



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

800 North State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901
Phone: 302-674-2331 | FAX: 302-674-5399 | www.mafmc.org
Michael P. Luisi, Chairman | P. Weston Townsend, Vice Chairman
Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director

September 17, 2020

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

Dear Ms. Fenton:

On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, I support the issuance of an EFP to the applicant, i.e., The Commercial Fisheries Research Foundations (CFRF).

Under this EFP, CFRF would conduct up to 24, one-day survey trips from September 2020 through July 2022 (1 trip per month). Prior to the first survey trip, researchers would conduct a scouting trip to visit proposed tow areas. During each survey trip, participating vessels would complete three tows in each of three sampling areas in Southern New England: one sampling area inside the South Fork Wind Farm work area southwest of Martha's Vineyard, and two reference sampling areas adjacent to the South Fork Wind Farm work area. This would total 9 tows completed per month, and 216 tows completed under the EFP. Surveys would not occur in any areas that are closed to fishing.

Please call or write if you have any questions

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Moore".

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D.
Executive Director

cc: M. Luisi, W. Townsend, S. Heil