

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ronald G. Rinaldo or Rebecca Lent, 301-713-2347; fax: 301-713-0596.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The final regulation that is the subject of this correction reduces the minimum number of days allowed for public comment on proposed adjustments to the annual quota from 45 to 30. In § 630.24, paragraph (d)(5) was revised to change the minimum number of days allowed for public comment.

Need for Correction

As published, the final regulation contains an error. In § 630.24, paragraph (d)(6) is referenced instead of paragraph (d)(5).

Correction of Publication

Accordingly, the publication on September 8, 1995, of the final regulation [I.D. 042495B] that is the subject of FR Doc. 95-22238 is corrected as follows:

§ 630.24 [Corrected]

On page 46778, in the second column, in amendatory instruction 5, line 2, "(d)(6)" is corrected to read "(d)(5)", and in the third column, line 15, "(6)" is corrected to read "(5)".

Dated: September 27, 1995.

Nancy Foster,

*Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 95-24606 Filed 10-3-95; 8:45 am]

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50 CFR Part 672

[Docket No. 950206041-5041-01; I.D. 092995A]

**Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska;
Sablefish in the Central Gulf of Alaska**

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

ACTION: Closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is prohibiting retention of sablefish by persons using trawl gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). NMFS is requiring that catches of sablefish in this area be treated in the same manner as prohibited species and discarded at sea with a minimum of injury. This action is necessary because the share of the sablefish total allowable catch (TAC) assigned to trawl gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA has been reached.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), October 5, 1995, until 12 midnight A.l.t., December 31, 1995.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Gulf of Alaska (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 672.

In accordance with § 672.24(c)(2), the share of the sablefish TAC assigned to trawl gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA was established by the final 1995 harvest specifications of groundfish (60 FR 8470, February 14, 1995), as 1,720 metric tons.

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, has determined, in accordance with § 672.24(c)(3)(ii), that the share of the sablefish TAC assigned to trawl gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA has been reached. Therefore, NMFS is requiring that further catches of sablefish by trawl gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA be treated as prohibited species in accordance with § 672.20(e).

Classification

This action is taken under 50 CFR 672.24 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: September 29, 1995.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 95-24697 Filed 9-29-95; 4:08 pm]

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50 CFR Part 672

[Docket No. 950509041-5041-01; I.D. 092895C]

**Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska;
Pollock in the Western Regulatory
Area**

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

ACTION: Inseason adjustment; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS issues an inseason adjustment closing the season for

pollock by vessels catching pollock for processing by the inshore component in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This adjustment is necessary to prevent the underharvest of pollock in the Western Regulatory Area.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 12 midnight A.l.t. October 1, 1995, until 12 midnight, A.l.t., December 31, 1995. Comments must be received at the following address no later than 4:30 p.m., A.l.t., October 16, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be sent to Ronald J. Berg, Chief, Fisheries Management Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802, Attn: Lori Gravel, or be delivered to the fourth floor of the Federal Building, 709 West 9th Street, Juneau, AK.

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

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 Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson Act). Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at 50 CFR parts 620 and 672.

As of September 16, 1995, 7,673 metric tons (mt) of pollock remain in the inshore allocation of the Western Regulatory Area pollock total allowable catch (TAC) specification. That amount would normally be available for harvest at 12 noon, A.l.t., October 1, 1995. Current information shows the catching capacity of vessels catching pollock for processing by the inshore component is in excess of 12,000 mt per day. In accordance with § 672.23 (e), directed fishing for pollock in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska is scheduled from 12 noon, A.l.t., October 1 until 12 midnight, A.l.t., December 31, 1995, or until the TAC is reached, whichever occurs first.

Section 672.23(b) specifies that the time of all openings and closures of fishing seasons, other than the beginning and end of the calendar fishing year, is 12:00 noon, A.l.t. Therefore, a fishery opening normally must be a minimum of 24 hours. The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, has determined that the remaining portion of the TAC allocated to the inshore component would be exceeded if a 24-hour fishery were allowed to occur. NMFS intends that the TAC should not be exceeded and will not allow a 24-hour directed fishery.

NMFS, in accordance with § 672.22(a)(1)(i), is adjusting the season for pollock by vessels catching pollock for processing by the inshore component in the Western Regulatory Area by allowing directed fishing for a 12-hour period from 12:00 noon, A.l.t., October 1, 1995, until 12:00 midnight, A.l.t., October 1, 1995. NMFS is taking this action to allow a controlled fishery to occur, thereby preventing the underharvest of the pollock TAC allocated to the inshore component as authorized by § 672.22(a)(2)(iii). In accordance with § 672.22(a)(4), NMFS has determined that closing the season at 12:00 midnight on October 1, 1995, is the least restrictive management adjustment to achieve the pollock TAC allocated to the inshore component and will allow other fisheries to continue in noncritical areas and time periods.

The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA, finds for good cause that providing prior notice and public comment or delaying the effective date of this action is impracticable and contrary to the public interest. Without this inseason adjustment, NMFS could not allow this fishery, and a pollock TAC in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA would not be harvested, resulting in an economic loss of more than 1.5 million dollars. Under § 672.22(c)(2), interested persons are invited to submit written comments on this action (see ADDRESSES).

Classification

This action is taken under § 672.22 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: September 29, 1995.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 95-24696 Filed 9-29-95; 4:08 pm]

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50 CFR Part 672

[Docket No. 950509041-5041-01; I.D. 092995B]

Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska; Northern Rockfish in the Central Regulatory Area

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

ACTION: Modification of a closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is opening directed fishing for northern rockfish in the Central Regulatory Area in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to use the total allowable catch (TAC) for northern rockfish in this area.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), October 1, 1995, until 12 midnight, A.l.t., December 31, 1995.

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 Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at 50 CFR parts 620 and 672.

In accordance with § 672.20(c)(1)(ii)(B), the annual TAC for northern rockfish in the Central Regulatory Area was established by the final 1995 specifications of groundfish (60 FR 8470, February 14, 1995) as 4,610 metric tons (mt). NMFS has determined that as of September 2, 1995, 866 mt remain unharvested.

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, has determined that the 1995 TAC for northern rockfish in the Central Regulatory Area has not been reached. Therefore, NMFS is terminating the previous closure and is opening directed fishing for northern rockfish in the Central Regulatory Area.

All other closures remain in full force and effect.

Classification

This action is taken under 50 CFR 672.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: September 29, 1995.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 95-24714 Filed 9-29-95; 4:36 pm]

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