate or valid limited access American lobster permit specifying EEZ Management Area 5 may not fish with, deploy in, possess in, or haul back from such areas more than the number of lobster traps allocated by the Regional Administrator pursuant to the qualification process set forth at § 697.4(a)(7)(viii), which will not exceed 1,440 lobster traps, except as noted in paragraphs (c) and (e) of this section unless the vessel is operating under an Area 5 Trap Waiver permit issued under § 697.26.

(b) *Trap limits for vessels fishing or authorized to fish in the EEZ Offshore Management Area.* (1) Through August 31, 2003, vessels fishing only in or issued a management area designation certificate or valid limited access American lobster permit specifying only EEZ Offshore Management Area 3, or, specifying only EEZ Offshore Management Area 3 and the Area 2/3 Overlap, may not fish with, deploy in, possess in, or haul back from such areas more than 1,800 lobster traps.

(2) Beginning September 1, 2003, for fishing years 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and beyond until changed, vessels fishing only in or issued a management area designation certificate or valid limited access American lobster permit specifying only EEZ Offshore Management Area 3, or, specifying only EEZ Offshore Management Area 3 and the Area 2/3 Overlap, may not fish with, deploy in, possess in, or haul back from such areas more the number of lobster