

minimize disruption of traditional fishing and marketing patterns, and to protect juvenile fish. The public had the opportunity to comment at those meetings. There was an opportunity for additional public comment and review of supporting documents (catch projections) at the June 1995 Council meeting, during which these issues were discussed further. Therefore, these actions may be taken under the abbreviated rulemaking procedures at section III.B.(3) of the appendix to 50 CFR part 663.

The increase to the canary rockfish cumulative trip limit and the 100-lb trip limit for small lingcod both relax restrictions that currently are in effect, and both were contemplated at three Council meetings during which the public had opportunity to comment. Public comments were considered, and are the basis for establishing the trip limit for small lingcod. NMFS therefore finds good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) to waive the requirements for publication of a general notice of proposed rulemaking. For the same reasons, according to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(1), these actions are not subject to the 30-day delayed effectiveness requirement of the Administrative Procedure Act. This action is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: July 28, 1995.

**Donald J. Leedy,**

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

[FR Doc. 95-19165 Filed 7-31-95; 3:07 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

## 50 CFR Part 675

[Docket No. 950206041-5041-01; I.D. 073195B]

### Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area; Rock Sole/Flathead Sole/"Other Flatfish" Fishery

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

**ACTION:** Closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is closing the directed fishery for species in the rock sole/flathead sole/"other flatfish" fishery category by vessels using trawl gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the 1995 bycatch allowance of Pacific halibut apportioned to the trawl rock sole/flathead sole/"other flatfish" fishery category in the BSAI.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), August 1, 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 Area (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.

The 1995 bycatch allowance of Pacific halibut for the BSAI trawl rock sole/flathead sole/"other flatfish" fishery category, which is defined at § 675.21(b)(1)(iii)(B)(2), was established as 690 metric tons by the final 1995 harvest specifications of groundfish (60 FR 8479, February 14, 1995).

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, has determined, in accordance with § 675.21(c)(1)(iii), that the 1995 bycatch allowance of Pacific halibut apportioned to the trawl rock sole/flathead sole/"other flatfish" fishery in the BSAI has been caught. Therefore, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for species in the rock sole/flathead sole/"other flatfish" fishery category by vessels using trawl gear in the BSAI.

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

#### Classification

This action is taken under § 675.21 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: July 31, 1995.

**Richard W. Surdi,**

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

[FR Doc. 95-19172 Filed 7-31-95; 4:34 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F