

Subject: [Fwd: FND EFP]
From: Steve Branstetter <Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov>
Date: Mon, 01 Mar 2010 09:49:52 -0500
To: Peter Hood <Peter.Hood@noaa.gov>

----- Original Message -----
Subject: FND EFP
Date: Tue, 16 Feb 2010 16:04:27 -0600
From: pop.charter.net <kdicken9743@charter.net>
To: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov

I concur with both (2) of the items in the exempted fishing permits

Keith H. Dicken
9743 Poplar Point Road
Athens, AL 35611

--
Dr. Steve Branstetter
Gulf Branch Chief
NMFS Southeast Regional Office
St. Petersburg, FL 33764

[Fwd: FW: Haugen EFP]

Subject: [Fwd: FW: Haugen EFP]
From: Steve Branstetter <Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov>
Date: Mon, 01 Mar 2010 09:49:34 -0500
To: Peter Hood <Peter.Hood@noaa.gov>

----- Original Message -----
Subject: FW: Haugen EFP
Date: Wed, 17 Feb 2010 19:45:29 -0600
From: Bill <jbherke@cox.net>
To: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov

I left your first name off the first time so here goes again.

Bill Herke

From: Bill [<mailto:jbherke@cox.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 4:10 PM
To: Branstetter@noaa.gov
Subject: Haugen EFP

I am retired now, but I spent over 30 years gathering biological data on various fishery organisms. Scientists never have enough funding to gather all the data needed. Both requests appear to have the potential to gather meaningful information at minimal public expense. I think the permits should be granted.

William H. Herke, Ph.D.

AFS Certified Fishery Scientist, and

Fellow, American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists

--
Dr. Steve Branstetter
Gulf Branch Chief
NMFS Southeast Regional Office
St. Petersburg, FL 33764

[Fwd: "FND EFP"]

Subject: [Fwd: "FND EFP"]
From: Steve Branstetter <Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov>
Date: Mon, 01 Mar 2010 09:48:47 -0500
To: Peter Hood <Peter.Hood@noaa.gov>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: "FND EFP"
Date: Fri, 26 Feb 2010 04:44:27 -0800 (PST)
From: ronald birren <hernandobeachseafood@yahoo.com>
To: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov

This email is to speak on our behalf for the Gulf of Mexico Grouper trap Fisheries. My name is Ronald Birren. I am a second generation commercial fisherman in the Gulf of Mexico. I read the bulletin about the exempt fishing permits. I myself was a grouper fisherman for 20 years . During that time I used bandit rigs , fish traps and long-line gear. I have found the grouper fish traps to be the cleanest way to catch grouper. I have also found that the fish traps catch only catch approx. 2% gag grouper. I know that from hands on experience. They also have a very low mortality rate on small fish. The observer from NMFS told me at that time that we only had a 2% mortality rate on shallow water grouper. I would be extremely interested in grouper trap fishing once again. We could use the traps I already own at this time. because of my experience this could not only benefit me, but you as well . You already have documentation on my boat and trap from that time. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you with this matter. I would even be interested in trading my longline permit for grouper , for a fish trap permit.

Thank you for your time,
Sincerely,

Ronald Birren

--

Dr. Steve Branstetter
Gulf Branch Chief
NMFS Southeast Regional Office
St. Petersburg, FL 33764

[Fwd: Haugen EFP]

Subject: [Fwd: Haugen EFP]
From: Steve Branstetter <Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov>
Date: Thu, 04 Mar 2010 15:11:02 -0500
To: Peter Hood <Peter.Hood@noaa.gov>

----- Original Message -----
Subject: Haugen EFP
Date: Thu, 04 Mar 2010 14:58:39 -0500 (EST)
From: GJabd@aol.com
To: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov

Steve I believe Mr. Haugen , should build the NMFS 50 traps and lease his quota to NMFS and or fish them while NMFS observers ,scientist and data collectors are on board to maintain a true fishery dependent data set that can be used to truly evaluate the success and or failure of these traps to work as advertised. I have sat through a 2 hr presentation from Mr Haugen and these traps do show promise ,especially in the area of turtle interaction and by-catch. However traps have a bad name some of it well deserved and it would be very important for the testing to have peer review validity to it. Traps can be easily manipulated to change sizes of openings and that would definitely have to be addressed Thanks Capt Gary Jarvis.

--
Dr. Steve Branstetter
Gulf Branch Chief
NMFS Southeast Regional Office
St. Petersburg, FL 33764

Subject: Fwd: Haugen EFP
From: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov
Date: Sun, 07 Mar 2010 16:24:03 -0500
To: Peter Hood <Peter.Hood@noaa.gov>

not sure how this differs from the first.....

Subject: Haugen EFP
From: John Schmidt <gom_fishing@tampabay.rr.com>
Date: Sun, 07 Mar 2010 09:54:07 -0500
To: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov

Dear Gulf Council:

I urge you to approve Thomas Haugen's application for exempted permit.

This issue has been substantially politicized by those that want the commercial fishery to fail. But there is a great amount of potential here that cannot be ignored.

Thomas is striving to find a system that is extremely selective and has reliable failsafe features. If this concept can be developed, it could be coupled with an electronic retrieval system to eliminate barotrauma, and bycatch mortality would be near zero. The science suggests that it can, and the fishermen want the cleanest fishery possible in the Gulf of Mexico. There is nothing else out there that has this potential.

This is a no risk proposition. If the device doesn't work, nobody would promote it and the Gulf Council would not accept it. If it does work, the industry would work with Law Enforcement and the Gulf Council to devise a control system to assure that the gear is a certain benefit to the fishery.

Ongoing improvement is essential for fishing just like every industry. Improvement requires experimentation and new ideas, which sometime lead to breakthroughs. We need more initiatives like this, not less.

Please approve this experiment so that it or some offspring of it may lead to a better fishery.

Respectfully,

John Schmidt

Palm Harbor, Florida
727-403-6281

Haugen EFP.eml	Content-Type: message/rfc822 Content-Encoding: 7bit
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Subject: Fwd: Recall: Haugen EFP
From: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov
Date: Sun, 07 Mar 2010 16:23:30 -0500
To: Peter Hood <Peter.Hood@noaa.gov>

Subject: Recall: Haugen EFP
From: John Schmidt <gom_fishing@tampabay.rr.com>
Date: Sun, 07 Mar 2010 09:53:44 -0500
To: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov

John Schmidt would like to recall the message, "Haugen EFP".

Recall: Haugen EFP.eml	Content-Type: message/rfc822 Content-Encoding: 7bit
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winmail.dat	Content-Type: application/ms-tnef Content-Encoding: base64
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Subject: Fwd: Haugen EFP
From: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov
Date: Sun, 07 Mar 2010 16:23:08 -0500
To: Peter Hood <Peter.Hood@noaa.gov>

Subject: Haugen EFP
From: John Schmidt <gom_fishing@tampabay.rr.com>
Date: Sun, 07 Mar 2010 09:47:22 -0500
To: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov

Dear Gulf Council:

I urge you to approve Thomas Haugen's application for exempted permit.

This issue has been substantially politicized by those that want the commercial fishery to fail. But there is a great amount of potential here that cannot be ignored.

Thomas is striving to find a system that is extremely selective and has reliable failsafe features. If this concept can be developed, it could be coupled with an electronic retrieval system to eliminate barotrauma, and bycatch mortality would be near zero. The science suggests that it can, and the fishermen want the cleanest fishery possible in the Gulf of Mexico. There is nothing else out there that has this potential.

This is a no risk proposition. If the device doesn't work, nobody would promote it and the Gulf Council would not accept it. If it does work, the industry would work with Law Enforcement and the Gulf Council to devise a control system to assure that the gear is a certain benefit to the fishery.

Ongoing improvement is essential for fishing just like every industry. Improvement requires experimentation and new ideas, which sometime lead to breakthroughs. We need more initiatives like this, not less.

Please approve this experiment so that it or some offspring of it may lead to a better fishery.

Respectfully,

John Schmidt

Palm Harbor, Florida

Haugen EFP.eml	Content-Type: message/rfc822
	Content-Encoding: 7bit

Subject: Fwd: Haugen EFP
From: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov
Date: Sun, 07 Mar 2010 22:20:57 -0500
To: Peter Hood <Peter.Hood@noaa.gov>

Subject: Haugen EFP
From: David Camburn <dcamburn@tampabay.rr.com>
Date: Sun, 07 Mar 2010 18:04:02 -0500
To: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov

Dear Gulf Council:

I urge you to approve Thomas Haugen's application for exempted permit. This issue has been substantially politicized by those that want the commercial fishery to fail. But there is a great deal of potential here that cannot be ignored.

Thomas is striving to find a system that is extremely selective and also has reliable failsafe features. If this concept can be developed, it could be added to an electronic retrieval system to eliminate barotrauma, and bycatch mortality would be near zero.

Fishermen want the cleanest fishery possible in the Gulf of Mexico. There is nothing else out there that has this potential.

If the device doesn't work, nobody would promote it and the Gulf Council wouldn't accept it. If it does work, the industry would work with law enforcement and the council to devise a control to assure that the gear is a benefit to the fishery.

Please approve this experiment so that it or some offspring of it may lead to a better fishery.

Very truly yours,

David R. Camburn
Clearwater, Florida
727-736-2877

Haugen EFP.eml	Content-Type: message/rfc822 Content-Encoding: 7bit
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Subject: Fwd: Haugen EFP
From: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov
Date: Sun, 07 Mar 2010 22:21:13 -0500
To: Peter Hood <Peter.Hood@noaa.gov>

Subject: Haugen EFP
From: Donna Schmidt <djschmidt1@mac.com>
Date: Sun, 07 Mar 2010 19:12:17 -0500
To: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov

Dear Gulf Council:

I urge you to approve Thomas Haugen's application for exempted permit.

This issue has been substantially politicized by those that want the commercial fishery to fail. But there is a great amount of potential here that cannot be ignored.

Thomas is striving to find a system that is extremely selective and has reliable failsafe features. If this concept can be developed, it could be coupled with an electronic retrieval system to eliminate barotrauma, and bycatch mortality would be near zero. The science suggests that it can, and the fishermen want the cleanest fishery possible in the Gulf of Mexico. There is nothing else out there that has this potential.

This is a no risk proposition. If the device doesn't work, nobody would promote it and the Gulf Council would not accept it. If it does work, the industry would work with Law Enforcement and the Gulf Council to devise a control system to assure that the gear is a certain benefit to the fishery.

Ongoing improvement is essential for fishing just like every industry. Improvement requires experimentation and new ideas, which sometime lead to breakthroughs. We need more initiatives like this, not less.

Please approve this experiment so that it or some offspring of it may lead to a better fishery.

Respectfully,

Donna Schmidt
Safety Harbor, Florida

Haugen EFP.eml	Content-Type: message/rfc822 Content-Encoding: 7bit
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Subject: Fwd: yes -- Haugen EFP
From: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov
Date: Sun, 07 Mar 2010 22:21:30 -0500
To: Peter Hood <Peter.Hood@noaa.gov>

Subject: yes -- Haugen EFP
From: Thomas Haugen <littledipperboats@yahoo.com>
Date: Sun, 07 Mar 2010 18:13:51 -0800 (PST)
To: Steve Branstetter <Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov>

- 1.the Gulf Council has always sided with science.
- 2.I have had a long career fishing in the Gulf using many different types of gears. I have never had a violation in 30 plus years. I would not jeopardize my reputation now or ever.
- 3.I am not asking for a change of policy. I will use my own IFQ allocations and obey all the laws that apply to my industry.
- 4.I would like to re-enter the World Wildlife Fund's smart gear competition this year and need data to prove bycatch reduction with this totally new type of fishing gear.
- 5.I believe , being the inventor , and logging more, on the water hours, (years) fishing than anyone I know, that I am the best qualified person to develop an EFD prototype and produce video and data that can justify a CRP.

In order to do this I need the Thomas Haugen EFP.

Thank you
Tom Haugen

yes -- Haugen EFP.eml	Content-Type: message/rfc822 Content-Encoding: 7bit
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Subject: [Fwd: Haugen EFP]
From: Steve Branstetter <Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov>
Date: Mon, 08 Mar 2010 07:36:16 -0500
To: Peter Hood <Peter.Hood@noaa.gov>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Haugen EFP
Date: Sun, 07 Mar 2010 21:46:25 -0700
From: Capt. Jim Zurbrick <jim@jollyrogersii.com>
To: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov

----- Original Message -----

Subject: exempted permits Thomas Haugen
From: "patty Zurbrick" <zurbrick@att.net>
Date: Sun, March 07, 2010 11:33 pm
To: "Capt. Jim Zurbrick" <jim@jollyrogersii.com>

3-6-2010

To: NOAA/NMFS
From: James Zurbrick
jim@jollyrogersii.com

To Whom It May Concern:

Hope this correspondence finds everyone well, these are trying times for all. In all the years I have been involved with fishery management I have always been bewildered by how long it takes to end in the same place if common sense was used from the get-go. I can list many issues that have been clouded with "special interests," regulators egos, and political correctness. With that said let me address an application for an exempted fishing permit.

A commercial fisher, Thomas Haugen, has requested permission to experiment with a device that could be one of the most discriminate harvesting methods the Gulf of Mexico has seen. Imagine; maybe this gear could have the lowest discard mortality, least amount of by-catch, species selective, and totally biodegradable if lost. What you say, how can there even be such a gear type without it already being used, how could it be all that has been mentioned.

The fact of the matter is that none of the above has been proven, in fact, if you listen to the naysayers they will dwell on the fishing traps of the past and tout all the negatives which I agree there are many. But its not about the past, it's the future we need to examine, the need to cut by-catch of overfished species and workable enforcement which this device is in my opinion the easiest to enforce. Mr. Haugen will be tracked at all times with existing VMS and intercepts are never more than a few hours away which would make it impossible to pull illegal gear within that time frame.

Hopefully a fishing gear that placed within the top five for new innovative "Green Gear" will deserve a chance to prove its merits and not be derailed by anti-commercial interests solely on bias. This application further shows the initiative of the Commercial sector to stay ahead of status-quo and continue to become even more

[Fwd: Haugen EFP]

accountable as we work towards a sustainable level of harvest.

Sincerely,

James Zurbrick
PO 808 Steinhatchee FL 32359
352-356-1713 jim@jollyrogersii.com

--
Dr. Steve Branstetter
Gulf Branch Chief
NMFS Southeast Regional Office
St. Petersburg, FL 33764

Thomas Haugen.doc	Content-Type: application/msword
	Content-Encoding: base64

Subject: Thomas Haugen, EFP
From: Thorneil Haugen <thorneilhaugen@yahoo.com>
Date: Mon, 08 Mar 2010 06:37:48 -0800 (PST)
To: Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov, Peter.Hood@noaa.gov
CC: Tom Haugen <littledipperboats@yahoo.com>

Dear Mr Branstetter,

Please find attached my letter of support for Thomas Haugen's EFP. Please forward a copy to the Gulf Council members and include the letter in the official record.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Thorneil Haugen

Letter 3-8-2010.wps	Content-Type: application/octet-stream Content-Encoding: base64
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smartgear winner.tif	Content-Type: application/octet-stream Content-Encoding: base64
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*Attachments same as text in second email
from Mr. Haugen*

Subject: Thomas Haugen request for EFP
From: Thorneil Haugen <thorneilhaugen@yahoo.com>
Date: Mon, 08 Mar 2010 06:46:47 -0800 (PST)
To: Peter Hood <Peter.Hood@noaa.gov>

Peter.Hood@noaa.gov; Steve.Branstetter@noaa.gov

RE: Thomas Haugen EFP

Dear Chairman Crabtree and Gulf Council members,

I respectfully request your approval of Thomas Haugen's request for an exempted fishing gear permit.

The Council has a strong record in support of research and has based their decisions on science. This permit is for scientific research and is not a change in Council policy about the general use of any gear. The Council has routinely approved such permits in the past, and I trust the Council to follow their policy of innovation and scientific research.

I fully support this request to test a completely new type of gear. This gear has the potential to increase fish stocks by excluding the large breeding fish, while permitting the smaller, juveniles to escape. This design is the only gear that will prevent turtle mortality and limit mammal interaction.

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF), while a conservation organization, does recognize that the world will continue to fish for food. They realize there is a need for innovation and education to encourage people to fish with the most effective, sustainable method that will produce the least amount of waste and bycatch possible. The WWF has put their money where their mouth is by having established a program to encourage innovation in gear designed to reduce bycatch. This is the Smartgear competition that Mr. Haugen entered last year.

The WWF included Mr. Haugen's design in the final round of 10 last year. The Judges requested Mr. Haugen supply data on the bycatch reduction. (Email Sept 19, 2009 from Mike Osmond, Snr Program Officer, Fisheries Program, WWF; copy attached)

Approval of this request will allow Mr. Haugen to obtain the data necessary to reenter the Smartgear competition this year. I would expect the Council to support such research and adopt a resolution in support of Mr. Haugen when he reenters the competition.

In addition, I support this request because the applicant will fund this study by using his own IFQs. These fish will be caught one way or another. Why not use the fish as part of a research effort. I believe taxpayers will be happy that the applicant is funding the initial study without tax dollars.

I support this request because of its limited nature. This request is consistent with the applicant's previous fishing efforts. This permit will not increase the number of boats or amount of gear from what the applicant has used previously. In order to compare the largest number of data samples, it would be desirable for the Council to allow the internal consistency between what the applicant is requesting and what he has used to fish with in the past.

Finally, the applicant has a thirty-year reputation of honorable, legal fishing in the eastern Gulf of Mexico. The Council could not find a more honest, knowledgeable person to conduct this study.

Once again, I strongly urge the Council to approve this request.

Sincerely,
Thorneil and Julie Haugen
Homosassa, Fl
352-392-4757

Forwarded Message ---

From: "Osmond, Michael" <Michael.Osmond@wwfus.org> **To:** Thomas Haugen
<littledipperboats@yahoo.com> **Sent:** Saturday, September 19, 2009 5:02:09 PM **Subject:** RE:
SmartGear competition

Thomas,

It will take me a few days to get the winners up on the web site but I have attached the fact sheets for the winners. I can tell you that your idea made it into the final round of 10 ideas, but the judges felt that they would have liked to have seen some data results to quantify its effectiveness on bycatch reduction.

Please keep in touch and let me know how it goes with developing your idea.

Mike

Mike Osmond
Snr Program Officer Fisheries Program
World Wildlife Fund
171 Forest Ave
Palo Alto CA 94301
Ph 650 323 3506 michael.osmond@wwfus.org

From: Thomas Haugen (littledipperboats@yahoo.com) Sent: Friday, September 18, 2009 7:17 AM
To: Osmond, Michael
Subject: Re: SmartGear competition

Mike,

Where can I find the announcement of the winners? Tom

I support The Thomas Haugen E.F.D
 we need to look for better ways
 to harvest fish with lower by catch

Jeremiah Martin

Jeremiah Martin

137 Kensey RD

459-5380
 ST. MARKS FL.
 32355

ATT Potter
 Hood

I Leigha Shiray am a
~~strong~~ believer in the
Tom Høgen E.F.P.

Science Research is an
important part of the future
of the sea food industry,

Leigha Cheyenne Shiray
Leigha Cheyenne Shiray

21 Montgomery Dr.
Crawfordville FL 32327

Subject: Haugen--EFP
From: Paula Bell <paulajanebell@hotmail.com>
Date: Mon, 08 Mar 2010 16:50:06 -0500
To: Peter.Hood@noaa.gov

Dear Council Members:

You have received an application for an exempted fishing permit (EFP) from Tom Haugen. Mr. Haugen has requested this EFP in order to study and collect data for an excluding fishing device (EFD) he developed.

This device was entered into the World Wildlife Federation's Smart Gear Competition in 2009 where it placed in the top 10 of all new innovated ideas in the world. The Smart Gear Competition "brings together the fishing industry, research institutes, universities, and government, to inspire and reward practical, innovative fishing gear designs that reduce bycatch". WWF believes the "most pressing threat to marine life requires a wide-ranging, multidisciplinary response, and WWF believes the Smart Gear competition will help catalyze that response by encouraging creative thinkers everywhere to share their ideas." Mr. Haugen is one of those creative thinkers and the Council should embrace his idea. Once the study is complete, Mr. Haugen will be able to re-enter this device in the competition, where it could place higher.

Mr. Haugen is a man of integrity and I firmly believe he will conduct the study with great honesty. I urge you to approve his application and allow him to study this new, innovated fishing gear.

Sincerely,

Paula Bell
St. Marks, Florida
850/879-8671

i'm EMAILING FOR THE GREATER GOOD
[Join me](#)