

Federal Register (61 FR 51366) approving a revision to the Kansas State Implementation Plan (SIP). Material was incorporated by reference (IBR) in 40 CFR Part 52, section 52.870. The subpart heading in the IBR page was incorrectly listed as subpart CC, when it should have been subpart R, the subpart for Kansas. This action corrects that error.

DATES: Effective on March 13, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Wayne Kaiser at (913) 551-7603.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EPA incorporated by reference a revision to the Kansas SIP in the October 2, 1996, Federal Register. The subpart heading for the Kansas section was incorrect. On page 51368, column 1, the heading is corrected to read "Subpart R—Kansas."

Under Executive Order 12866 (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993), this action is not a "significant regulatory action" and, is therefore not subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget. In addition, this action does not impose any enforceable duty or contain any unfunded mandate as described in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-4), or require prior consultation with State officials as specified by Executive Order 12875 (58 FR 58093, October 28, 1993), or involve special consideration of environmental justice related issues as required by Executive Order 12898 (59 FR 7629, February 16, 1994).

Because this action is not subject to notice-and-comment requirements under the Administrative Procedure Act or any other statute, it is not subject to the provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.).

Under 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A) as added by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996, EPA submitted a report containing this rule and other required information to the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives and the Comptroller General of the General Accounting Office prior to publication of this rule in today's Federal Register. This rule is not a "major rule" as defined by 5 U.S.C. 804(2).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EPA incorporated by reference a revision to the Kansas SIP in the October 2, 1996, Federal Register. The subpart heading for the Kansas section was incorrect. On page 51368, column 1, the heading is corrected to read "Subpart R—Kansas."

Dated: February 27, 1997.

U. Gale Hutton,

Acting Regional Administrator.

[FR Doc. 97-6306 Filed 3-12-97; 8:45 am]

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PANAMA CANAL COMMISSION

48 CFR Part 3509

RIN 3207-AA30

Panama Canal Commission Acquisition Regulation; Debarment, Suspension and Ineligibility

AGENCY: Panama Canal Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Panama Canal Commission (Commission) is making final its interim regulations in Subpart 3509.4 of Title 48, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), concerning the debarment, suspension and ineligibility of contractors or potential contractors to conform with changes in the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and to improve the agency's notice and administrative procedures pertaining to debarment, suspension or ineligibility.

DATES: Effective beginning March 13, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Theodore G. Lucas, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Panama Canal Commission, or Ruth Huff, Assistant to the Secretary for Commission Affairs, Office of the Secretary, Panama Canal Commission, 1825 I Street NW., Suite 1050, Washington, DC 20006-5402 (Telephone: (202) 634-6441; Facsimile: (202) 634-6439).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On February 2, 1996, the Commission issued interim regulations in the Federal Register (61 FR 3846), to amend 48 CFR subpart 3509.4 to conform with changes in the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and to improve the agency's notice and administrative procedures pertaining to debarment, suspension or ineligibility. No comments regarding the interim rules have been received.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

In accordance with the Regulatory Flexibility Act, I certify the Commission has been exempted from Executive Order 12866 and, accordingly, the provisions of that directive do not apply to this rule. Even if the Order were applicable, this rule would not have significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act. Only a very small percentage of contractors or prospective contractors doing business with the Commission are debarred or suspended.

The agency has additionally determined the Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because these

changes to the PAR do not impose record keeping or information collection requirements or collections of information from offerors, contractors or members of the public which require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*

Further, the agency has determined implementation of the rule will have no adverse effect on competition, employment, investment, productivity or innovation or on the ability of United States-based enterprises to compete with foreign-based enterprises in domestic or export markets.

Finally, the Administrator of the Panama Canal Commission certifies these regulatory changes meet the applicable standards provided in sections 2(a) and 2(b)(2) of Executive Order No. 12778.

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 3509

Government procurement.

Accordingly, under the authority of 40 U.S.C. 486(c), the Commission is adopting its interim regulations under 48 CFR subpart 3509.4 as published on February 2, 1996 (61 FR 3846), as a final rule without change.

Dated: March 10, 1997.

John A. Mills,

Secretary, Panama Canal Commission.

[FR Doc. 97-6348 Filed 3-12-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 961126334-7012-02; I.D. 031097A]

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), March 11, 1997, until 2400 hrs, A.l.t., December 31, 1997.

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 final specification of the allocation of Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA was established by the Final 1997 Harvest Specifications of Groundfish for the GOA (62 FR 8179, February 24, 1997) as 31,457 metric tons (mt), determined in accordance with § 679.20(a)(6)(iii).

In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(i), the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), has determined that the allocation for Pacific cod by vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Central Regulatory Area will soon be reached. Therefore, the Regional Administrator is establishing a directed fishing allowance of 26,457 mt, and is setting aside the remaining 5,000 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.

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 50 CFR 679.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: March 10, 1997.

Bruce Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 97-6457 Filed 3-11-97; 9:45 am]

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50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 961126334-7025-02; I.D. 031097B]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska, Pacific Cod in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska

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

ACTION: Apportionment of reserve; modification of closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is apportioning the reserves of Pacific cod and opening directed fishing for Pacific cod by vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component for 24 hours in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to allow for an opportunity to harvest the remaining total allowable catch (TAC) and to account for previous harvest of the TAC in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Opening 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), March 10, 1997, and closing 1200 hrs, A.l.t., March 11, 1997 until 2400 hrs, December 31, 1997.

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 initial total allowable catch (TAC) of Pacific cod in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA was established by the Final 1997 Harvest Specifications of Groundfish for the GOA (62 FR 8179, February 24, 1997) as 19,380 metric tons (mt). Directed fishing for Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA was closed on March 3, 1997, under § 679.20(a)(6)(iv)(C) and 679.20(d)(1)(iii) in order to prevent exceeding the initial TAC and to provide for amounts anticipated to be needed for incidental catch in other fisheries (62 FR 10222, March 6, 1997).

The reserve of Pacific cod in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA was created as a management buffer to

prevent exceeding the TAC and to provide greater assurance that Pacific cod could be retained as bycatch throughout the fishing year by the Final 1997 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish of the GOA (62 FR 8179, February 24, 1997).

The Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, (Regional Administrator), has determined that the initial TAC for Pacific cod in the Western Regulatory Area needs to be supplemented from the Pacific cod reserve for that area in order to continue operations and account for prior harvest. Therefore, in accordance with § 679.20(b)(2), NMFS is apportioning 4,845 mt of Pacific cod from the reserves to the TAC in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA.

Pursuant to § 679.20(a)(6)(iii) the apportionment of the Pacific cod reserve in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA is allocated to vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore and offshore components as 4,361 mt and 484 mt respectively. This action brings the total allocation of the 1997 Pacific cod TAC for vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore and offshore components to 21,803 mt and 2,422 mt, respectively.

NMFS has determined that as of March 6, 1997, 2,230 mt remain in the directed fishing allowance. Therefore, the Regional Administrator is establishing a new directed fishing allowance of 21,503 mt, and is setting aside the remaining 300 mt as bycatch to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries.

In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(i), the Regional Administrator, has determined that the 1997 directed fishing allowance of Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA has not been reached. Therefore, NMFS is terminating the previous closure and is opening directed fishing for Pacific cod by vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA effective 1200 hrs, A.l.t., March 10, 1997.

In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(iii), the Regional Administrator finds that this directed fishing allowance will soon be reached. Current information shows the catching capacity of vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component has recently averaged 1,400 mt per day, but is highly variable. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for Pacific cod by vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Western Regulatory Area in the GOA effective 1200 hrs, A.l.t., March 11, 1997.