

fishing allowance in Statistical Area 62 will be reached by 12 noon A.l.t., January 24, 1995. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 62.

Directed fishing standards for applicable gear types may be found in the regulations at § 672.20(g).

#### Classification

This action is taken under 50 CFR 672.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: January 23, 1995.

**David S. Crestin,**

*Acting Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 95-2098 Filed 1-24-95; 4:31 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

#### 50 CFR Part 672

[Docket No. 941249-4349; I.D. 012095B]

#### Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska; Inseason Action

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

**ACTION:** Closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 63

in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the interim 1995 initial specification for pollock in this area.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), January 24, 1995, until 12 noon A.l.t. April 1, 1995 unless superseded by the final 1995 specifications in the **Federal Register**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael L. Sloan, 907-586-7228.

**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 Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at 50 CFR parts 620 and 672.

The interim specification of pollock total allowable catch in Statistical Area 63 was established by interim specifications (59 FR 65975, December 22, 1994) as 4,078 metric tons (mt), determined in accordance with § 672.20(c)(1)(ii)(A).

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Director), has determined, in accordance with § 672.20(c)(2)(ii), that the 1995 interim specification of pollock in Statistical Area 63 soon will be reached. The Regional Director

established a directed fishing allowance of 3,000 mt, and has set aside the remaining 1,078 mt as bycatch to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries. Because of the low directed fishing allowance and high interest in the fishery, there will be insufficient time to collect and analyze catch data and take appropriate action to ensure the directed fishing allowance is not exceeded. Therefore, based on the best available data, the Regional Director has determined that the pollock directed fishing allowance in Statistical Area 63 will be reached by 12 noon A.l.t., January 24, 1995. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 63.

Directed fishing standards for applicable gear types may be found in the regulations at § 672.20(g).

#### Classification

This action is taken under 50 CFR 672.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: January 23, 1995.

**David S. Crestin,**

*Acting Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 95-2097 Filed 1-24-95; 4:31 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F