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PART 105—COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSELS DISPENSING PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

54. The authority citation for part 105 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1321(j); 46 U.S.C. 3306, 3703, 4502; 49 U.S.C. App. 1804; E.O. 11735, 38 FR 21243, 3 CFR, 1971-1975 Comp., p. 793; 49 CFR 1.46.

55. In § 105.90-1 paragraph (b)(3) is revised to read as follows:

§ 105.90-1 Existing commercial fishing vessels dispensing petroleum products.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(3) All commercial fishing vessels must comply with the applicable requirements in subparts 105.15 (Inspection Required), 105.35 (Fire Extinguishing Equipment), and 105.45 (Special Operating Requirements).

Dated: April 25, 1997.

J.C. Card,

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard, Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety and Environmental Protection.

[FR Doc. 97-11779 Filed 5-7-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-14-P

POSTAL SERVICE

39 CFR Part 20

Amendment to Interim Rule for Global Package Link to Japan

AGENCY: Postal Service.

ACTION: Amendment to interim rule with request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service is amending the interim rule on Global Package Link to Japan to change the offering of three levels of service to two levels of service. The discount rate structure currently offered to Japan will be adjusted and the name for Express Service will be changed to Premium service. Additionally, insurance for the Standard service will no longer be available.

DATES: The interim regulations take effect as of 12:01 a.m. on June 8, 1997. Comments must be received on or before June 8, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be mailed or delivered to International Business Unit, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 370-IBU, Washington, DC 20260-6500. Copies of all written comments will be available for public inspection and photocopying

between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Michelson at the above address. Telephone (202) 268-5731.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In late 1994, International Package Consignment Service, later renamed Global Package Link (GPL), was introduced to Japan (59 FR 65961, December 22, 1994). Rates have remained constant since the inception of GPL and now must be adjusted slightly to reflect changes in cost and market conditions. Additionally, volume discounts will be changed from a progressive discount after 100,000 packages mailed annually to a straight 3% discount for all packages over 100,000 mailed annually. This makes it consistent with the volume discount structure available to most other GPL destination countries.

The GPL service offerings to Japan: Express, Standard, and Economy will be reduced to two options. Express service will remain as is, except it will now be called Premium service, and the Standard and Economy services will be merged into a new Standard level of service. We believe this change will more accurately reflect the service levels the customers actually receive. In addition, there will no longer be an insurance option for the new Standard service. Customers desiring insurance may choose Premium service, which includes insurance at no additional charge.

List of Subjects in 39 CFR Part 20

International postal service, Foreign relations.

The Postal Service adopts the following interim amendment to the International Mail Manual, which is incorporated by reference in the Code of Federal Regulations. See 39 CFR 20.1.

PART 20—[AMENDED]

1. The authority citation for 39 CFR part 20 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552(a); 39 U.S.C. 401, 404, 407, 408.

2. Effective June 8, 1997, subchapter 620 of the International Mail Manual Issue 17 is amended as follows:

6 Special Programs

* * * * *

620 Global Package Link

* * * * *

623.3 Size and Weight Limits

The weight limits for Global Package Link service are 70 pounds for Chile and

Germany; 66 pounds for Brazil, Canada, and the United Kingdom; and 44 pounds for Japan.

The maximum length of GPL packages is 60 inches and the maximum length and girth combined is 108 inches with exceptions: maximum size for Germany is length 47 inches, height 23 inches, width 23 inches. Japan standard packages less than one pound, maximum length is 24 inches; height, depth, and length combined maximum is 36 inches. All packages must be large enough to accommodate the necessary labels and customs forms on the address side.

623.4 Postage

* * * * *

623.44 Base Rates

The Postal Service will charge the base rates, in 1-pound increments, for the first 100,000 packages mailed by the customer during a 12-month period.

RATE REDUCTIONS

| Number of packages | Percent discount |
|--------------------|--|
| Up to 100,000 | Base Rate. |
| Over 100,000 | 3% off base rates (except Germany and U.K.: Germany, no discount; U.K., 2%). |

* * * * *

626 Services Available

* * * * *

626.1 Delivery Options

Delivery options vary according to destination country as set forth below.

* * * * *

626.13 Economy Service

Economy service is available to the United Kingdom. Packages sent through Economy service are transported to the destination country by air for delivery. Tracking is available through the hand-over to the global partner in the United Kingdom.

* * * * *

626.3 Insurance and Indemnity

* * * * *

626.32 Standard Service

626.321 Canada

Packages sent through Standard service and Ground Gateway Service to Canada are insured for the declared value, up to \$100 Canadian. Standard service packages are not insured against delay in delivery. Neither indemnity

payments nor postage refunds will be made in the event of delay.

* * * * *

626.33 Economy Service

[Delete 626.331, Japan, and renumber 626.332, UK, as 626.331.]

626.331 United Kingdom

Packages sent through Economy service to the United Kingdom may be insured at an additional cost (see 320). Economy service packages are not insured against delay in delivery. Neither indemnity payments nor

postage refunds will be made in the event of delay.

* * * * *

Japan Country Page

[Add the following information about GPL:]

GLOBAL PACKAGE LINK TO JAPAN RATES CHART

| | Weight not over (pounds) | Premium (dollars) | Standard (dollars) | Returns (dollars) |
|----|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | | 14.50 | 5.50 | 7.20 |
| 2 | | 16.50 | 8.50 | 9.80 |
| 3 | | 19.00 | 13.00 | 12.40 |
| 4 | | 21.50 | 16.50 | 15.00 |
| 5 | | 24.00 | 22.00 | 17.60 |
| 6 | | 27.00 | 25.00 | 20.20 |
| 7 | | 29.50 | | 22.80 |
| 8 | | 32.00 | | 25.40 |
| 9 | | 34.50 | | 28.00 |
| 10 | | 37.00 | | 30.60 |
| 11 | | 39.50 | | 33.20 |
| 12 | | 42.00 | | 35.80 |
| 13 | | 44.50 | | 38.40 |
| 14 | | 47.00 | | 41.00 |
| 15 | | 49.50 | | 43.70 |
| 16 | | 52.00 | | 48.00 |
| 17 | | 54.50 | | 50.70 |
| 18 | | 57.00 | | 53.50 |
| 19 | | 59.50 | | 56.20 |
| 20 | | 62.00 | | 58.90 |
| 21 | | 64.50 | | 63.90 |
| 22 | | 67.00 | | 66.70 |
| 23 | | 69.50 | | 69.50 |
| 24 | | 72.00 | | 72.30 |
| 25 | | 74.50 | | 75.10 |
| 26 | | 77.00 | | 77.90 |
| 27 | | 79.50 | | 80.70 |
| 28 | | 82.00 | | 83.50 |
| 29 | | 84.50 | | 86.30 |
| 30 | | 87.00 | | 89.10 |
| 31 | | 89.50 | | 91.90 |
| 32 | | 92.00 | | 94.70 |
| 33 | | 94.50 | | 97.50 |
| 34 | | 97.00 | | 100.40 |
| 35 | | 99.50 | | 103.20 |
| 36 | | 102.00 | | 106.00 |
| 37 | | 104.50 | | 108.80 |
| 38 | | 107.00 | | 111.60 |
| 39 | | 109.50 | | 114.40 |
| 40 | | 112.00 | | 117.20 |
| 41 | | 114.50 | | 120.00 |
| 42 | | 117.00 | | 122.80 |
| 43 | | 119.50 | | 125.60 |
| 44 | | 122.00 | | 128.40 |

Discounts for GPL service to Japan are 3% off the base rates for those packages sent over 100,000 during a 12-month period.

* * * * *

Stanley F. Mires,
Chief Counsel, Legislative.
 [FR Doc. 97-12018 Filed 5-7-97; 8:45 am]
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 960805216-7098-05; I.D. 041097D]

RIN 0648-AH06

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Technical Amendment for the Black Sea Bass Fishery

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

ACTION: Final rule; technical amendment.

SUMMARY: NMFS issues this final rule to correct and clarify a section of the regulations implementing gear restrictions in the black sea bass fishery, which were implemented as a result of Amendment 9 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fisheries (FMP).

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 7, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dana Hartley, Fishery Management Specialist, 508-281-9226.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The final rule implementing Amendment 9 to the FMP was published on November 15, 1996 (61 FR 58461). Among other management measures implemented for the black sea bass fishery, the final rule implemented gear restrictions for industry members who fish with pot and trap gear. After publication of the final rule, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) staff and industry members contacted NMFS to state that several provisions in the regulations implementing the pot and trap restrictions did not accurately reflect the measures specified in Amendment 9 and, as written, were unworkable.

The amendment includes a provision that pots and traps used in the black sea bass fishery must contain a minimum escape vent of one of the following dimensions: 1.125 inches (2.86 cm) by 5.75 inches (14.61 cm); or a circular vent 2 inches (5.08 cm) in diameter; or a square vent with sides of 1.5 inches

(3.81 cm), inside measure. Amendment 9 allows that pots and traps constructed of wooden laths may comply with this requirement by having one set of laths spaced at least 1.125 inches (2.86 cm) apart in the parlor portion of the trap. The regulatory language in the final rule did not stipulate that the lath spacing is an option that would satisfy the escape vent requirement in wooden traps.

Amendment 9 also contains a requirement that black sea bass pots or traps must have a rectangular opening that measures at least 3.0 inches (7.62 cm) by 6.0 inches (15.24 cm) covered by a panel affixed with degradable fasteners (a ghost panel). The regulatory text describing this requirement is confusing and has been reorganized.

These modifications will make the trap and pot gear requirements for the black sea bass fishery consistent with the Council's intent as stated in Amendment 9.

Classification

Because this rule only corrects and clarifies an existing set of regulations for which full prior notice and opportunity for comment were provided under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), it is unnecessary to provide such procedures for this rule. Because this rule imposes no new requirements on anyone subject to these regulations and relieves a restriction, it is not subject to the 30-day delay in effective date provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(d).

This rule is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 648

Fisheries, Fishing, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: May 1, 1997.

Nancy Foster,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 648 is amended as follows:

PART 648—FISHERIES OF THE NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES

1. The authority citation for part 648 continues to read as follows:

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

2. In § 648.144, paragraph (b) is revised to read as follows:

§ 648.144 Gear restrictions.

* * * * *

(b) *Pot and trap gear restrictions--*(1) *Gear marking.* The owner of a vessel issued a black sea bass moratorium permit must mark all black sea bass pots or traps with the vessel's USCG

documentation number or state registration number.

(2) *Escape vents.* All black sea bass traps or pots must have an escape vent placed in a lower corner of the parlor portion of the pot or trap which complies with one of the following minimum sizes: 1.125 inches (2.86 cm) by 5.75 inches (14.61 cm); or a circular vent 2 inches (5.08 cm) in diameter; or a square vent with sides of 1.5 inches (3.81 cm), inside measure; however, black sea bass traps or pots constructed of wooden laths may instead have an escape vent constructed by leaving a space of at least 1.125 inches (2.86 cm) between one set of laths in the parlor portion of the trap. The dimensions for escape vents and lath spacing may be adjusted pursuant to the procedures in § 648.140.

(3) *Ghost panel.* Black sea bass traps or pots must contain a ghost panel affixed to the trap or pot with degradable fasteners and hinges. The opening to be covered by the ghost panel must measure at least 3.0 inches (7.62 cm) by 6.0 inches (15.24 cm). The ghost panel must be affixed to the pot or trap with hinges and fasteners made of one of the following degradable materials:

(i) Untreated hemp, jute, or cotton string of 3/16 inches (4.8 mm) diameter or smaller; or

(ii) Magnesium alloy, timed float releases (pop-up devices) or similar magnesium alloy fasteners; or

(iii) Ungalvanized or uncoated iron wire of 0.094 inches (2.4 mm) diameter or smaller.

[FR Doc. 97-11837 Filed 5-7-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 961126334-7025-02, I.D. 050597A]

Fisheries of the Economic Exclusive Zone Off Alaska; Shallow-Water Species Fishery by Vessels Using Trawl Gear in 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 species that comprise the shallow-water species fishery by vessels using trawl gear in the Gulf of Alaska