

govern the Pacific halibut fishery. This action is intended to enhance the conservation of the Pacific halibut stock.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 8:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m., local time, August 15, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Pennoyer, 907-586-7221; William W. Stelle, Jr., 206-526-6140; or Donald McCaughran, 206-634-1838.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The IPHC, under the Convention between the United States of America and Canada for the Preservation of the Halibut Fishery of the Northern Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea (signed at Ottawa, Ontario, on March 2, 1953), as amended by a Protocol Amending the Convention (signed at Washington, DC, on March 29, 1979), has issued this inseason action pursuant to IPHC regulations governing the Pacific halibut fishery. The regulations have been approved by NMFS (60 FR 14651, March 20, 1995). On behalf of the IPHC, this inseason action is published in the **Federal Register** to provide additional notice of its effectiveness, and to inform persons subject to the inseason action of the restrictions and requirements established therein.

Inseason Action

1995 Halibut Landing Report Number 12

Area 2A Non-Treaty Commercial Fishery to Reopen

The August 1 fishing period in Area 2A resulted in a catch of 8,000 lb (3.62 metric tons (mt)). The revised total commercial catch from Area 2A to date is 48,000 lb (21.77 mt), leaving approximately 57,000 lb (25.85 mt) to be taken.

Area 2A will reopen on August 15 for 10 hours from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. local time. The fishery is restricted to waters that are south of Point Chelhalis, WA (46°53'18" N. lat.) under regulations promulgated by NMFS. Fishing period limits as indicated in the following table will be in effect for this opening.

Vessel class		Fishing period limit (lb)	
Length	Letter	Dressed, head-on	Dressed, head-off*
0-25	A	380	335
26-30	B	475	420
31-35	C	760	670
36-40	D	2,100	1,850
41-45	E	2,260	1,990
46-50	F	2,710	1,190
51-55	G	3,020	2,660

Vessel class		Fishing period limit (lb)	
Length	Letter	Dressed, head-on	Dressed, head-off*
56+	H	4,545	4,000

*Weights are after 2 percent has been deducted for ice and slime if fish are not washed prior to weighing.

The appropriate vessel length class and letter is printed on each halibut license.

The fishing period limit is shown in terms of dressed, head-off weight as well as dressed, head-on weight, although fishermen are reminded that regulations require that all halibut from Area 2A be landed with the head on.

The fishing period limit applies to the vessel, not the individual fisherman, and any landings over the vessel limit will be subject to forfeiture and fine.

Dated: August 16, 1995.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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50 CFR Part 661

[Docket No. 950426116-5116-01; I.D. 080995C]

Ocean Salmon Fisheries Off the Coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California; Closure from the U.S.-Canadian border to Cape Alava, WA

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

ACTION: Closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces that the recreational salmon fishery in the area from the U.S.-Canadian border to Cape Alava, WA, was closed at midnight, August 4, 1995. The Director, Northwest Region, NMFS (Regional Director), has determined that the recreational quota of 7,100 coho salmon for the area has been reached. This action is necessary to conform to the preseason announcement of the 1995 management measures and is intended to ensure conservation of coho salmon.

DATES: Effective at 2400 hours local time, August 4, 1995 through September 28, 1995. Comments will be accepted through September 5, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to William Stelle, Jr., Director, Northwest Region, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, 7600 Sand Point Way

NE., BIN C15700-Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0070. Information relevant to this notice has been compiled in aggregate form and is available for public review during business hours at the office of the Regional Director.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William L. Robinson, 206-526-6140.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Regulations governing the ocean salmon fisheries at 50 CFR 661.21(a)(1) state that when a quota for the commercial or the recreational fishery, or both, for any salmon species in any portion of the fishery management area is projected by the Regional Director to be reached on or by a certain date, NMFS will, by notice issued under § 661.23, close the commercial or recreational fishery, or both, for all salmon species in the portion of the fishery management area to which the quota applies as of the date the quota is projected to be reached.

In the annual management measures for ocean salmon fisheries (60 FR 21746, May 3, 1995), NMFS announced that the 1995 recreational fishery in the area between the U.S.-Canadian border and Cape Alava, WA, would open on August 1 and continue through September 28 or attainment of the 5,850 coho salmon quota, whichever occurred first. An inseason adjustment was made to increase the coho salmon quota in this area to 7,100 fish (60 FR 40302, August 8, 1995).

The best available information on August 2 indicated that recreational catches in the area totaled over 1,500 coho salmon on August 1, the first day of the fishery. Based on that catch level, recreational fishing could continue for 4 days without exceeding the quota. A fifth day of fishing would greatly exceed the quota. Therefore, NMFS determined to close the fishery at midnight, August 4.

The Regional Director consulted with representatives of the Pacific Fishery Management Council and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding this closure. The State of Washington will manage the recreational fishery in State waters adjacent to this area of the Exclusive Economic Zone in accordance with this Federal action. In accordance with the inseason notice procedures of 50 CFR 661.23, actual notice to fishermen of this action was given prior to 2400 hours local time, August 4, 1995, by telephone hotline number (206) 526-6667 and (800) 662-9825 and by U.S. Coast Guard Notice to Mariners broadcasts on Channel 16 VHF-FM and 2182 KHz. Because of the need for immediate action to conserve coho salmon, NMFS has determined that

good cause exists for this action to be issued without affording a prior opportunity for public comment. This action does not apply to other fisheries that may be operating in other areas.

Classification

This action is authorized by 50 CFR 661.21 and 661.23 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: August 16, 1995.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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