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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Bureau of Commercial Fisheries

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REGULATIONS ANNOUNCED FOR COMMERCIAL FISHERIES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Regulations covering the use of research and development funds under the Commercial Fisheries Research and Development Act of 1964 were announced today by the Department of the Interior.

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall cited the Act as one of the most significant pieces of fisheries legislation since the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956. The new legislation authorizes the Secretary to assist the States in carrying out projects in research and development of the commercial fisheries resources of the Nation.

The Act, signed by President Johnson on May 20, authorizes appropriation of $5,COO,000 annually for five years. These funds would be apportioned to the States for commercial fisheries research and development projects on the basis of the value of the commercial fishing industry in each State. The States will be required to provide matching funds equal to at least 25 percent of the project costs.

The law also authorizes the appropriation of $100,000 annually for use by the States in developing new commercial fisheries.

A third section of the Act authorizes the Secretary to assist States affected if he determines there is a commercial fisheries failure due to a resource disaster arising from natural or undetermined causes. This part of the legislation has been funded and the $400,000 available is being used to alleviate the situation in the Great Lakes chub fishing following serious economic losses in 1963.

Regulations published in the Federal Register Saturday, October 3, 1964 apply to sections 4 (a), 4 (b) and 4 (c) of the Act. Regulations covering section 4 (b) were first promulgated on August 27, but were repeated in the Federal Register of October 3 for the convenience of all concerned.

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