

TABLE 2—2021 STUDY FLEET PROGRAM BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE COLLECTION NEEDS—Continued

Species	Stock area *	Gear types #	Collection frequency	Individual fish per collection period	Maximum weight allowed per trip	Maximum allowance
Winter Flounder .....	GOM, GB, SNE	OTF, DRS .....	Monthly (Jan–Apr).	120 per week (40 from each stock area).	240 lb (109 kg)	3,840 lb (1,742 kg)
Yellowtail Flounder ....	GOM, GB, SNE	OTF, DRS .....	Monthly (Jan–Apr).	120 per week (40 from each stock area).	135 lb (61 kg) ...	2,160 lb (980 kg)
American Plaice .....	Any Area .....	OTF .....	Monthly (May–Apr).	100 per month .....	300 lb (136 kg)	5,760 lb (2,613 kg)
Atlantic Mackerel .....	SNE .....	OTM, OTF Jig	Monthly (Jan–Jun).	300 per trip .....	300 lb (136 kg)	1,800 lb (816 kg)
Shortfin Squid .....	Any Area .....	OTM, OTF .....	Monthly (Dec–Mar).	30 per month .....	15 lb (7 kg) .....	60 lb (27 kg)
Summer Flounder .....	Any Area .....	OTF .....	Opportunistic .....	Maximum 5 per trip ....	65 lb (29 kg) ....	650 lb (295 kg)
Black Sea Bass .....	Any Area .....	OTF .....	Opportunistic .....	Maximum 5 per trip ....	22 lb (10 kg) ....	220 lb (100 kg)
Scup .....	Any Area .....	OTM, OTF .....	Opportunistic .....	Maximum 5 per trip ....	13 lb (6 kg) .....	130 lb (59 kg)
Haddock .....	Any Area .....	OTF .....	Opportunistic .....	Maximum 5 per trip ....	20 lb (9 kg) .....	200 lb (91 kg)
Bluefish .....	Any Area .....	OTF .....	Opportunistic .....	Maximum 5 per trip ....	61 lb (28 kg) ....	610 lb (277 kg)
Witch Flounder .....	Any Area .....	OTF .....	Opportunistic .....	Maximum 5 per trip ....	10 lb (5 kg) .....	100 lb (45 kg)
Yellowtail Flounder ....	Any Area .....	OTF .....	Opportunistic .....	Maximum 5 per trip ....	10 lb (5 kg) .....	100 lb (45 kg)
Atlantic Herring .....	Any Area .....	OTM, OTF, Jig	Opportunistic .....	Maximum 5 per trip ....	5 lb (2 kg) .....	50 lb (23 kg)
Atlantic Mackerel .....	Any Area .....	OTM, OTF, Jig	Opportunistic .....	Maximum 5 per trip ....	5 lb (2 kg) .....	50 lb (23 kg)
Butterfish .....	Any Area .....	OTM, OTF .....	Opportunistic .....	Maximum 5 per trip ....	5 lb (2 kg) .....	50 lb (23 kg)

\* Stock area abbreviations: Gulf of Maine (GOM); Georges Bank (GB); Southern New England (SNE).  
 # Gear abbreviations: Otter trawl (OTF); sea scallop dredge (DRS); otter trawl midwater (OTM).

All catch would be attributed to the appropriate commercial fishing quota. For a vessel fishing on a groundfish sector trip, all catch of groundfish stocks allocated to sectors would be deducted from the vessel’s sector’s annual catch entitlement (ACE). Once the ACE for a stock has been reached in a sector, vessels would no longer be allowed to fish in that stock area unless the sector acquired additional ACE for the stock in question. For common pool vessels, all groundfish catch would be counted toward the appropriate trimester total allowable catch (TAC). Common pool vessels would be exempt from the possession and trip limits listed in Table 1, but would still be subject to trimester TAC closures.

If approved, the Center may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the year. EFP modifications and extensions may be granted without further notice if they are deemed essential to facilitate completion of the proposed research and have minimal impact that does not change the scope of the initially approved EFP request. Any fishing activity conducted outside the scope of the exempted fishing activity would be prohibited.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: March 17, 2021.

**Jennifer M. Wallace,**  
 Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2021–05904 Filed 3–22–21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510–22–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Telecommunications and Information Administration**

**Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee Meeting**

**AGENCY:** National Telecommunications and Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a public meeting of the Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee (Committee). The Committee provides advice to the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) on spectrum management policy matters.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held April 8, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

**ADDRESSES:** This meeting will be conducted in an electronic format and open to the public via audio teleconference (866–880–0098 participant code 48261650). Public comments may be emailed to [arichardson@ntia.gov](mailto:arichardson@ntia.gov) or mailed to Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 4600, Washington, DC 20230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Antonio Richardson, Designated Federal Officer, at (202) 482–4156 or

[arichardson@ntia.gov](mailto:arichardson@ntia.gov); and/or visit NTIA’s website at <https://www.ntia.gov/category/csmac>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background:** The Committee provides advice to the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information on needed reforms to domestic spectrum policies and management in order to: License radio frequencies in a way that maximizes public benefits; keep wireless networks as open to innovation as possible; and make wireless services available to all Americans. See Charter at [https://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/csmac\\_charter\\_10.1.19.pdf](https://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/csmac_charter_10.1.19.pdf).

This Committee is subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2, and is consistent with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Act, 47 U.S.C. 904(b). The Committee functions solely as an advisory body in compliance with the FACA. For more information about the Committee visit: <http://www.ntia.gov/category/csmac>.

**Matters To Be Considered:** The Committee provides advice to the Assistant Secretary to assist in developing and maintaining spectrum management policies that enable the United States to maintain or strengthen its global leadership role in the introduction of communications technology, services, and innovation; thus expanding the economy, adding jobs, and increasing international trade, while at the same time providing for the

expansion of existing technologies and supporting the country's homeland security, national defense, and other critical needs of government missions. NTIA will post a detailed agenda on its website, <http://www.ntia.gov/category/csmac>, prior to the meeting. To the extent that the meeting time and agenda permit, any member of the public may address the Committee regarding the agenda items. See *Open Meeting and Public Participation Policy*, available at <http://www.ntia.gov/category/csmac>.

**Time and Date:** The meeting will be held on April 8, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. EDT. The meeting time and the agenda topics are subject to change. Please refer to NTIA's website, <http://www.ntia.gov/category/csmac>, for the most up-to-date meeting agenda and access information.

**Place:** This meeting will be conducted in an electronic format and open to the public via audio teleconference. Individuals requiring accommodations are asked to notify Mr. Richardson at (202) 482-4156 or [arichardson@ntia.gov](mailto:arichardson@ntia.gov) at least ten (10) business days before the meeting.

**Status:** Interested parties are invited to join the teleconference and to submit written comments to the Committee at any time before or after the meeting. Parties wishing to submit written comments for consideration by the Committee in advance of the meeting are strongly encouraged to submit their comments in Microsoft Word and/or PDF format via electronic mail to [arichardson@ntia.gov](mailto:arichardson@ntia.gov). Comments may also be sent via postal mail to Commerce Spectrum Management Advisory Committee, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 4600, Washington, DC 20230. It would be helpful if paper submissions also include a compact disc (CD) that contains the comments in one or both of the file formats specified above. CDs should be labeled with the name and organizational affiliation of the filer. Comments must be received five (5) business days before the scheduled meeting date in order to provide sufficient time for review. Comments received after this date will be distributed to the Committee, but may not be reviewed prior to the meeting. Additionally, please note that there may be a delay in the distribution of comments submitted via postal mail to Committee members.

**Records:** NTIA maintains records of all Committee proceedings. Committee records are available for public inspection at NTIA's Washington, DC office at the address above. Documents including the Committee's charter,

member list, agendas, minutes, and reports are available on NTIA's website at <http://www.ntia.gov/category/csmac>.

Dated: March 18, 2021.

**Kathy Smith,**

*Chief Counsel, National Telecommunications and Information Administration.*

[FR Doc. 2021-05976 Filed 3-22-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-60-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO-P-2021-0005]

#### **Administrative Updates to the General Requirements Bulletin for Admission to the Examination for Registration To Practice in Patent Cases Before the United States Patent and Trademark Office**

**AGENCY:** United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This request for comments seeks public input on proposed administrative updates to the General Requirements Bulletin for Admission to the Examination for Registration to Practice in Patent Cases Before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (GRB). There are three categories of technical and scientific qualifications that may typically make applicants eligible: Category A for specified bachelor's degrees, Category B for other bachelor's degrees with technical and scientific training, and Category C for practical engineering or scientific experience, which may be demonstrated by passing the Fundamentals of Engineering test. The United States Patent and Trademark Office (Office or USPTO) evaluates the criteria for applicants to sit for the registration examination on an ongoing basis. Based on this ongoing evaluation, the USPTO is looking into changing the criteria to: Add common Category B degrees to Category A, accept advanced degrees (*i.e.*, master's and doctoral degrees) under Category A, and accept a combination of core sciences under Category B, Options 2 and 4, so long as one of the core science courses has a lab component.

**DATES:** Comment Deadline Date: Written comments must be received on or before May 24, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** For reasons of government efficiency, comments must be submitted through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov). To submit comments via the portal, one should

enter docket number PTO-P-2021-0005 on the homepage and click "Search." The site will provide search results listing all documents associated with this docket. Commenters can find a reference to this notice and click on the "Comment" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach their comments. Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in portable document format (PDF) or DOCX format. Because comments will be made available for public inspection, information that the submitter does not desire to make public, such as an address or phone number, should not be included in the comments.

Visit the Federal eRulemaking Portal for additional instructions on providing comments via the portal. If electronic submission of and access to comments is not feasible due to a lack of access to a computer and/or the internet, please contact the USPTO using the contact information below for special instructions.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

William Covey, OED Director, by telephone at 571-272-4097 or by email at [oed@uspto.gov](mailto:oed@uspto.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Summary**

In this request for comments, the Office seeks feedback and information regarding proposed administrative updates to the GRB to the criteria of applicants who sit for the registration examination.

##### **Background**

The Director of the USPTO is given statutory authority to require a showing by patent practitioners that they possess "the necessary qualifications to render applicants or other persons valuable service, advice, and assistance in the presentation or prosecution of their applications or other business before the Office." 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2)(D). Thus, courts have determined that the USPTO Director bears primary responsibility for protecting the public from unqualified practitioners.

Pursuant to that responsibility, USPTO regulations provide that registration to practice in patent matters before the USPTO requires a practitioner to, *inter alia*, demonstrate possession of scientific and technical qualifications.<sup>1</sup> The role of patent

<sup>1</sup> Legal representation before Federal agencies is generally governed by the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 500, which effectively defers to the individual States as to who may act as an attorney. That statute, however, provides a specific exception for representation in patent matters before the USPTO.