

to arrange for a pre-cruise meeting. The pre-cruise meeting must minimally include the vessel operator or manager and any observers assigned to the vessel.

(ii) NMFS will use the weight of all catch that passes over the scale for the purposes of accounting for Pacific cod catch.

(iii) At the time NMFS approves the scale used to weigh Pacific cod, NMFS will provide the vessel owner or operator with one of the following designations on the scale inspection report that will be used for catch accounting of Pacific cod for the duration of the approval period:

(A) *Scale prior to bleeding.* If the scale is located before the location where Pacific cod are bled, a PRR of 1.00 will be applied to all catch weighed on the motion-compensated scale.

(B) *Scale between bleeding and holding area.* If Pacific cod are bled before being weighed and prior to the bleeding holding area, a PRR of 0.99 will be applied to all catch weighed on the scale.

(C) *Scale after holding area.* If Pacific cod are bled and placed in a bleeding holding area before being weighed, a PRR of 0.98 will be applied to all catch weighed on the scale.

(c) *Electronic logbooks.* The operator of a vessel subject to paragraph (b) of this section at any time during a year must comply with the requirements for electronic logbooks at §679.5(f) at all times during that year.

[77 FR 59061, Sept. 26, 2012, as amended at 77 FR 70103, Nov. 21, 2012; 79 FR 68616, Nov. 18, 2014; 83 FR 30533, June 29, 2018]

**Subpart J—Gulf of Alaska Trawl Economic Data**

**§ 679.110 Gulf of Alaska Trawl Economic Data Reports (EDRs).**

(a) *Requirements to submit an EDR—(1) GOA Trawl Catcher Vessels.* The owner or leaseholder of any vessel who is named on a Limited License Program (LLP) groundfish license that authorizes a catcher vessel using trawl gear to harvest LLP groundfish species in the GOA must submit a complete Annual Trawl Catcher Vessel Economic Data Report (EDR) for that calendar year by following the instructions on

the Annual Trawl Catcher Vessel EDR form.

(2) *GOA Shoreside Processors and Stationary Floating Processors.* The owner or leaseholder of a shoreside processor or stationary floating processor with a Federal Processor Permit (FPP) that processes groundfish caught by vessels fishing with trawl gear in the GOA must submit a complete Annual Shoreside Processor Economic Data Report (EDR) for that calendar year by following the instructions on the Annual Shoreside Processor EDR form.

(3) *Annual Trawl Catcher/Processor Economic Data Report (EDR).* The owner or leaseholder of a vessel that is named on a Limited License Program (LLP) groundfish license that authorizes a Catcher/Processor using trawl gear to harvest and process LLP groundfish in the GOA must submit an Annual Trawl Catcher/Processor EDR as described at §679.94 for that calendar year.

(b) *Deadline.* A completed EDR or EDR certification page for:

(1) The Annual Trawl Catcher Vessel EDR or the Annual Shoreside Processor EDR must be submitted to the DCA for each calendar year on or before 1700 hours, A.l.t., June 1 of the following year, or

(2) The Annual Trawl Catcher/Processor EDR must be submitted to NMFS as required at §679.94(a)(2).

(c) *Information required.* The Annual Trawl Catcher Vessel EDR, Annual Shoreside Processor EDR, and Annual Trawl Catcher/Processor EDR forms are available on the NMFS Alaska Region Web site at [www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov](http://www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov), or by contacting NMFS at 1-800-304-4846.

(d) *EDR certification.* A person required to submit an EDR under paragraph (a) of this section, or the designated representative, if applicable, must submit the EDR certification statement as either:

(1) *Part of the entire EDR.* A person submitting the applicable EDR form must attest to the accuracy and completion of the EDR by signing and dating the certification portion of the applicable EDR form; or

(2) *EDR certification only.* A person submitting a completed EDR certification only must attest that they meet the conditions exempting them from

submitting the entire EDR as described in the certification portion of the applicable EDR form and sign and date the certification portion of the form.

(e) *Verification of EDR data.* (1) NMFS, the DCA, or the DDCA will conduct verification of information with a person required to submit the applicable EDR, or if applicable, that person's designated representative.

(2) The person required to submit the applicable EDR or designated representative, if applicable, must respond to inquiries by NMFS, the designated DCA, or the DDCA within 20 days of the date of issuance of the inquiry.

(3) The person required to submit the applicable EDR or designated representative, if applicable, must provide copies of additional data to facilitate data verification. NMFS, the DCA, or the DDCA may review and request copies of additional data provided by the person required to submit the applicable EDR form or designated representative, if applicable, including but not limited to, previously audited or reviewed financial statements, worksheets, tax returns, invoices, receipts, and other original documents substantiating the data submitted in an EDR form.

(f) *DCA authorization.* Except for EDR data submitted as required under § 679.94(a), the DCA is authorized to release unaggregated EDR data to authorized data users in blind data format only.

[79 FR 71318, Dec. 2, 2014]

### Subpart K—Halibut Deck Sorting

SOURCE: 84 FR 55054, Oct. 15, 2019, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 679.120 Halibut deck sorting.

(a) *Applicability.* The owner and operator of a mothership or catcher/processor using trawl gear in the non-pollock groundfish fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area must comply with the requirements of this section when participating in halibut deck sorting as defined at § 679.2.

(b) *Catch monitoring requirements*—(1) *Catch weighing.* When halibut deck sorting, all catch, except halibut sorted

on deck, must be weighed on a NMFS-approved scale in compliance with the scale requirements at § 679.28(b). Each haul must be weighed separately, all catch must be made available for sampling by a NMFS-certified observer, and no sorting of catch, except halibut sorted on deck, may take place prior to weighing. When halibut deck sorting, no fish may be weighed on a NMFS-approved scale used to weigh catch at sea unless two observers are available to complete data collection duties, one on deck and one in the factory. A visual signal, specified in paragraph (e)(8) of this section, must be used to indicate when catch may not be weighed.

(2) *Observer sampling station.* An observer sampling station meeting the requirements at § 679.28(d) must be available at all times.

(3) *Observer coverage requirements.* Comply with the observer coverage requirements at § 679.51(a)(2).

(4) *Sample storage.* Provide a storage space sufficient to accommodate a minimum of 10 observer sampling baskets. This space must be within or adjacent to the observer sampling station.

(5) *Vessel crew in tanks or bins.* Comply with the bin monitoring standards at § 679.28(i)(1).

(6) *Observer deck sampling station.* An observer deck sampling station meeting the requirements at § 679.28(d)(9) must be available at all times.

(7) *Video monitoring.* Comply with the video monitoring standards specified at § 679.28(l).

(c) *Pre-cruise meeting.* Notify the Observer Program by phone at 1 (907) 581-2060 (Dutch Harbor, AK) or 1 (907) 481-1770 (Kodiak, AK) at least 24 hours prior to departure when the vessel will be carrying an observer who has not previously been deployed on that vessel within the last 12 months. Subsequent to the vessel's departure notification, but prior to departure, NMFS may contact the vessel to arrange for a pre-cruise meeting. The pre-cruise meeting must minimally include the vessel operator or manager and any observers assigned to the vessel.

(d) *Deck Safety Plan.* Annually submit and have an approved Deck Safety Plan prior to participating in halibut deck sorting. The owner and operator must