

requirements that address registered inspection of these smaller cargo tank motor vehicles that are used exclusively for transporting flammable liquid petroleum fuels. These proposals are aimed at reducing regulatory burdens on persons subject to the HMR where costs may be disproportionate to safety benefits.

A number of interested parties have requested additional time for them to more fully consider these proposals. Farmers, farm suppliers, and agricultural transporters state that they are presently occupied with activities relating to planting this year's crop, and that they need an extension of the comment period so that they may participate in this important rulemaking. Because these parties' input to this rulemaking would be valuable, RSPA is extending the comment period for 60 days, until August 16, 1996.

Issued in Washington, DC, on May 14, 1996, under authority delegated in 49 CFR part 106, Appendix A.

Alan I. Roberts,

*Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.*

[FR Doc. 96-12454 Filed 5-16-96; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 675

[Docket No. 960129019-6019-01; I.D. 051396D]

#### Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area; Pacific Cod by Vessels Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for Pacific cod by vessels using hook-and-line gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI). This action is necessary because the second seasonal Pacific halibut bycatch mortality allowance apportioned to the Pacific cod hook-and-line fishery in the BSAI has been reached.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), May 15, 1996, until 12 midnight, A.l.t., December 31, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mary Furuness, 907-586-7228.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The groundfish fishery in the BSAI exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at 50 CFR parts 620 and 675.

The second seasonal Pacific halibut bycatch mortality allowance for the hook-and-line Pacific cod fishery, which is defined at § 675.21(b)(2)(ii)(A), is 40 metric tons (61 FR 4311, February 5, 1996).

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, has determined, in accordance with § 675.21(d), that the second seasonal Pacific halibut bycatch mortality allowance for the Pacific cod hook-and-line fishery in the BSAI has been reached. Therefore, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for Pacific cod by vessels using hook-and-line gear in the BSAI.

Maximum retainable bycatch amounts for applicable gear types may be found in the regulations at § 675.20(h).

#### Classification

This action is taken under § 675.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: May 13, 1996.

Donald J. Leedy,

*Acting Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 96-12445 Filed 5-14-96; 3:07 pm]

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#### 50 CFR Part 675

[Docket No. 960129019-6091-01; I.D. 051396E]

#### Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area; Other Nontrawl Fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is closing the directed fishery for groundfish in the other nontrawl fishery in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the 1996 bycatch

allowance of Pacific halibut apportioned to the other nontrawl fishery category in the BSAI.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), May 15, 1996, until 12 midnight, A.l.t., December 31, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Andrew Smoker, 907-586-7228.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The groundfish fishery in the BSAI exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at 50 CFR parts 620 and 675.

The 1996 bycatch allowance of Pacific halibut apportioned to the other nontrawl fishery category, which is defined at § 675.21(b)(2)(ii)(E), was established by the Final 1996 Harvest Specifications of Groundfish (61 FR 4311, February 5, 1996) as 100 metric tons.

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, has determined, in accordance with § 675.21(d), that the 1996 bycatch allowance of Pacific halibut apportioned to the other nontrawl fishery category in the BSAI has been reached. Therefore, NMFS is closing the directed fishery for groundfish in the other nontrawl fishery category in the BSAI.

Maximum retainable bycatch amounts for applicable gear types may be found in the regulations at § 675.20(h).

#### Classification

This action is taken under § 675.21 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: May 13, 1996.

Donald J. Leedy,

*Acting Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 96-12446 Filed 5-14-96; 3:07 pm]

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#### 50 CFR Part 675

[Docket No. 960129019-6091-01; I.D. 050396A]

#### Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area; Reserve Apportionment

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Apportionment of reserve.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is apportioning reserve to certain target species in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI). This action is necessary to allow for ongoing harvest and account for previous harvest of the total allowable catch (TAC). It is intended to promote the goals and objectives of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), May 16, 1996, until 12 midnight, A.l.t., December 31, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Andrew N. Smoker, 907-586-7228.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The groundfish fishery in the U.S. BSAI exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at 50 CFR parts 620 and 675.

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, has determined that the initial TACs specified for pollock in the Bering Sea subarea; for pollock in the Aleutian Islands subarea; for Atka mackerel in the combined Eastern Aleutian District and Bering Sea subarea; for Pacific ocean perch in the Eastern Aleutian District; for Atka mackerel and Pacific ocean perch in the Central and Western Aleutian Districts; and for Pacific cod, arrowtooth flounder, and the "other

species" category in the BSAI; need to be supplemented from the non-specific reserve in order to continue operations and account for prior harvest.

Therefore, in accordance with § 675.20(b), NMFS is apportioning from the reserve to TACs for the following species: (1) for the Bering Sea subarea - 89,250 metric tons (mt) to pollock, (2) for the Aleutian Islands subarea - 2,670 mt to pollock, (3) for the combined Eastern Aleutian District and Bering Sea subarea - 4,005 mt to Atka mackerel; (4) for the Eastern Aleutian District - 454 mt to Pacific ocean perch; (6) for the Central Aleutian District - 5,040 mt to Atka mackerel, 454 mt to Pacific ocean perch; (7) for the Western Aleutian District - 6,879 mt to Atka mackerel; 907 mt to Pacific ocean perch and (6) for the BSAI - 40,500 mt to Pacific cod, 1,350 mt to arrowtooth flounder, and 3,019 mt to the "other species" category.

These apportionments are consistent with § 675.20(a)(2)(i) and do not result in overfishing of a target species or the "other species" category because the revised TACs are equal to or less than specifications of acceptable biological catch.

Pursuant to § 675.20(a)(3)(i), the apportionments of pollock are allocated between the inshore and offshore components:

(1) for the Bering Sea subarea - 31,238 mt to vessels catching pollock for processing by the inshore component and 58,012 mt to vessels catching pollock for processing by the offshore component; (2) for the Aleutian Islands subarea - 935 mt to vessels catching pollock for processing by the inshore component and 1,735 mt to vessels

catching pollock for processing by the offshore component.

Pursuant to § 675.20(a)(3)(iv), the apportionment of the BSAI Pacific cod TAC is allocated 810 mt to vessels using jig gear, 17,820 mt to vessels using hook-and-line or pot gear, and 21,870 mt to vessels using trawl gear.

In accordance with the 1996 final specifications for the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (61 FR 4311, February 5, 1996), the allocation to hook-and-line/pot gear will result in seasonal apportionments as follows: for the period January 1 through

April 30 - 94,118 mt, for the period May 1 through August 31 - 21,176 mt, and for the period September 1 through December 31 - 3,506 mt.

This apportionment was proposed in the Federal Register (61 FR 16085, April 11, 1996) requesting public comment. The public comment period ended on April 25, 1996, and no comments were received.

#### Classification

This action is taken under 50 CFR 675.20 and is in compliance with E.O. 12866.

#### List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 675

Fish, Fisheries, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

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

Dated: May 10, 1996.

Richard H. Schaefer,  
Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 96-12448 Filed 5-16-96; 8:45 am]

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