

section 603(b) of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, an initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis is not required.

This action has been determined to be not significant for purposes of E.O. 12866.

Pursuant to section 553(b)(B) of the APA, the AA finds there is good cause to waive prior notice and opportunity to comment on this action. It is unnecessary because this action is in response to comments received on the temporary requirement published May 3, 1995 (60 FR 21741). It is also impracticable and contrary to the public interest because current restrictions placed upon fishermen are unnecessarily burdensome, and any delay in this action imposes additional unnecessary fishing restrictions.

Because this rule relieves a restriction, under section 553(d) of the APA a 30-day delay in effective date is not required.

The AA prepared an EA for the final rule (57 FR 57348, December 4, 1992) requiring TED use in shrimp trawls and establishing the 30-day notice procedures. An EA has been prepared for this action. Copies of the EA and the supplemental EA are available (see ADDRESSES).

Dated: May 12, 1995.

Gary Matlock,

Program Management Officer, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 95-12180 Filed 5-12-95; 3:47 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

50 CFR Part 672

[Docket No. 95020641-5041-01; I.D. 050495A]

Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska; Vessels Using Hook-and-Line Gear

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

ACTION: Closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is closing the entire Gulf of Alaska (GOA) to directed fishing with hook-and-line gear for all species that compose the "other hook-and-line gear fishery". This action is necessary because the bycatch allowance of Pacific halibut apportioned to the "other hook-and-line gear fishery" in the GOA for the 1995 fishing year has been caught.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), May 18, 1995, until 12 midnight, A.l.t., December 31, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew N. Smoker, 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.

In accordance with § 672.20(f)(1)(ii)(A), the 1995 Pacific halibut bycatch allowance apportioned to the "other hook-and-line gear fishery," which is defined at § 672.20(f)(1)(ii)(B)(3), is 290 metric tons (60 FR 12149, March 6, 1995).

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, has determined in accordance with § 672.20(f)(3)(ii) that U.S. fishing vessels participating in the "other hook-and-line gear fishery" have caught the entire Pacific halibut bycatch allowance for 1995. Therefore, NMFS is closing the entire GOA to directed fishing with hook-and-line gear for each species and/or species group composing the "other hook-and-line gear fishery".

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 OMB review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: May 12, 1995.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 95-12212 Filed 5-17-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

50 CFR Part 675

[Docket No. 950206040-5040-01; I.D. 051595C]

Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area; Sharpchin/Northern Rockfish Species Category in the Aleutian Islands Subarea

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

ACTION: Closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is closing the directed fishery for the sharpchin/northern rockfish species category in the Aleutian Islands subarea (AI) of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area

(BSAI). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the sharpchin/northern rockfish species category total allowable catch (TAC) in the AI.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), May 17, 1995, until 12 midnight, A.l.t., December 31, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew N. Smoker, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The groundfish fishery in the BSAI exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (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 675.

In accordance with § 675.20(a)(7)(ii) the sharpchin/northern rockfish species category TAC for the AI was established by the final groundfish specifications (60 FR 8479, February 14, 1995) as 4,338 metric tons (mt).

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Director), has determined, in accordance with § 675.20(a)(8), that the sharpchin/northern rockfish species category TAC in the AI soon will be reached. Therefore, the Regional Director has established a directed fishing allowance of 4,038 mt, with consideration that 300 mt will be taken as incidental catch in directed fishing for other species in the AI. The Regional Director has determined that the directed fishing allowance has been reached. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for the sharpchin/northern rockfish species category in the AI.

Directed fishing standards for applicable gear types may be found in the regulations at § 675.20(h).

Classification

This action is taken under 50 CFR 675.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: May 15, 1995.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

[FR Doc. 95-12276 Filed 5-15-95; 2:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F