



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

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Michael P. Luisi, Chairman | G. Warren Elliott, Vice Chairman
Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director

March 18, 2019

Shannah Jaburek
Sustainable Fisheries Division
Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, NMFS
55 Great Republic Drive
Gloucester, MA 01930

Dear Ms. Jaburek:

The responds to Sarah Heil's letter regarding the application for an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) requested by Coonamesset Farm Foundation (CFF).

On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, I support the issuance of an Exempted Fishery Permit to the applicant, i.e., CFF. CFF submitted a complete application for an EFP on November 30, 2018 for a project titled "Dispersal and Growth of Recently Transplanted Sea Scallops in an Offshore Grow-Out Area." This project has also been submitted for consideration as part of the 2019 Atlantic Sea Scallop Research Set-Aside Program. This project would look primarily at the feasibility of transplanting/seeding scallops from one offshore area to another. The project would also demonstrate the feasibility of tracking the scallops once they have been transplanted/seeded over a nine month period.

Please call or write if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D.
Executive Director

CMM: mjs

cc: M. Luisi, W. Elliott, M. Pentony