This guidance represents the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA’s) current thinking on this topic. It does not create or confer any rights for or on any person and does not operate to bind FDA or the public. You can use an alternative approach if the approach satisfies the requirements of the applicable statutes and regulations. If you want to discuss an alternative approach, contact the FDA staff responsible for implementing this guidance. If you cannot identify the appropriate FDA staff, call the telephone number listed on the title page of this guidance.

As with previous editions of the “Fish and Fishery Products Hazards and Controls Guidance,” this fourth edition does not contain advice on Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) controls for methylmercury, except where federal, state, local, or foreign authorities close certain waters to commercial harvesting as described in Chapter 9.