

Except for Classroom Periodicals under 3.0, all pieces in an automation Periodicals mailing must:

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[Revise the heading of 2.0 to read as follows:]

2.0 RATE APPLICATION—EXCEPT CLASSROOM PERIODICALS

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[Add new 3.0 to read as follows:]

3.0 RATE APPLICATION—CLASSROOM PERIODICALS ONLY

3.1 ZIP+4 Rates

ZIP+4 Classroom Periodicals must meet the basic standards in 1.1a through 1.1f and 1.2, except each piece must meet the physical standards for letter-size mail in C810 and the standards for OCR processing in C830, must bear the correct ZIP+4 code in the address, and must have address elements in the standardized format placed in the OCR read area, under A010. ZIP+4 rates apply to each letter-size piece that is sorted under M810 into the corresponding qualifying groups:

a. Groups of 150 or more pieces in 5-digit or unique 3-digit trays qualify for the 3/5 ZIP+4 rate.

b. Groups of fewer than 150 pieces in origin/entry 3-digit trays and groups of 150 or more pieces in other 3-digit or AADC trays, and all pieces in mixed AADC trays qualify for the Basic ZIP+4 rate.

3.2 Barcoded Rates

Barcoded Classroom Periodicals must meet the basic standards in 1.00 Barcoded rates apply to each letter-size piece that is sorted under M810 into the corresponding qualifying groups:

a. Groups of 150 or more pieces in 5-digit trays qualify for the 5-Digit Barcoded rate.

b. Groups of 150 or more pieces in *unique* 3-digit trays qualify for the 3-Digit Barcoded rate.

c. Pieces for unique 3-digit destination that is part of a 3-digit scheme group in L003 qualify for the 3-Digit Barcoded rate when placed in a 3-digit scheme tray if grouped separately from pieces for other 3-digit areas.

d. Groups of fewer than 150 pieces in origin/entry 3-digit/scheme trays and groups of 150 or more pieces in other 3-digit, 3-digit scheme, or AADC trays and all pieces in mixed AADC trays qualify for the Basic Barcoded rate.

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M MAIL PREPARATION AND SORTATION

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M800 All Automation Mail

[Revise the heading of M810 to read as follows:]

M810 Letter-Size Mail

1.0 BASIC STANDARDS

1.1 Standards

[Amend 1.1 by replacing the term "Regular Periodicals" with "Periodicals" in the first sentence to read as follows:]

Letter-size automation rate First-Class Mail, Periodicals, and Standard Mail (A) must be prepared under M810 and the eligibility standards for the rate claimed. * * *

1.2 Mailings

[Amend 1.2 by adding the following sentence to the end of the section to read as follows:]

* * * A Periodicals mailings may not contain both ZIP+4 Classroom pieces and any other automation rate Periodicals.

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1.6 Scheme Sortation

[Amend 1.6 by adding the following sentence to the end of the section to read as follows:]

* * * Scheme sortation is not available for ZIP+4 Classroom Periodicals.

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3.0 PREPARATION—PERIODICALS

3.1 Tray Preparation

[Amend 3.1 by revising 3.1b to read as follows:]

Tray size, preparation sequence, and labeling:

* * * * *

b. 3-digit/scheme (3-digit only for ZIP+4 Classroom Periodicals): required (150-piece minimum except no minimum for required origin/optional entry 3-digit(s)/scheme); overflow allowed; for Line 1, use L002, Column B (except use L002, Column A, for ZIP+4 Classroom Periodicals).

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3.2 Line 2

[Revise 3.2 to read as follows:]

Line 2: PER or NEWS (as appropriate), LTRS BC (except LTRS UPGR for ZIP+4 Classroom Periodicals), and:

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Stanley F. Mires,
Chief Counsel, Legislative.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 660

[Docket No. 960126016-6121-04; I.D. 090396B]

Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Closures from the Oregon-California Border to Humboldt South Jetty, CA, and from the U.S.-Canadian Border to Leadbetter Point, WA

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

ACTION: Closures.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces that commercial salmon fisheries were closed in the following areas: from the Oregon-California border (42°00'00" N. lat.) to Humboldt South Jetty, CA (40°45'53" N. lat.), at midnight, August 22, 1996; and from the U.S.-Canadian border to Leadbetter Point, WA (46°38'10" N. lat.), at midnight, August 24, 1996. The Director, Northwest Region, NMFS (Regional Director), has determined that the commercial quotas of 2,500 chinook salmon and 20,800 coho salmon for the respective areas have been reached. This action is necessary to conform to the preseason announcement of the 1996 management measures and is intended to ensure conservation of chinook and coho salmon.

DATES: Closure from the Oregon-California border to Humboldt South Jetty, CA, is effective at 2400 hours local time, August 22, 1996, through 0001 hours local time, September 1, 1996, at which time the season reopens under the terms of the preseason announcement of the 1996 management measures. Closure from the U.S.-Canadian border to Leadbetter Point, WA, is effective at 2400 hours local time, August 24, 1996, through 2400 hours local time, September 30, 1996, at which time the season remains closed under the terms of the preseason announcement of the 1996 management measures. Comments will be accepted through September 26, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to William Stelle, Jr., Director, Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., Seattle, WA 98115-0070, or Hilda Diaz-Soltero, Director, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4132. Information relevant to this action

has been compiled in aggregate form and is available for public review during business hours at the Northwest Regional Office or Southwest Regional Office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William L. Robinson, 206-526-6140, or Rodney R. McInnis, 310-980-4030.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Regulations governing the ocean salmon fisheries at 50 CFR 660.409(a)(1) state that when a quota for the commercial or the recreational fishery, or both, for any salmon species in any portion of the fishery management area is projected by the Regional Director to be reached on or by a certain date, NMFS will, by notice issued under 50 CFR 660.411, close the commercial or recreational fishery, or both, for all salmon species in the portion of the fishery management area to which the quota applies as of the date the quota is projected to be reached.

In the annual management measures for ocean salmon fisheries (61 FR 20175, May 6, 1996), NMFS announced that the 1996 commercial fishery in the area between the Oregon-California border and Humboldt South Jetty, CA, would open on August 15 and continue through August 31 or attainment of the 2,500 chinook salmon quota, whichever occurred first. NMFS also announced that a 1996 commercial fishery contingency season in the area between the U.S.-Canadian border and Leadbetter Point, WA, would open on July 26 and continue through September 30 or attainment of the 18,800 chinook salmon quota, whichever occurred first. An inseason action at 61 FR 40157, August 1, 1996, announced implementation of the contingency season. A further inseason action at 61 FR 43472, August 23, 1996, increased the commercial coho salmon quota for the area to 20,800 fish.

The best available information on August 21 indicated that catch and effort data and projections supported closure of the commercial fishery in the area between the Oregon-California border and Humboldt South Jetty, CA, at midnight, August 22, and closure of the commercial fishery in the area between the U.S.-Canadian border and Leadbetter Point, WA, at midnight, August 24.

The Regional Director consulted with representatives of the Pacific Fishery Management Council, the California Department of Fish and Game, and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding these closures. The States of California and Washington will manage the commercial fishery in state waters adjacent to these areas of the

exclusive economic zone in accordance with this Federal action. As provided by the inseason notice procedures of 50 CFR 660.411, actual notice to fishermen of this action was given prior to 2400 hours local time, August 22, 1996 (closure from the Oregon-California border to Humboldt South Jetty, CA) and 2400 hours local time, August 24, 1996 (closure from the U.S.-Canadian border to Leadbetter Point, WA) by telephone hotline number 206-526-6667 or 800-662-9825 and by U.S. Coast Guard Notice to Mariners broadcasts on Channel 16 VHF-FM and 2182 kHz. Because of the need for immediate action to stop the fishery upon achievement of the quota, NMFS has determined that good cause exists for this notice to be issued without affording a prior opportunity for public comment. This notice does not apply to other fisheries that may be operating in other areas.

Classification

This action is authorized by 50 CFR 660.409 and 660.411 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: September 5, 1996

Gary C. Matlock,

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

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50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 960129019-6019-01; I.D. 090696D]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Sharpchin and Northern Rockfish in the Aleutian Islands Subarea

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 prohibiting retention of Atka mackerel in the Aleutian Islands subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI). This action is necessary to prevent overfishing of the sharpchin/northern rockfish species group.

DATES: 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), September 7, 1996, until 2400 hrs, A.l.t., December 31, 1996. Comments must be received at the following address no later than 4:30 p.m., A.l.t., September 23, 1996.

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 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 (Magnuson 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 Magnuson Act requires that conservation and management measures prevent overfishing. The 1996 overfishing level for the sharpchin/northern rockfish species group in the Aleutian Islands subarea of the BSAI is established by the Final 1996 Harvest Specifications of Groundfish (61 FR 4311, February 5, 1996) as 5,810 metric tons (mt) and the acceptable biological catch as 5,810 mt. As of August 24, 1996, 6,578 mt of sharpchin/northern rockfish have been caught.

NMFS closed directed fishing for sharpchin/northern rockfish on May 30, 1996 (61 FR 28072, June 4, 1996) and prohibited retention of sharpchin/northern rockfish on July 27, 1996 (61 FR 40158, August 1, 1996). Substantial trawl fishing effort will be directed at remaining amounts of Atka mackerel in the Aleutian Islands subarea during 1996. This fishery can have a significant bycatch of sharpchin/northern rockfish.

The Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, has determined, in accordance with § 679.25(a)(1)(i) and (a)(2)(iii), that closing the season by prohibiting retention of Atka mackerel by vessels using trawl gear is necessary to prevent overfishing of the sharpchin/northern rockfish species group, and is the least restrictive measure to achieve that purpose. Without this prohibition of retention, significant incidental catch of sharpchin/northern rockfish would occur by trawl vessels targeting Atka mackerel.

Therefore, NMFS is requiring that further catches of Atka mackerel by vessels using trawl gear in the Aleutian Islands subarea of the BSAI be treated as prohibited species in accordance with § 679.21(b)(2).