

**NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE POLICY 01-123**

Effective on: April 8, 2019

To be reviewed on: April 1, 2024

Fisheries Management

**POLICY ON REGULATORY PROCESS**

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**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS:**

This policy directive supersedes *Policy on Regulatory Process, NMFS PD 30-102*. The initial directive was put into effect on February 1, 2006. This policy directive is revised to reflect NMFS' goals under the regulatory reform agenda executive orders (E.O. 13777 – Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda & E.O. 13771 – Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs). This policy directive was renumbered from 30-102 to 01-123. (Marquez, March 2019)

I. Introduction

NMFS' many obligations under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the Marine Mammal Protection Act, the Endangered Species Act, and other federal statutes and executive orders, require the development and issuance of regulations.

II. Objective

As stewards of the marine environment and servants to the American people, it is our duty to provide regulations that are correct, efficacious, complete, and as clearly stated as possible, while also ensuring regulations do not place unnecessary regulatory burdens on the American people.

III. Authorities and Responsibilities

NMFS will comply with the Administrative Procedure Act, Federal Advisory Committee Act, and other statutes, executive orders, and inter-agency regulations that

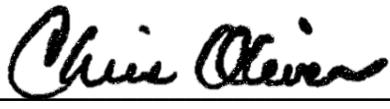
address how public policies and regulations are to be developed, reviewed, and prepared for publication and disseminated. Internal procedures directing how regulations and policies are reviewed and forwarded for clearance will be developed and followed to ensure efficiency, consistency, and the minimization of controversy and surprises. Such procedures will assist NMFS in identifying outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective regulations for repeal, replacement, or modification, consistent with applicable law.

IV. Measuring Effectiveness

Internal procedures will be reviewed for their currency and relevance as needed.

V. References

Procedural directives will be issued to implement this policy as needed.

Signed  \_\_\_\_\_ 4/8/2019  
Chris Oliver Date  
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries