

supersede the corresponding civil penalty amounts listed in title 49, United States Code.

What are the types of violations and maximum monetary penalties?

(a) *Violations of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs).*

(1) *Recordkeeping.* A person or entity that fails to prepare or maintain a record required by Parts 385 and 390–399 of this subchapter, or prepares or maintains a required record that is incomplete, inaccurate, or false, is subject to a maximum civil penalty of \$550 for each day the violation continues, up to \$2,750.

(2) *Serious Pattern of safety violations.* These violations of Parts 385 and 390–399 of this subchapter constitute a middle range of violations. They do not include noncompliance with recordkeeping requirements, while substantial health or safety violations are subject to heavier civil penalties. Serious patterns of safety violations are subject to a maximum civil penalty of \$1,100 for each violation in a pattern, up to a maximum of \$11,000 for each pattern.

(3) *Substantial Health or Safety Violations.* These are violations of Parts 385 and 390–399 of this subchapter which could reasonably lead to, or have resulted in, serious personal injury or death. Substantial health or safety violations are subject to a maximum civil penalty of \$11,000, provided the driver's actions constituted gross negligence or reckless disregard for safety.

(4) *Non-recordkeeping violations by drivers.* A driver who violates Parts 385 or 390–399 of this subchapter, except a recordkeeping requirement, is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,100, provided the driver's actions constituted gross negligence or reckless disregard for safety.

(5) *Violation of 49 CFR 392.5.* A driver placed out of service for 24 hours for violating the alcohol prohibitions of 49 CFR 392.5(a) or (b) who drives during that period is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$2,750 for each violation.

(b) *Commercial driver's license (CDL) violations.* Any person who violates 49 CFR Subparts B, C, E, F, G, or H is subject to a civil penalty of \$2,750.

(c) *Special penalties pertaining to violations of out-of-service orders by CDL-holders.* A CDL-holder who is convicted of violating an out-of-service order shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$1,100 nor more than \$2,750. An employer of a CDL-holder who knowingly allows, requires, permits, or authorizes that employee to operate a CMV during any period in which the CDL-holder is subject to an out-of-service order, is subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$2,750 or more than \$11,000.

(d) *Financial responsibility violations.* A motor carrier that fails to maintain the levels of financial responsibility prescribed by Part 387 of this subchapter is subject to a maximum penalty of \$11,000 for each violation. Each day of a continuing violation constitutes a separate offense.

(e) *Violations of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMRs).* This paragraph applies to violations by motor carriers, drivers,

shippers and other persons who transport hazardous materials on the highway in commercial motor vehicles or cause hazardous materials to be so transported.

(1) All knowing violations of 49 U.S.C. chapter 51 or orders or regulations issued under the authority of that chapter applicable to the transportation or shipment of hazardous materials by commercial motor vehicle on highways are subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$250 and not more than \$27,500 for each violation. Each day of a continuing violation constitutes a separate offense.

(2) All knowing violations of 49 U.S.C. chapter 51 or orders, regulations, or exemptions issued under the authority of that chapter applicable to the manufacture, fabrication, marking, maintenance, reconditioning, repair or testing of a packaging or container which is represented, marked, certified or sold as being qualified for use in the transportation or shipment of hazardous materials by commercial motor vehicle on highways, are subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$250 and not more than \$27,500 for each violation.

(3) Whenever regulations issued under the authority of 49 U.S.C. chapter 51 require compliance with the FMCSRs while transporting hazardous materials, any violations of the FMCSRs will be considered a violation of the HMRs and subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$250 and not more than \$27,500.

(f) *Operating with an unsatisfactory safety rating.* A motor carrier knowingly transporting hazardous materials in quantities requiring placarding, or passengers in a vehicle designed or used to transport more than 15 passengers, on the 46th or any subsequent day after receiving an unsatisfactory safety rating, is subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$250 and not more than \$27,500. Each day the transportation of hazardous materials continues constitutes a separate violation.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 971208295–7295–01; I.D. 030698D]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in the Eastern Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska

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

ACTION: Closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in the Eastern Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska

(GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the interim specification for pollock in this area.

DATES: Effective 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), March 9, 1998, until 1200 hrs, A.l.t., December 31, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas Pearson, 907–486-6919.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The interim specification of pollock total allowable catch (TAC) in the Eastern Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska was established by the Interim 1998 Harvest Specifications (62 FR 65622, December 15, 1997) as 2,200 metric tons (mt), determined in accordance with § 679.20(c)(2)(i).

In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(i), the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), has determined that the 1998 interim specification of pollock in the Eastern Regulatory Area will be reached. Therefore, the Regional Administrator is establishing a directed fishing allowance of 2,100 mt, and is setting aside the remaining 100 mt as bycatch to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries. In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(iii), the Regional Administrator finds that this directed fishing allowance will soon be reached. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in the Eastern Regulatory Area.

Maximum retainable bycatch amounts for applicable gear types may be found in the regulations at § 679.20(e) and (f).

Classification

This action is required by § 679.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

This action responds to the interim TAC limitations and other restrictions on the fisheries established in the interim 1998 harvest specifications for groundfish for the GOA. It must be implemented immediately to prevent overharvesting the 1998 interim TAC of pollock in the Eastern Regulatory Area of the GOA. A delay in the effective date is impracticable and contrary to public interest. Further delay would only result in overharvest. NMFS finds for good cause that the implementation of this

action should not be delayed for 30 days. Accordingly, under 5 U.S.C. 553(d), a delay in the effective date is hereby waived.

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

Dated: March 9, 1998.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 971208295-7295-01; I.D. 030998A]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska

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 catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the interim specification for Pacific cod by vessels

catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in this area.

DATES: Effective 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), March 10, 1998, until 2400 hrs, A.l.t., December 31, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas Pearson, 907-486-6919.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The interim specification of Pacific cod total allowable catch (TAC) for processing by the inshore component in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA was established by the Interim 1998 Harvest Specifications (62 FR 65622, December 15, 1997) as 7,864 metric tons (mt), determined in accordance with § 679.20(c)(2)(i).

In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(i), the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), has determined that the 1998 interim specification of Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA will be reached. Therefore, the Regional Administrator is establishing a directed fishing allowance of 7,564 mt, and is setting aside the remaining 300 mt as bycatch to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries. In accordance with

§ 679.20(d)(1)(iii), the Regional Administrator finds that this directed fishing allowance will soon be reached. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for Pacific cod by vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA.

Maximum retainable bycatch amounts for applicable gear types may be found in the regulations at § 679.20(e) and (f).

Classification

This action responds to the interim TAC limitations and other restrictions on the fisheries established in the interim 1998 harvest specifications for groundfish for the GOA. It must be implemented immediately to prevent overharvesting the 1998 interim TAC of Pacific cod allocated for processing by the inshore component in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA. A delay in the effective date is impracticable and contrary to public interest, and further delay would only result in overharvest. NMFS finds for good cause that the implementation of this action should not be delayed for 30 days. Accordingly, under 5 U.S.C. 553(d), a delay in the effective date is hereby waived.

This action is required by 50 CFR 679.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: March 10, 1998.

Gary C. Matlock,

Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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