



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office

263 13th Avenue South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

F/SER25: NM

Mr. Frank Young
Dynasty Marine Associates, Inc.
10602 7th Ave., Gulf
Marathon, Florida 33050

MAY 13 2013

RECEIVED

MAY 17 2013

South Atlantic Fishery
Management Council

Dear Mr. Young:

This letter is to inform you that your request for an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) under 50 C.F.R. § 600.745(b), dated January 7, 2013, has not been granted because it does not fit within any of the reasons for which an EFP may be issued. 50 C.F.R. § 600.745 (b)(1). In your EFP request you asked to collect several federally managed species (including under-sized fish) from federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic, after the quotas had been met for these species and commercial harvest prohibited. I note that you have federal commercial fishing permits in both the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

The EFP application was reviewed by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council on February 6, 2013, and by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council on March 8, 2013. Both Councils determined that the EFP request constituted commercial fishing that is not appropriate for an EFP, and recommended that the EFP not be approved by the National Marine Fisheries Service Regional Administrator. The Councils suggested that the EFP request should come from an aquarium or research facility as is appropriate for an EFP. The aquarium or research facility could enlist the services of Dynasty Marine Associates, Inc., for the fish collections, if the EFP was approved. While the EFP, if granted, would allow aquariums and research facilities to purchase fish from Dynasty Marine Associates, Inc., for educational display, granting the EFP directly to Dynasty Marine Associates, Inc., would not be consistent with the regulations for the issuance of an EFP.

I agree with the recommendation of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils. Therefore, in accordance with 50 C.F.R. § 600.745 (b)(3)(i), this letter notifies you that your application has failed to demonstrate a valid justification for the permit and does not warrant further consideration at this time. I thank you for your interest and involvement in conserving our natural resources. If you have any questions, please contact Nikhil Mehta at 727-824-5305.

Sincerely,

Roy E. Crabtree, Ph.D.
Regional Administrator

