

Cybersecurity Pilot Program Report and Order, WC Docket No. 23–234; FCC 24–63 published at 89 FR 61282, July 30, 2024. The OMB Control Number is 3060–1323. If you have any comments on the burden estimates listed in the following, or how the Commission can improve the collections and reduce any burdens caused thereby, please contact Nicole Ongele, Federal Communications Commission, Room 3.310, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554. Please include the OMB Control Number, 3060–1323, in your correspondence. The Commission will also accept your comments via email at PRA@fcc.gov.

To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418–0530 (voice), (202) 418–0432 (TTY).

Synopsis

As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), the Commission is notifying the public that it received OMB approval on September 13, 2024, for the information collection requirements contained in 47 CFR 54.2004, 54.2005, 54.2006 and 54.2008 published at 89 FR 61282, July 30, 2024.

Under 5 CFR part 1320, an agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a current, valid OMB Control Number.

No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act that does not display a current, valid OMB Control Number.

The foregoing notification is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13, October 1, 1995, and 44 U.S.C. 3507.

The total annual reporting burdens and costs for the respondents are as follows:

OMB Control Number: 3060–1323.

OMB Approval Date: September 13, 2024.

OMB Expiration Date: September 30, 2027.

Title: Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program.

Form Number: FCC Forms 470, 471, 472, 474—Cybersecurity, 484 and 488—Cybersecurity.

Type of Review: New information collection.

Respondents: State, local or tribal government institutions, and other not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 23,000 respondents; 201,100 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 4 hours for FCC Form 470—Cybersecurity, 5 hours for FCC Form 471—Cybersecurity, 1.75 hours for FCC Forms 472/474—Cybersecurity, 15 hours for FCC Form 484, and 1 hour for FCC Form 488—Cybersecurity.

Frequency of Response: On occasion and annual reporting requirements, and recordkeeping requirements.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for this information collection is contained in sections 1–4, 201–202, 254, 303(r), and 403 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 151–154, 201–202, 254, 303(r), and 403.

Total Annual Burden: 743,900 hours.

Total Annual Cost: No cost.

Needs and Uses: The information collected is designed to obtain information from applicants and service providers that will be used by the Commission and/or USAC to evaluate the applications and select participants to receive funding under the Cybersecurity Pilot Program, make funding determinations and disburse funding in compliance with applicable federal laws for payments made through the Pilot program.

The Commission will begin accepting applications to participate in the Cybersecurity Pilot Program after publication of its Report and Order and notice of OMB approval of the Cybersecurity Pilot Program information collection in the **Federal Register**.

On June 11, 2024, the Commission adopted the *Schools and Libraries Cybersecurity Pilot Program Report and Order* in WC Docket No. 23–234, 89 FR 61282, July 30, 2024. The Commission adopted a three-year pilot program within the Universal Service Fund to provide up to \$200 million available to support cybersecurity and advanced firewall services for eligible schools and libraries. Accordingly, the Commission adopted and added subpart T to part 54 of its rules.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene Dortch,

Secretary, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024–21466 Filed 9–19–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 635

[Docket No. 240916–0238]

RIN 0648–BN13

Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Adjustments to the 2024 North Atlantic Albacore Tuna, North and South Atlantic Swordfish, and Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Reserve Category Quotas

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

ACTION: Final rule; temporary quota adjustment.

SUMMARY: NMFS modifies the baseline annual U.S. North Atlantic albacore tuna (northern albacore) quota, effective until changed, in accordance with the baseline quota adjustment process. NMFS also adjusts the 2024 baseline quotas for U.S. North Atlantic albacore tuna (northern albacore), North and South Atlantic swordfish, and the Atlantic bluefin tuna Reserve category based on the 2023 underharvest and applicable international quota transfer. These temporary adjustments are effective through December 31, 2024. Full annual baseline allocations will be available to U.S. harvesters starting January 1, 2025. These actions are necessary to implement recommendations of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) as required by the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (ATCA), and to achieve domestic management objectives under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act).

DATES: The final rule is effective September 20, 2024. The temporary quota adjustments are effective September 20, 2024, through December 31, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Supporting documents, including environmental assessments and environmental impact statements, as well as the 2006 Consolidated Atlantic HMS Fishery Management Plan (FMP) and its amendments, may be downloaded from the Highly Migratory Species (HMS) website at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/atlantic-highly-migratory-species>. These documents also are available upon request from Anna Quintrell or Steve Durkee at the email addresses and telephone numbers below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Anna Quintrell (301-427-8503, anna.quintrell@noaa.gov) or Steve Durkee (301-427-8503, steve.durkee@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Atlantic HMS northern albacore, swordfish, and bluefin tuna fisheries, are managed under the authority of ATCA (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*) and the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*). The HMS FMP and its amendments are implemented by regulations at 50 CFR part 635. Section 635.27(a) implements the ICCAT-recommended quota and describes the annual quota adjustment process for bluefin tuna. Section 635.27(c) implements the ICCAT-recommended quotas and describes the quota adjustment process for both North and South Atlantic swordfish. Section 635.27(e) implements the northern albacore annual quota recommended by ICCAT and describes the annual northern albacore quota adjustment process. NMFS is required under the Magnuson-Stevens Act to provide U.S. fishing vessels with a reasonable opportunity to harvest quotas under relevant international fishery agreements such as the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, which is implemented domestically pursuant to ATCA.

Note that, consistent with how the quotas are established, weight information for northern albacore and bluefin tuna below is shown in metric tons (mt) whole weight (ww), and weight information for swordfish is shown in both dressed weight (dw) and ww.

Northern Albacore Annual Quota and Adjustment Process

As described below, in accordance with the recent ICCAT Recommendation

23–05, this final rule sets the U.S. allocation and annual baseline quota for northern albacore at 889.4 mt NOAA conducted the analysis supporting this rule and described the findings in the Environmental Assessment (EA). This final rule further adjusts that baseline quota to 1,067.3 mt for 2024 based on an underharvest of the 2023 adjusted quota.

At its 2021 annual meeting, under Recommendation 21–04, ICCAT adopted a management procedure for northern albacore. The management procedure was domestically implemented via a 2022 final rule (87 FR 33049, June 1, 2022). At that time, NMFS considered different quota alternatives in an environmental assessment (EA). NOAA analyzed the effects of the maximum possible quota pursuant to the northern albacore management procedure in the EA, and the preferred alternative was selected based on that analysis. In other words, NOAA analyzed and preferred an alternative in the EA where the maximum annual baseline quota could be up to 950 mt if adopted by ICCAT through application of the management procedure within Recommendation 21–04. Additionally, the 2022 final rule that NMFS would implement any new annual baseline quotas through final rulemaking, assuming no new management measures are adopted or other relevant changes in circumstances occur; that NMFS annually would provide notice to the public in the **Federal Register** of the baseline northern albacore quota with any annual adjustments as allowable for over- and underharvest, as appropriate; and that NMFS would evaluate the need for any additional environmental analyses or for proposed and final rulemaking when a new quota is

adopted by ICCAT and then implemented by NMFS. Because the U.S. northern albacore allocation under Recommendation 23–05 is within the range analyzed in the 2022 EA, and because there are no new management measures other than the change in the baseline quota, this action is consistent with the 2022 final rule. Therefore, NMFS is proceeding directly to a final rule to implement this change in annual baseline quota.

Consistent with the northern albacore quota regulations at § 635.27(e), in this final rule and temporary quota adjustment, NMFS adjusts the U.S. annual northern albacore quota for allowable underharvest in the previous year. NMFS makes such adjustments consistent with ICCAT carryover limits, and when complete catch information for the prior year is available and finalized. The maximum underharvest that an ICCAT Contracting Party may carry forward from one year to the next is 25 percent of its baseline quota, which, for the 2023 baseline quota (711.5 mt), was 177.9 mt for the United States. For 2023, the adjusted quota was 889.4 mt (711.5 mt plus 177.9 mt of 2022 underharvest). In 2023, U.S. landings of northern albacore were 180.5 mt, which is an underharvest of 708.9 mt of the 2023 adjusted quota. This underharvest exceeds the 177.9-mt underharvest carryover limit allowed under Recommendation 21–04, which applied for 2023; therefore, only 177.9 mt may be carried forward to the 2024 fishing year. Thus, the adjusted 2024 northern albacore quota will be 1,067.3 mt (889.4 mt plus 177.9 mt underharvest) (table 1).

TABLE 1—2024 NORTHERN ALBACORE QUOTA

Northern albacore quota (mt ww)	2023	2024
Baseline Quota	711.5	889.4
Underharvest from Previous Year	578.8	708.9
Underharvest Carryover from Previous Year †	(+)177.9	(+)177.9
Adjusted Quota (Baseline + Underharvest)	889.4	1,067.3

† Allowable underharvest carryover is capped at 25 percent of the 2023 baseline quota allocation (177.9 mt ww).

North and South Atlantic Swordfish Annual Quota and Adjustment Process

North Atlantic Swordfish

Consistent with the North Atlantic swordfish quota regulations at § 635.27(c), in this final rule, NMFS adjusts the U.S. annual North Atlantic swordfish quota for allowable

underharvest in the previous year. NMFS makes such adjustments consistent with ICCAT carryover limits and when complete catch information for the prior year is available and finalized. Consistent with ICCAT Recommendation 17–02 as amended by Recommendation 23–04, the U.S. North Atlantic swordfish baseline annual

quota through 2024 is 2,937.6 mt dw (3,907 mt ww).

Relevant to the North Atlantic swordfish quota adjustment in this action, and as codified at § 635.27(c)(3), the maximum underharvest that the United States may carry forward from one year to the next is 15 percent of the baseline quota, which equates to 440.6

mt dw (586 mt ww). For 2023, the adjusted North Atlantic swordfish quota was 3,378.2 mt dw (2,937.6 mt dw baseline quota plus 440.6 mt dw of 2022 underharvest). In 2023, U.S. landings of North Atlantic swordfish, which includes landings and dead discards, was 1,008.3 mt dw, which is an underharvest of 2,369.9 mt dw of the 2023 adjusted quota. This underharvest exceeds the 440.6-mt dw underharvest carryover limit allowed under Recommendation 23–04; therefore, only 440.6 mt dw may be carried forward to the 2024 fishing year.

Additionally, in accordance with ICCAT Recommendation 23–04, the United States will transfer 150.4 mt dw (200 mt ww) of its North Atlantic swordfish quota to Morocco, which serves to facilitate cooperative management efforts between ICCAT contracting parties. Morocco agreed to adhere to ICCAT management measures, reporting requirements, and monitoring of the transferred quota.

Thus, the adjusted 2024 North Atlantic swordfish quota will be 3,227.8

mt dw (2,937.6 mt dw baseline quota, plus 440.6 mt dw carryover, minus 150.4 mt dw transfer to Morocco). In accordance with regulations at § 635.27(c)(1)(i), 50 mt dw of the adjusted quota will be allocated to the Reserve category for inseason adjustments and research, 300 mt dw of the adjusted quota will be allocated to the incidental category, which covers recreational landings and landings by incidental swordfish permit holders, and the remainder of the adjusted quota (2,877.8 mt dw) will be allocated to the directed category, which will be split equally between two seasons in 2024 (January through June, and July through December) (table 2).

South Atlantic Swordfish

Consistent with the South Atlantic swordfish quota regulations at § 635.27(c), NMFS adjusts the U.S. annual South Atlantic swordfish quota for allowable underharvest, if any, in the previous year. NMFS makes such adjustments, if needed, consistent with ICCAT carryover limits and when

complete catch information for the prior year is available and finalized.

Consistent with ICCAT Recommendation 17–03 as amended by Recommendation 22–04, the U.S. South Atlantic swordfish baseline annual quota through 2026 is 75.2 mt dw (100 mt ww), and the amount of underharvest that the United States can carry forward from one year to the next is 75.2 mt dw (100 mt ww) (table 2). In 2023 there were no landings of South Atlantic swordfish by U.S. fishermen, which is an underharvest of 75.2 mt dw of the 2023 adjusted quota. Of that underharvest, 75.2 mt dw may be carried forward to the 2024 fishing year. Under Recommendations 17–03 and 22–04, the United States continues to transfer a total of 75.2 mt dw (100 mt ww) to other countries. These transfers are 37.6 mt dw (50 mt ww) to Namibia, 18.8 mt dw (25 mt ww) to Côte d’Ivoire, and 18.8 mt dw (25 mt ww) to Belize. Thus, the adjusted 2024 South Atlantic swordfish quota will be 75.2 mt dw.

TABLE 2—2024 NORTH AND SOUTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH QUOTAS

North Atlantic swordfish quota (mt dw)	2023	2024
Baseline Quota	2,937.6	2,937.6
International Quota Transfers *	N/A	(–)150.4
Underharvest from Previous Year	2,371.3	2,369.9
Underharvest Carryover from Previous Year †	(+440.6)	(+440.6)
Adjusted Quota (Baseline + Carryover + Transfer)	3,378.2	3,227.8
Quota Allocation:		
Directed Category	3,028.2	2,877.8
Incidental Category	300	300
Reserve Category	50	50
South Atlantic swordfish quota (mt dw)	2023	2024
Baseline Quota	75.2	75.2
International Quota Transfers **	(–)75.2	(–)75.2
Underharvest from Previous Year	75.2	75.2
Underharvest Carryover from Previous Year †	75.2	75.2
Adjusted quota (Baseline + Transfers + Carryover)	75.2	75.2

* Under ICCAT Recommendation 23–04, the United States transferred 150.4 mt dw (200 mt ww) to Morocco.

† Allowable underharvest carryover is capped at 15 percent of the baseline quota allocation (440.6 mt dw) for the North Atlantic and 75.2 mt dw (100 mt ww) for the South Atlantic.

** Under ICCAT Recommendations 17–03 and 22–04, the United States transfers 75.2 mt dw (100 mt ww) annually to Namibia (37.6 mt dw, 50 mt ww), Côte d’Ivoire (18.8 mt dw, 25 mt ww), and Belize (18.8 mt dw, 25 mt ww).

Bluefin Tuna Annual Quota and Adjustment Process

Consistent with the regulations regarding annual bluefin tuna quota adjustment at § 635.27(a), in this final rule, NMFS announces the addition of available underharvest in the bluefin tuna Reserve category. Specifically, the adjusted 2024 Reserve category quota is now 161.5 mt.

In 2022, NMFS implemented relevant provisions of an ICCAT western Atlantic

bluefin tuna recommendation (Recommendation 21–07) in a final rule (87 FR 33049, June 1, 2022). That rulemaking implemented the annual U.S. baseline quota of 1,316.1 mt, plus an additional 25 mt to account for bycatch related to pelagic longline fisheries in the Northeast Distant gear restricted area (NED), for a total quota of 1,341.1 mt. At the 2022 annual meeting, a management procedure was implemented for bluefin tuna (Recommendation 22–09). This

management procedure set the western Atlantic bluefin tuna TAC for 2023 through 2025 at the same level as 2021 (Recommendation 22–10). As such, the total annual U.S. bluefin tuna quota for 2024 remains 1,341.1 mt (see § 635.27(a)). Consistent with Recommendation 22–10, the maximum underharvest that the United States can carry forward from one year to the next is 10 percent of its total annual quota, which equates to 134.1 mt.

In 2023, the adjusted U.S. quota was 1,447.7 mt, and the U.S. catch, including landings and dead discards, totaled 1,311.3 mt. Thus, the 2023 underharvest was 136.4 mt, which exceeds the underharvest carryover

limit (134.1 mt). As such, the United States is carrying forward the allowable 134.1 mt underharvest to 2024. Per § 635.27(a) this underharvest augments the Reserve category quota. The 2024 Reserve category quota of 38.2 mt was

recently adjusted to 27.4 mt (89 FR 58074, July 17, 2024). Thus, the adjusted 2024 Reserve category quota is now, through this action, 161.5 mt (27.4 mt plus 134.1 mt underharvest) (table 3).

TABLE 3—2024 BLUEFIN TUNA QUOTA

Bluefin tuna quota (mt ww)	2023	2024
Baseline Quota	1,316.1	1,316.1
Total Quota (Baseline Quota + Bycatch Allocation) *	1,341.1	1,341.1
Underharvest from Previous Year	106.5	136.4
Underharvest Carryover from Previous Year †	(+)106.5	(+)134.1
Adjusted Quota (Total quota + Carryover)	1,447.7	1,475.2
Baseline Reserve Category Quota	‡ 38.2	** 38.2
Adjusted Reserve Category Quota (Reserve quota + Carryover)	133.9	161.5

Values in this table are subject to rounding error.

* The United States is allocated an additional 25 mt to account for bycatch related to pelagic longline fisheries in the Northeast Distant gear restricted area (NED).

† Allowable underharvest carryover is capped at 10 percent of the total annual quota (134.1 mt ww).

‡ The 2023 baseline Reserve category quota of 38.2 mt was adjusted to 27.4 mt (88 FR 48136, July 26, 2023).

** The 2024 baseline Reserve category quota of 38.2 mt was adjusted to 27.4 mt (89 FR 58074, July 17, 2024).

Classification

NMFS is issuing this rule pursuant to 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1855(d)) and regulations at 50 CFR part 635. This final rule has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

The Assistant Administrator for NMFS (AA) has determined that this final rule is consistent with the 2006 Consolidated HMS FMP and its amendments, ATCA, and other applicable law.

The AA finds that pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), it is unnecessary to provide prior notice of, and an opportunity for public comment on, this action for the following reasons. The rulemaking processes for amendment 13 to the 2006 Consolidated HMS FMP (87 FR 59966, October 3, 2022), the 2022 Atlantic bluefin tuna and northern albacore quota rule (87 FR 33049, June 1, 2022), and the 2016 North and South Atlantic Swordfish Quota Adjustment Rule (81 FR 48719, July 26, 2016) specifically provided prior notice of, and accepted public comment on, the formulaic quota adjustment processes for the northern albacore, Atlantic bluefin tuna, and swordfish fisheries and the manner in which they occur. The June 1, 2022, final rule also anticipated that NMFS would implement U.S. northern albacore quotas as recommended by ICCAT in accordance with the management procedure, up to the analyzed maximum baseline quota of 950 mt. The baseline quota would remain at 711.5 mt annually until changed by ICCAT. NMFS anticipated implementing any new baseline quotas through final

rulemaking, assuming no new management measures are adopted or other relevant changes in circumstances occur. Additionally, consistent with current practice, NMFS annually would provide notice to the public in the **Federal Register** of the baseline northern albacore quota with any annual adjustments as allowable for over- and underharvest, as appropriate. NMFS would evaluate the need for any additional environmental analyses or for proposed and final rulemaking when a new quota is adopted by ICCAT and implemented by NMFS. These processes have not changed, and the application of these formulas to the relevant quotas in this temporary final rule is a routine action that does not have discretionary aspects requiring additional agency consideration. Additionally, similar actions to adjust the quotas based on the previous year’s underharvest occur annually, and the regulated community expects such adjustments in 2024. For all of these reasons, it is unnecessary to provide prior notice and an additional opportunity for public comment on this action.

There is good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) to waive the 30-day delay in the date of effectiveness and to make the rule effective upon the date of publication in the **Federal Register**. As described above, this rule is a routine action that applies existing quota adjustment formulas, and that the regulated community anticipates annually and does not need time to prepare for. The 2024 fisheries for northern albacore, North and South Atlantic swordfish, and bluefin tuna opened on January 1, 2024. NMFS

monitors northern albacore, North and South Atlantic swordfish, and bluefin tuna annual catch and uses the previous year’s catch data to calculate the legally allowable quotas for the current year. However, these adjustments to the 2024 quotas could not occur earlier in the year because the final 2023 landings data—which first must be collected, compiled, and submitted in accordance with ICCAT reporting requirements—were not available until late July. Given that these fisheries are currently open and permit-holders are actively fishing, delaying the effective date of this rule’s quota adjustments could lead to premature closure of one or more affected fisheries if the unadjusted quota limit is reached within the next 30 days. Such an event would negatively affect the regulated fisheries’ reasonable opportunity to catch the available quotas, contrary to Magnuson-Stevens Act requirements and overall purpose of sound conservation and management of fisheries—including highly migratory species—in a manner that achieves optimum yield. Furthermore, delaying the effective date of this rule would delay the application of North and South Atlantic swordfish quota transfers pursuant to ICCAT obligations for U.S. quota limits, contrary to requirements under ATCA. It would also delay NMFS’ ability to transfer quota inseason, as needed, from the bluefin Reserve category to other fishing categories to ensure fishing opportunities and avoid premature fishery closures. As with the quota adjustments, such a delay would be contrary to the Magnuson-Stevens Act requirement to allow U.S. vessels

reasonable opportunity to harvest highly migratory species allocations and quotas under relevant international fishery agreements such as the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas.

This action does not contain a collection-of-information requirement for purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Because prior notice and opportunity for public comment are not required for this rule by 5 U.S.C. 553, or any other law, the analytical requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*, are inapplicable.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.* and 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: September 16, 2024.

Samuel D. Rauch III,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, NMFS amends 50 CFR part 635 as follows:

PART 635—ATLANTIC HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 635 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*; 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

■ 2. In § 635.27, revise paragraph (e)(1) to read as follows:

§ 635.27 Quotas.

* * * * *

(e) * * *

(1) *Annual quota.* Consistent with ICCAT recommendations, the ICCAT northern albacore management procedure, and domestic management objectives, the baseline annual quota, before any adjustments, is 889.4 mt. The total quota, after any adjustments made per paragraph (e)(2) of this section, is the fishing year's total amount of northern albacore tuna that may be landed by persons and vessels subject to U.S. jurisdiction.

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[FR Doc. 2024-21507 Filed 9-19-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 660

[Docket No. 240327-0090; RTID 0648-XE271]

Pacific Halibut Fisheries of the West Coast; 2024 Catch Sharing Plan; Inseason Action

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

ACTION: Temporary rule; inseason adjustment; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces inseason action for the Pacific halibut recreational fishery in the International Pacific Halibut Commission's (IPHC) regulatory Area 2A off Washington, Oregon, and California. Specifically, this action transfers 12,000 pounds (lb; 5.4 metric tons (mt)) of the Area 2A Pacific halibut recreational allocation, in net pounds, from the Oregon recreational fishery to the Washington recreational fishery. This action is intended to provide opportunity for anglers to achieve the total Area 2A recreational fishery allocation.

DATES:

Effective: September 20, 2024, through December 31, 2024.

Comments due date: Comments will be accepted on or before October 7, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by NOAA-NMFS-2024-0014, by either of the following methods:

- *Electronic Submission:* Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and enter NOAA-NMFS-2024-0014 in the Search box. Click on the "Comment" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.
- *Mail:* Submit written comments to Jennifer Quan, Regional Administrator, c/o Melissa Mandrup, West Coast Region, NMFS, 501 W Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802.

Instructions: NMFS may not consider comments if they are sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the comment period ends. All comments received are a part of the public record and NMFS will post them for public viewing on <https://www.regulations.gov> without change. All personal identifying information (*e.g.*, name, address, *etc.*), confidential business information, or

otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender is publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

Docket: This rule is accessible via the internet at the Office of the Federal Register website at <https://www.federalregister.gov/>. Background information and documents are available at the NOAA Fisheries website at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/2024-pacific-halibut-recreational-fishery> and at the Pacific Fishery Management Council's website at <https://www.pcouncil.org>. Other comments received may be accessed through <https://www.regulations.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Melissa Mandrup, phone: 562-980-3231 or email: melissa.mandrup@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 3, 2024, NMFS published a final rule approving changes to the Pacific halibut Area 2A Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) and implementing recreational (sport) management measures for the 2024 Area 2A recreational fisheries (89 FR 22966), as authorized by the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 (16 U.S.C. 773-773(k)). The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) 2024 CSP provides a recommended framework for NMFS' annual management measures and subarea allocations based on the 2024 Area 2A Pacific halibut catch limit also known as the fishery constant exploitation yield (FCEY) of 1.47 million lb (666.8 mt) set by the IPHC. The Area 2A catch limit and recreational fishery allocations were adopted by the IPHC and were published in the **Federal Register** on March 18, 2024 (89 FR 19275), after acceptance by the Secretary of State, with concurrence from the Secretary of Commerce, in accordance with 50 CFR 300.62. The final rule published on April 3, 2024 (89 FR 22966), established 50 CFR 300.63(c)(6)(i)(F), which allows NMFS to transfer portions of state recreation allocations inseason to another state under certain circumstances (*e.g.*, if a state is projected to not utilize its respective recreational allocation by the end of the fishing season and another state could utilize additional pounds to avoid closing a fishing season early).

NMFS has determined that, due to lower than expected landings through September 5, 2024, and projected catches for the remainder of the season off Oregon (October 31), Oregon is projected to not utilize its full recreational allocation by the end of the