

not subject to a 30-day delay in effective date and is being made effective immediately.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 642

Fisheries, Fishing, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: February 1, 1995.

Nancy Foster,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 642 is amended as follows:

PART 642—COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGIC RESOURCES OF THE GULF OF MEXICO AND SOUTH ATLANTIC

1. The authority citation for part 642 continues to read as follows:

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

2. In § 642.7, new paragraph (y) is added to read as follows:

§ 642.7 Prohibitions.

* * * * *

(y) In the Florida west coast subzone—

(1) Exceed the trip/possession limit for king mackerel, as specified in § 642.32(b)(1); or

(2) Transfer king mackerel at sea, as specified in § 642.32(b)(4).

3. In subpart B, new § 642.32 is added to read as follows:

§ 642.32 Opening of the commercial king mackerel fishery for Gulf group king mackerel.

(a) Other provisions of this part 642 notwithstanding, the commercial fishery for king mackerel for vessels fishing under an annual vessel permit specified in § 642.4(a)(1) with hook-and-line gear in the Florida west coast subzone is opened under a revised quota of 732,500 lb (332,256 kg) for the 1994–95 fishing year.

(b) During the opening of the commercial fishery for Gulf group king mackerel specified in paragraph (a) of this section—

(1) King mackerel in or from the EEZ in the Florida west coast subzone may not be possessed aboard or landed from a vessel in a day in quantities exceeding 125 fish. A person who fishes in the EEZ may not combine this trip/possession limit with any trip or possession limit applicable to state waters;

(2) The provisions of § 642.24(a)(4) regarding sale of fish after a closure do not apply to king mackerel harvested by

vessels fishing under an annual vessel permit specified in § 642.4(a)(1) with hook-and-line gear in the Florida west coast subzone.

(3) The provisions of § 642.26(b) regarding fishing for, retention of, and sale of fish after a closure do not apply to king mackerel harvested by vessels fishing under an annual vessel permit specified in § 642.4(a)(1) with hook-and-line gear in the Florida west coast subzone; and

(4) A person for whom the trip/possession limit specified in paragraph (b)(1) of this section applies may not transfer at sea from one vessel to another a king mackerel—

(i) Taken in the EEZ, regardless of where such transfer takes place; or

(ii) In the EEZ, regardless of where such king mackerel was taken.

(c) The Assistant Administrator will close the commercial fishery for king mackerel for vessels fishing with hook-and-line gear in the Florida west coast subzone when he determines that the revised quota specified in paragraph (a) of this section has been reached or is projected to be reached. The Assistant Administrator will file a notification of that date with the Office of the **Federal Register**.

(d) For the purposes of this section, the Florida west coast subzone extends from the Alabama/Florida boundary (87°31'06" W. long.) to the Dade/Monroe County, FL, boundary (25°20.4' N. lat.).

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50 CFR Part 672

[Docket No. 941249-4349; I.D. 020295A]

Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 61

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

ACTION: Closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is closing the directed fishery for pollock in Statistical Area 61 in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the interim specification for pollock in this area.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), February 2, 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: Andrew N. Smoker, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone is managed by the 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 61 was established by interim specifications (59 FR 65990, December 22, 1994) as 7,595 metric tons (mt), determined in accordance with § 672.20(c)(1)(ii)(A).

The Director of the 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 61 soon will be reached. The Regional Director established a directed fishing allowance of 6,095 mt, and has set aside the remaining 1,500 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 reached. Therefore, based on the best available information, the Regional Director has determined that the directed fishing allowance will be reached by 12 noon A.l.t., February 2, 1995. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 61.

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: February 2, 1995.

David S. Crestin,

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

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