

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****50 CFR Parts 672 and 675**

[Docket No. 950727194-6005-02; I.D. 062795C]

RIN 0648-AG54

Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska; Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area; Consolidation of Regulations Including Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements

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

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: NMFS is consolidating and revising several sections of regulations, including the recordkeeping and reporting requirements, for use in the groundfish fisheries of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) and the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI). The changes made by this rule are expected to facilitate management of the groundfish fisheries, promote compliance with groundfish regulations, and facilitate enforcement efforts. This action is intended to further the goals and objectives of the fishery management plans (FMPs) for the groundfish fisheries off Alaska.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 13, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Individual copies of the environmental assessment/regulatory impact review prepared for this action may be obtained from Fisheries Management Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802, Attention: Lori J. Gravel.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patsy A. Bearden, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Fishing for groundfish by U.S. vessels in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the BSAI and the GOA is managed by NMFS in accordance with the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska and the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area. The FMPs were prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) under the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson Act). The FMPs are implemented by regulations that appear at 50 CFR parts 672, 675, and 676. General regulations that also govern the groundfish fisheries appear at 50 CFR part 620.

This rule consolidates several sections of regulations in parts 672 and 675, corrects errors, clarifies vague text, removes outdated requirements, as well as simplifies and streamlines the remaining regulations, including the recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

A proposed rule addressing these concerns was published in the Federal Register on September 8, 1995 (60 FR 46936). Public comment was invited through October 10, 1995. NMFS received 21 letters containing 50 comments. Similar comments were grouped together, resulting in 32 comments. The comments are summarized and responded to below in the Response to Comments section.

Changes in the Final Rule From the Proposed Rule

The final rule includes the following changes from the proposed rule:

1. In addition to catcher vessels less than 5 net tons (4.5 mt), catcher vessels under 60 feet (18.3 m) length overall (LOA) will not be required to maintain a Daily Fishing Logbook (DFL), and therefore will not submit the blue discard copy to shoreside processors, motherships, or buying stations.

2. Beginning with 1996, catcher vessels delivering unsorted codends to a Mothership or Shoreside Processor will be exempt from the requirement to submit a blue DFL discard logsheet with the harvest.

3. With catcher vessels logging only total round fish weight, documenting individual fishing quota (IFQ) catch by area currently is not required. To promote compliance with recent changes allowing fishing in multiple areas on the same trip, the DFL format and procedure are changed to require catcher vessels to enter daily in the DFL estimated IFQ sablefish harvest amounts by reporting area in the "Comments" column.

4. The processor permit application is revised to allow motherships and catcher/processors under 125 feet (38.1 m) LOA that process pollock in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) and the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) and/or Pacific cod in the GOA to choose to process in either the inshore or offshore component for the entire fishing year.

5. The definition of "round-weight equivalent" at § 672.2 is revised by changing the words, "as listed in § 672.20(j)" to read "as listed in Table 3 of this part."

6. The definition for fishing trip is revised at §§ 672.20(h)(2), 672.20(i)(4), 675.20(i)(2), and 675.20(j)(4). The term, fishing trip, formerly had two separate

but similar definitions. With this change, only one definition exists.

7. The following figures are revised: Figures 1a, 4a, 5a, 6, and 7, pages 46961, 46966, 46968, 46970, and 46971 (page numbers refer to the document published on September 8, 1995, at 60 FR 46936, *et seq.*, are revised to remove a duplicate title; Figure 2, page 46963, is revised to reflect new boundaries of the Catcher Vessel Operational Area (CVOA) as changed by a recent final rule and also to remove a duplicate title; and Figure 3a, page 46964, is revised to add lines that reflect the boundaries of GOA reporting areas 649 and 659 and also to remove a duplicate title.

8. Cross references were added to § 672.2 for the following terms: Fixed gear; fishing trip.

9. The definitions of inshore component and offshore component are revised at § 672.2 to be consistent with a recent final rule making that change.

10. Paragraph 672.4(l) is removed and paragraphs 672.7 (i) and (j) and 675.7 (l) and (m) are revised to make allowance for the eventual reopening of the Donut Hole if an international agreement is in place under the Convention of the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea to manage pollock fisheries in the Donut Hole. Paragraph 672.4(m) is renumbered as 672.4(l).

11. Table 2, pages 46953 and 46954, is revised to add a species code 888 for mixed species tote (for use with Product Transfer Reports only).

12. Four product recovery rate values in Table 3, page 46954, for FMP species = sablefish, are corrected as follows: H&G with roe (6) should be blank; H&G western cut (7) should be 0.68; H&G eastern cut (8) should be 0.63; and H&G without tail (10) should be 0.50.

13. Three retainable percentage values in Table 10, page 46959, are corrected as follows:

For basis species versus bycatch species:

Flathead sole versus sablefish should be 15;

Flathead sole versus aggregated rockfish should be 15; and

Flathead sole versus demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) in the Southeast Outside District of the Eastern Regulatory Area of the GOA (SEEO) should be 1.

14. One retainable percentage value in Table 11, page 46960, is corrected as follows:

For basis species versus bycatch species:

Pacific Ocean perch versus Greenland turbot should be 35.

15. A typographical error on page 46942, third column, seventh line is

corrected as follows: "weekly production" should be "weekly production" report.

Response to Comments

Catcher Vessel Daily Fishing Logbook (DFL)

Comment 1. Redesign the catcher vessel DFL format and submittal procedure to: (1) Revise blue DFL logsheet delivery schedule and procedure for deliveries of unsorted codends to motherships; (2) Allow multiple entries on one DFL logsheet for each fishing trip; (3) Determine procedure for multiple offloads of a single catcher vessel in one day.

Response. NMFS concurs. The catcher vessel logbook format is revised and the procedure for submittal of the DFL is revised. (1) For deliveries of unsorted codends, the catcher vessel would be exempt from recording of discards in the DFL and submittal of the blue logsheet (discards copy) for that delivery. The operator of the catcher vessel would check an "unsorted codend" box on the DFL, and the blue logsheet would remain with the DFL. For presorted deliveries, or in the event a catcher vessel has "bled" a codend prior to delivery to a processor, the operator would check a "presorted delivery" box, enter estimated amount of discards by species, and submit the blue logsheet to the processor with each harvest delivery.

(2) and (3). Instead of requesting daily information on one DFL page, the DFL format is revised to request start and end dates of a fishing trip. The fishing trip date would be 1 day for those vessels making multiple trips in 1 day, or the fishing trip could be as long as 7 days within a weekly reporting period. The operator would complete one logsheet for multiple trips (offloads) in 1 day or multiple days in one trip. In either case, the operator would submit only one blue logsheet to the processor for the trip (unless more than one logsheet is used to document the trip).

The operator of the catcher vessel still would be required to account for each day of the fishing year in the DFL, and the time periods would need to be consecutive in the logbook. The mothership would sort catch received from unsorted codends and record the discarded species in the Daily Cumulative Production Logbook (DCPL) as discard at sea. The precedent for allowing one or more options in the use of a single logsheet has been successfully demonstrated through the use of the shoreside processor logsheet.

Comment 2. Revise the DFL format and procedure for submittal of a blue

discard logsheet as follows: (1) Require only the last blue logsheet per fishing trip be submitted; (2) have each catcher vessel submit a blue logsheet only if discard occurs at sea; and (3) have catcher vessel submit discard data via radio to mothership.

Response. The difficulties addressed by these comments concerning submittal of the blue logsheet have been corrected by the revised DFL format and submittal procedure as indicated in Response to Comment 1.

Comment 3. Change position reporting requirements in the DFL, catcher/processor DCPL, and mothership DCPL for haul set and retrieve data from degrees and minutes to degrees, minutes, and tenths of minutes or change to degrees, minutes, and seconds to improve data used for Global Positioning System (GPS) research by the Alaska Fisheries Science Center of spatial patterns of resource use and the occurrence of bycatch. At the current level of spatial resolution, heavily fished areas have many reported hauls at basically the same latitude and longitude when reported in degrees and minutes.

GOA and BSAI fishermen use one of two radionavigation systems: Loran C and the GPS. Loran C, planned for phase-out by the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) in the year 2000, converts to latitude and longitude in degrees, minutes, and fractions of minutes. GPS systems generally have the option to read latitude and longitude in degrees, minutes, seconds or fractions of minutes.

Response. NMFS concurs. The proposed rule included a revision to record position in degrees, minutes, and seconds. However, based on discussions among NMFS management, NMFS Enforcement, and the USCG, position resolution finer than degrees and minutes will be included as an option rather than a requirement, because finer resolution is not needed for management of groundfish quotas or for enforcement of fisheries regulations.

Comment 4. Revise the DFL to request set-specific tally on the target species. This would allow the operator to use the DFL to see how each set performed and at what depths from beginning to end.

Response. NMFS will consider this comment with the next recordkeeping and reporting revision.

Comment 5. On the DFL, add a box in the remarks section of the "active, but no fishing activity" that says, "Non-groundfish fishery. No groundfish retained for sale."

Response. NMFS disagrees. Currently, the operator is requested to write the reason for not fishing. The box should

remain blank, because reasons for inactivity exist other than participation in a non-groundfish fishery.

Comment 6. Require catcher vessels involved in the IFQ sablefish fisheries to estimate and record in the DFL the weight of IFQ sablefish brought on board.

Response. NMFS concurs. With catcher vessels logging only total round fish weight, documenting IFQ catch by area currently is not required. To promote compliance with recent changes allowing fishing in multiple areas on the same trip, the DFL format and procedure are changed to require catcher vessels to enter daily in the DFL estimated IFQ sablefish harvest amounts by reporting area in the "Comments" column.

Comment 7. Require a vessel to have a quota share on board in order to conduct a directed hook-and-line fishery for halibut or sablefish.

Response. "Quota share" refers back to the original percentage of sablefish or Pacific halibut for which a person is eligible (see § 676.20(f)). This information does not need to be on board while fishing for one of those species. However, NMFS: Requires that a valid IFQ permit and IFQ card in the name of the shareholder be onboard (see § 676.16(c)); prohibits the retention of IFQ halibut or IFQ sablefish on a vessel in excess of the total amount of unharvested IFQ that is held by all IFQ card holders aboard the vessel (see § 676.16(d)); and provides that the IFQ assigned to a person represents the maximum amount of halibut or sablefish that may be harvested by that person (see § 676.20(f)).

Comment 8. Require vessels to enter appropriate IFQ number(s) in the logbooks for all hook-and-line sablefish landings.

Response. NMFS will consider this comment with the next recordkeeping and reporting revision.

Comment 9. Combine groundfish DFL with other related recording and reporting systems, specifically: (1) Require catcher vessels involved in the IFQ fisheries to record in the DFL, IFQ sablefish information and IFQ permit information; (2) combine groundfish DFL with International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) halibut logbooks; and (3) incorporate the marine mammal logbook into the DFL.

Response. NMFS concurs and will consider this comment in the next recordkeeping and reporting revision.

Comment 10. Add the effective date of the logbooks on the front cover.

Response. NMFS concurs. The logbook covers are revised to include this information.

Comment 11. Add to vessel logbooks, space to record the USCG documentation number, state registration number, and the marine mammal exemption number.

Response. NMFS will consider this comment with the next recordkeeping and reporting revision.

Comment 12. Revise the logbook formats to include additional information: (1) Print the address where logsheet quarterly submittals must be mailed; and (2) print reporting codes, species and product codes.

Response. NMFS concurs. Logbooks have been revised to include the mailing information on the back cover. The reporting codes, species codes, and product codes are included in an instruction packet enclosed in the cover of each logbook.

Comment 13. Expand authorized gear definitions to include the definitions of fixed gear, for purposes of IFQ.

Response. The GOA and BSAI groundfish regulations define specific groundfish gear types at 50 CFR § 672.2 under the definition for authorized fishing gear. The term, fixed gear, is defined at 50 CFR § 676.11 with respect to IFQ sablefish and IFQ halibut. A cross-reference for fixed gear to § 676.11 is added to the definitions at § 672.2.

Comment 14. Add questions addressing safety requirements for fishing vessels to the Federal Fisheries Permit application. These questions would be answered by operators of fishing vessels required to carry observers under 50 CFR part 677.

Response. NMFS will consider this comment with the next recordkeeping and reporting revision.

Comment 15. Add target species to the Weekly Production Report (WPR) to enhance calculation of halibut mortality for deep-water versus shallow-water targets in the GOA and trawl fisheries in the BSAI.

Response. NMFS disagrees. The calculation of halibut mortality for these targets is performed at NMFS after receipt of WPR based on formulae written into the programs.

Comment 16. Reinstate reporting exemption for incidental groundfish catches for small boats.

Response. Adjustments in recordkeeping and reporting requirements are needed due to changes in regulations brought on by the IFQ Program and the North Pacific Fisheries Research Plan. Because time is insufficient to make these adjustments for 1996, regulations at 50 CFR § 672.5 are revised to include an exemption from compliance with recordkeeping requirements for vessels less than 60 ft

(18.3 m) LOA participating in GOA or BSAI groundfish fisheries.

Comment 17. Relocate paragraph 672.22(d) to section 672.7 Prohibitions.

Response. NMFS concurs. This prohibition already appears at § 672.7(c), so § 672.22(d) is removed.

Comment 18. Add a species composition table to the regulations for use with the annual specifications notice.

Response. While this comment has merit, NMFS is not implementing it in this rulemaking. Currently, the species composition tables appear in the Federal Register each year as footnotes to Table 1 for both GOA and BSAI specifications. The public can refer to these tables for updated species composition upon which the interim, proposed, and final specifications are based.

Comment 19. Change the wording in the condition section of Federal Fisheries Permit to make allowance for the eventual reopening of the Donut Hole to permitted vessels.

Response. NMFS agrees. The text in the condition section of the permit is revised to allow fishing in the Donut Hole if an international agreement is in place under the Convention of the Conservation and Management of Pollock Resources in the Central Bering Sea to manage pollock fisheries in the Donut Hole (Public Law 104-43, section 104(d)).

Comment 20. Revisions and addition of maps: (1) In Figure 3, draw lines to reflect the bounds of GOA reporting areas 649 and 659; (2) add a map with place names for the area around the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska reporting area 610; and (3) add a map for Pribilof Islands closure area and change regulations text to refer to the figure.

Response. (1) NMFS agrees. The figure is revised; however, the figure depicting the GOA is not to scale and merely indicates that boundaries exist rather than depicting accurately the boundaries themselves; (2) NMFS will review this comment in the next revision of the recordkeeping and reporting regulations; and (3) NMFS concurs; however, this comment will be addressed in the next revision of the recordkeeping and reporting regulations.

Comment 21. NMFS could use DFL information for research purposes, for example: (1) Build an adequate shelf model distribution for depth and area through use of a bar scanner to project handwritten set positions and catch performance on a chart; and (2) develop regional/seasonal correlatives through observers recording spawning times in an area, then analyze the results for

possible closures during these times by using block chart areas.

Response. NMFS agrees that utilization of groundfish data collected for monitoring of the fisheries could be used for further research; however, this comment is not relevant to the recordkeeping and reporting proposed rule.

Comment 22. Change the definition of a fishing trip for a catcher vessel.

Response. NMFS concurs, although the definition of a fishing trip is standardized rather than revised. The text of the regulations at §§ 672.20(h)(2) and (i)(4) and 675.20(i)(2) and (j)(4) is revised, so that a standard definition of a fishing trip exists in both the GOA and BSAI. A cross reference to the term, fishing trip, is added at § 672.2.

Comment 23. The logbook instructions tell how to submit quarterly logsheets for an inactive period that includes the end of one fishing quarter and the start of another fishing quarter. This information should be included in the regulations.

Response. NMFS concurs. This language is added to the regulations at § 672.5(a)(14)(c).

Comment 24. Allow the use of the number "0" or the word "ZERO" as well as "NO DISCARDS" to account for discard species when no discards occurred.

Response. NMFS concurs. This language is added to the regulations at § 672.5(a)(10)(iv).

Comment 25. For purposes of the Vessel Activity Report (VAR), why is there a distinction made between "the seaward boundary of the EEZ off Alaska" and "the United States/Canada international boundary"?

Response. Entering directly into Alaska State waters from Canadian waters is possible, thus avoiding the "seaward boundary of the EEZ off Alaska."

Comment 26. Add a prohibition against adjusting scale weights for water content of fish.

Response. NMFS concurs; however this comment will be considered in the next revision of the recordkeeping and reporting regulations.

Comment 27. Standardize format of regulations as follows: (1) Capitalization of the words: Shoreside processor, mothership, catcher/processor, buying station, catcher vessel, support vessel, tender vessel, processor vessel, Federal Fisheries Permit number, Federal Processor Permit number, Alaska Department of Fish & Game (ADF&G) vessel number, and ADF&G processor code; (2) the word, codend, is one word, not two; (3) standardize the use of either of the terms, shoreside processor and

shoreside processing operation; (4) standardize capitalization of report names.

Response. (1) NMFS concurs; capitalization is made consistent within the final rule; (2) NMFS concurs; the correction is made; (3) NMFS concurs, and standardization of the terms is accomplished within the breadth of this final rule. However, many other instances of the inconsistent use of shoreside processor and shoreside processing operation occur in other areas of the regulations. Because more time is needed to complete this task, this comment will be considered more fully in the next revision of the recordkeeping and reporting regulations; (4) NMFS concurs; capitalization is made consistent within the final rule.

Comment 28. The requirement to disclose the number of days fished on logbooks and on the WPR should remain rather than be removed as proposed, as this is an excellent cross-check with other reports to determine number of days fished for vessels. The number of days fished is important to calculate observer coverage requirements.

Response. NMFS disagrees. Number of days fished may be calculated from other information in the logbooks.

Comment 29. WPRs should not list ADF&G Fish Ticket numbers, because Fish Tickets are completely voluntary for processors operating in the EEZ. The Federal government cannot enforce a voluntary State of Alaska program.

Response. Although issuance of ADF&G Fish Tickets is voluntary for processors operating in the EEZ, many of those processors comply with the State of Alaska requirement. If a fish ticket is issued, NMFS requests that the fish ticket number be listed on the WPR.

Comment 30. Add to the regulations that groundfish caught incidental to the non-groundfish fishery may be retained on board the vessel for use as bait during the period of the non-groundfish fishery. They may not be retained after closure of the non-groundfish fishery, or sold, or transferred from the vessel.

Response. NMFS concurs; however, this comment will be considered in the next revision of the recordkeeping and reporting regulations.

Comment 31. Product Transfer Report submittal requirements should not be changed from 1 week to 24 hours after the completion of the offload. Management offices need 1 week to maintain oversight of the vessels reporting.

Response. NMFS disagrees; more timely information is generally more accurate.

Comment 32. Create provisions in the regulations to deal with weekend reporting where a management office chooses to oversee the vessels reporting. Without time to complete reporting requirements in the management office, reporting would have to come straight from the vessel. Not only is it more costly, it would prevent management offices from being up to date on where the vessels are checked in and whether or not they have complied with regulations.

Response. NMFS disagrees; processor vessels are required to submit timely reports. Submission of reports to NMFS will not preclude the management office from monitoring their vessels' reporting.

Classification

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, determined that the regulatory amendment is necessary for the conservation and management of the GOA and BSAI management area fisheries and it is consistent with the Magnuson Act and other applicable laws.

The Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulation of the Department of Commerce certified to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration that this rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The reasons were published in the notice of proposed rule (60 FR 46936, September 8, 1995). As a result, a regulatory flexibility analysis was not prepared.

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

This rule contains collection-of-information requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act. The collections of information have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OMB Control Numbers 0648-0213 and 0648-0206. Additional burden would result from the requirements set forth for the new Buying Station DCL and Check-in/Check-out report, and also from revisions to existing reports.

An estimated additional response time for compliance with these new forms is expected to be between 25 minutes and 2.0 hours annually for the operator or manager of each processor or Buying Station and 27 minutes for each Catcher Vessel operator. The additional annual burden to Shoreside Processors and Buying Stations to comply with requirements for Check-in/Check-out reports is estimated to average about 8 minutes and 6 minutes, respectively, for each Check-in or Check-out report. Revisions to the format of other

logbooks and/or additions to information collected by logbooks are minimal and are not anticipated to significantly increase reporting burden to the industry. The requirements include: The U.S. Vessel Activities Report, 15 minutes; Weekly Production Report, 18 minutes; Daily Production Report, 10 minutes; Processor Product Transfer Report, 11 minutes; the Catcher Vessel Logbook, 15 minutes; and Federal Fishing Permits, 20 minutes.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Parts 672 and 675

Fisheries, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: January 31, 1996.

Gary Matlock,

Program Management Officer, National Marine Fisheries Service.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR parts 672 and 675 are amended as follows:

PART 672—GROUND FISH OF THE GULF OF ALASKA

1. The authority citation for part 672 continues to read as follows:

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

2. In § 672.1, paragraph (a) is revised to read as follows:

§ 672.1 Purpose and scope.

(a) Regulations in this part, along with parts 602, 620, 676, and 677 of this chapter, implement the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska.

* * * * *

3. Section 672.2 is revised to read as follows:

§ 672.2 Definitions.

In addition to the definitions in the Magnuson Act and in § 620.2 of this chapter, the terms used in this part have the following meanings:

Active/inactive periods—(1) *Active periods*—(i) *Catcher Vessel.* An active period for a catcher vessel means a period of time when the catcher vessel is in a reporting area (except 300, 400, 550, or 690) or gear remains on the grounds in a reporting area (except 300, 400, 550, or 690) regardless of the vessel location.

(ii) *Shoreside Processor, Mothership, Catcher/Processor, and Buying Station.*

An active period for a shoreside processor, mothership, catcher/processor, and buying station means a period of time when checked-in.

(2) *Inactive periods*—(i) *Catcher Vessel*. An inactive period for a catcher vessel means any period which does not qualify as an active period.

(ii) *Shoreside Processor, Mothership, Catcher/Processor, or Buying Station*. An inactive period for a shoreside processor, mothership, catcher/processor, or buying station means a period of time when not checked-in.

ADF&G means the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Alaska local time (A.l.t.) means the current Alaska time, either daylight savings time or standard time.

Alaska State waters means waters shoreward of the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) off Alaska.

Aleutian Islands Subarea (AI) of the BSAI means that portion of the EEZ contained in Statistical Areas 541, 542, and 543 (see Figure 1 of this part).

Authorized fishing gear means hook-and-line, jig, longline, longline pot, nonpelagic trawl, nontrawl, pelagic trawl, pot-and-line, and trawl; defined as follows:

(1) *Hook-and-line* means a stationary, buoyed, and anchored line with hooks attached, or the taking of fish by means of such a device;

(2) *Jig* means a single non-buoyed, non-anchored line with hooks attached, or the taking of fish by means of such a device;

(3) *Longline* means a stationary, buoyed, and anchored line with hooks or two or more groundfish pots attached, or the taking of fish by means of such a device (see § 672.24(b) or § 675.24(b) of this chapter);

(4) *Longline pot* means a stationary, buoyed, and anchored line with two or more pots attached, or the taking of fish by means of such a device;

(5) *Nonpelagic trawl* means a trawl other than a pelagic trawl;

(6) *Nontrawl* means hook-and-line, jig, longline, and pot-and-line gear;

(7) *Pelagic trawl* means a trawl that:

(i) Has no discs, bobbins, or rollers;

(ii) Has no chafe protection gear attached to the foot rope or fishing line;

(iii) Except for the small mesh allowed under paragraph (7)(ix) of this definition:

(A) Has no mesh tied to the fishing line, head rope, and breast lines with less than 20 inches (50.8 cm) between knots, and has no stretched mesh size of less than 60 inches (152.4 cm) aft from all points on the fishing line, head rope, and breast lines and extending past the fishing circle for a distance equal to or greater than one half the vessel's LOA; or

(B) Has no parallel lines spaced closer than 64 inches (162.6 cm), from all points on the fishing line, head rope, and breast lines and extending aft to a section of mesh, with no stretched mesh size of less than 60 inches (152.4 cm), extending aft for a distance equal to or greater than one half the vessel's LOA;

(iv) Has no stretched mesh size less than 15 inches (38.1 cm) aft of the mesh described in paragraph (7)(iii) of this definition for a distance equal to or greater than one half the vessel's LOA;

(v) Contains no configuration intended to reduce the stretched mesh sizes described in paragraphs (7) (iii) and (iv) of this definition;

(vi) Has no flotation other than floats capable of providing up to 200 lb (90.7 kg) of buoyancy to accommodate the use of a net-sounder device;

(vii) Has no more than one fishing line and one foot rope for a total of no more than two weighted lines on the bottom of the trawl between the wing tip and the fishing circle;

(viii) Has no metallic component except for connectors (e.g., hammerlocks or swivels) or net-sounder device aft of the fishing circle and forward of any mesh greater than 5.5 inches (14.0 cm) stretched measure;

(ix) May have small mesh within 32 ft (9.8 m) of the center of the head rope as needed for attaching instrumentation (e.g., net-sounder device); and

(x) May have weights on the wing tips;

(8) *Pot-and-line* means a stationary, buoyed line with a single pot attached, or the taking of fish by means of such a device; and

(9) *Trawl* means a conical-shaped net that is towed through the water for catching fish or other organisms. The net accumulates its catch in the closed, small end (usually called the codend). This definition includes, but is not limited to, Danish and Scottish seines and otter trawls.

Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (BSAI) means the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands subareas (see Figure 1 of this part).

Bering Sea Subarea (BS) of the BSAI means that portion of the EEZ contained in Statistical Areas 508, 509, 512, 513, 514, 516, 517, 518, 519, 521, 523, 524, and 530 (see Figure 1 of this part).

Bogoslof District means that part of the Bering Sea Subarea contained in Statistical Area 518 (see Figure 1 of this part).

Breast line means the rope or wire running along the forward edges of the side panels of a net, or along the forward edge of the side rope in a rope trawl.

Buying Station means a person or vessel that receives unprocessed groundfish from a vessel for delivery at a different location to a shoreside processor or mothership and that does not process those fish.

Bycatch Limitation Zone 1 (Zone 1) means that part of the Bering Sea Subarea that is contained within the boundaries of Statistical Areas 508, 509, 512, and 516 (see Figure 1 of this part).

Bycatch Limitation Zone 2 (Zone 2) means that part of the Bering Sea Subarea that is contained within the boundaries of Statistical Areas 513, 517, and 521 (see Figure 1 of this part).

Catcher/Processor means a vessel that is used for catching fish and processing that fish.

Catcher Vessel means a vessel that is used for catching fish and that does not process on board.

Catcher Vessel Operational Area (CVOA) (see Figure 2 of this part and § 675.22(g) of this chapter).

Central Aleutian District means that part of the Aleutian Islands Subarea contained in Statistical Area 542 (see Figure 1 of this part).

Community Development Plan (CDP) (applicable through December 31, 1998) means a plan for a specific Western Alaska community or group of communities approved by the Governor of the State of Alaska and recommended to NMFS under §§ 675.27 and 676.24 of this chapter.

Community Development Quota (CDQ) (applicable through December 31, 1998) means a percentage of the CDQ reserve for a BSAI subarea or district as defined at § 675.20(a)(3)(ii) of this chapter that is allocated to a CDP.

Community Development Quota Program (CDQ Program) (applicable through December 31, 1998) means the Western Alaska Community Development Program implemented under § 675.27 of this chapter.

Community Development Quota Reserve (CDQ Reserve) (applicable through December 31, 1998) means one half of the pollock TAC that is placed into the reserve for each subarea and district of the BSAI as specified at § 675.20(a)(3) of this chapter and that is set aside for the CDQ program.

Daily reporting period or day is the period from midnight until the following midnight using Alaska local time (A.l.t.).

Directed fishing means any fishing activity that results in the retention of an amount of a species or species group on board a vessel that is greater than the maximum retainable bycatch amount for that species or species group as calculated under §§ 672.20 (g) and (h) and 675.20 (h) and (i) of this chapter.

Donut Hole means international waters of the Bering Sea outside the limits of the EEZ and Russian economic zone as depicted on the current edition of NOAA chart INT 813 Bering Sea (Southern Part).

Eastern Aleutian District means that part of the Aleutian Islands Subarea contained in Statistical Area 541 (see Figure 1 of this part).

Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) (see § 620.2 of this chapter).

Federal waters means waters within the EEZ off Alaska.

Fish product weight means the weight of the fish product in pounds or to at least the nearest hundredth of a metric ton (0.01 mt). Fish product weight is based upon the number of production units and the weight of those units.

Production units include pans, cartons, blocks, trays, cans, bags, and individual fresh or frozen fish. The weight of a production unit is the average weight of representative samples of the product, and may include additives but not packaging. Any allowance for water added cannot exceed 5 percent of the gross product weight (fish, additives, and water).

Fishing activity (see definition for fishing in § 620.2 of this chapter).

Fishing circle means the circumference of a trawl intersecting the center point on a fishing line, and that is perpendicular to the long axis of a trawl.

Fishing day (see § 677.2 of this chapter).

Fishing line means a length of chain or wire rope in the bottom front end of a trawl to which the webbing or lead ropes are attached.

Fishing month (see §§ 672.26 or 675.26 of this chapter).

Fishing trip (see § 672.20(h)(2) of this chapter).

Fishing year means the period of time beginning at 0001 hours, A.l.t., on January 1 and ending at 2359 hours, A.l.t., on December 31 (see §§ 672.23(a) and 675.23(a) of this chapter).

Fixed gear (see § 676.11 of this chapter).

Foot rope means a chain or wire rope attached to the bottom front end of a trawl and attached to the fishing line.

Gear Deployment—(1) *For trawl gear* means where the trawl gear reaches the fishing level and begins to fish.

(2) *For jig/troll, hook-and-line, or longline gear* means where the gear enters the water.

(3) *For pot-and-line gear* means where the first pot enters the water.

Gear Retrieval—(1) *For trawl gear*, gear retrieval means where retrieval of trawl cable commences.

(2) *For jig/troll gear*, gear retrieval means where the jig/troll gear leaves the water.

(3) *For hook-and-line or longline pot gear*, gear retrieval means where the last hook-and-line or longline pot gear of a set leaves the water, regardless of where the majority of the haul or set took place.

(4) *For pot-and-line gear*, gear retrieval means where the last pot of a set leaves the water.

Governor means the Governor of the State of Alaska.

Groundfish means target species and the "other species" category, specified annually pursuant to § 672.20(a)(1) or § 675.20(a)(1) of this chapter.

Gulf of Alaska (GOA) means that portion of the EEZ contained in Statistical Areas 610, 620, 630, 640, and 650 (see Figure 3 of this part).

Head rope means a rope bordering the top front end of a trawl.

Herring Savings Area means any of three areas in the BSAI presented in Figure 4 of this part (see also § 675.21(c)(2) of this chapter for additional closure information):

Inshore component (applicable through December 31, 1998) means the following three categories of the U.S. groundfish fishery that process pollock harvested in a directed fishery for pollock in the GOA or BSAI, or Pacific cod harvested in a directed fishery for Pacific cod in the GOA, or both:

(1) Shoreside processing operations;

(2) Vessels less than 125 ft (38.1 m) in LOA, that process no more than 126 mt per week in round-weight equivalents of an aggregate amount of those fish; and

(3) Vessels that process those fish at a single geographic location in Alaska State waters (waters adjacent to the State of Alaska and shoreward of the EEZ) during a fishing year. For the purposes of this definition, NMFS will determine the single geographic location in a fishing year for an individual processor from the geographic coordinates the vessel operator reports on the check-in report (§ 672.5(h)(1) of this chapter) when that vessel first engages in processing those fish.

IPHC means International Pacific Halibut Commission (see part 301 of this title).

Joint venture processing (JVP) (see § 611.2 of this chapter).

Landing means off-loading fish.

Length overall (LOA) of a vessel means the horizontal distance, rounded to the nearest foot, between the foremost part of the stem and the aftermost part of the stern, excluding bowsprits, rudders, outboard motor brackets, and similar fittings or attachments (see Figure 6 of this part).

Logbook means Daily Cumulative Production Logbook (DCPL), Daily Cumulative Logbook (DCL), or a Daily Fishing Logbook (DFL) required by § 672.5.

Manager, with respect to any shoreside processor or buying station, means the individual responsible for the operation of the shoreside processor operation or buying station.

Maximum sustainable yield (MSY) (see part 602 of this chapter).

Mothership means a vessel that receives and processes groundfish from other vessels.

Net-sounder device means a sensor used to determine the depth from the water surface at which a fishing net is operating.

nm means nautical mile.

Non-allocated or nonspecified species means those fish species, other than prohibited species, for which total allowable catch (TAC) has not been specified (e.g., grenadier, prowlfish, lingcod).

Observer means any person certified under the NMFS Observer Plan (see part 677 of this chapter).

Offshore component (applicable through December 31, 1998) means all vessels not included in the definition of "inshore component" that process pollock caught in directed fisheries for pollock in the GOA or BSAI, or Pacific cod caught in directed fisheries for Pacific cod in the GOA, or both.

Optimum yield (OY) (see §§ 672.20 and 675.20 of this chapter).

"*Other species*" is a category that consists of groundfish species in each management area that are not specified as target species (see §§ 672.20 and 675.20 of this chapter).

Processing, or to process, means the preparation of fish to render it suitable for human consumption, industrial uses, or long-term storage, including but not limited to cooking, canning, smoking, salting, drying, freezing, or rendering into meal or oil, but does not mean icing, bleeding, heading, or gutting.

Processor Vessel means, unless otherwise restricted, any vessel that has been issued a Federal fisheries permit and that can be used for processing groundfish.

Quarter or quarterly reporting period means one of 4 successive 3-month periods during a calendar year, which begin at 0001 hours, A.l.t., on the first day of each quarter, and end at 2359 hours, A.l.t., on the last day of each quarter. The 4 quarters for each year are specified below:

1st quarter: January 1 through March 31;

2nd quarter: April 1 through June 30;

3rd quarter: July 1 through September 30; and

4th quarter: October 1 through December 31.

Regional Director means Director, Alaska Region, National Marine Fisheries Service.

Regulatory area means any of three areas of the EEZ in the GOA (see Figure 3 of this part) described as follows:

(1) *Eastern Regulatory Area* means Statistical Areas 640 and 650.

(2) *Central Regulatory Area* means Statistical Areas 620 and 630.

(3) *Western Regulatory Area* means Statistical Area 610.

Reporting area means any of the areas described in Figures 1 and 3 of this part.

Resident fisherman (see § 675.27(d)(7) of this chapter).

Round-weight equivalent means the weight of fish calculated by dividing the weight of the primary product made from that fish by the standard product recovery rate for that primary product as listed in Table 3 of this part, or, if not listed, the weight of fish calculated by dividing the weight of a primary product by the standard product recovery rate as determined using the best available evidence on a case-by-case basis.

Set means a string of pots or hook-and-line gear or a group of pots that are deployed in a similar location with similar soak time.

Shoreside processor or shoreside processing operation, means any person or vessel that receives unprocessed groundfish, except catcher/processors, motherships, buying stations, restaurants, or persons receiving groundfish for use as bait or personal consumption.

Southeast Outside District of the GOA means that part of the Eastern Regulatory Area contained in Statistical Area 650 (see Figure 3 of this part).

Statistical area means the part of any reporting area defined in Figures 1 and 3 of this part, contained in the EEZ.

Steller Sea Lion Protection Areas (for BSAI, see Tables 4 and 5 of this part, §§ 672.24(e) and 675.24(f) of this chapter) and § 227.12 of this title; (for GOA, see Table 6 of this part).

Stem means the forward part of a vessel; that portion of the vessel where the sides are united at the fore end with the lower end attached to the keel and the bowsprit, if one is present, resting on the upper end.

Stern means the aft part of the vessel.

Stretched mesh size means the distance between opposite knots of a four-sided mesh when opposite knots are pulled tautly to remove slack.

Support Vessel means any vessel that is used in support of other vessels

regulated under this part and part 675 of this chapter, including, but not limited to, supplying a fishing vessel with water, fuel, provisions, fishing equipment, fish processing equipment or other supplies, or transporting processed fish. The term "support vessel" does not include processor vessels or tender vessels. *Target species* are those species or species groups, except the "other species" category, for which a TAC is specified pursuant to § 672.20(a) and § 675.20(a) of this chapter.

Tender Vessel means a vessel that is used to transport unprocessed fish received from another vessel to a shoreside processor, mothership, or buying station.

Total allowable catch (TAC) (see §§ 672.20(a)(2) and 675.20(a)(2) of this chapter).

Transfer includes any loading, offloading, shipment or receipt of any groundfish product, including quantities transferred inside or outside the EEZ, within any state's territorial waters, within the internal waters of any state, at any shoreside processor, or any offsite meal reduction plant.

Trawl test areas (see Figure 7 of this part and §§ 672.24(f) and 675.24(g) of this chapter).

Vessel Activity Report (VAR) (see § 672.5(c)(5)).

Vessel operations category (see § 672.4).

Walrus Protection Areas (see § 675.22(f) of this chapter).

Weekly reporting period means a time period, which begins at 0001 hours, A.l.t., Sunday morning (except during the first week of each year, when it starts on January 1) and ends at 2359 hours, A.l.t., the following Saturday night (except during the last week of each year when it ends on December 31).

West Yakutat District of the GOA means that part of the Eastern Regulatory Area of the GOA contained in Statistical Area 640 (see Figure 3 of this part).

Western Aleutian District means that part of the Aleutian Islands Subarea contained in Statistical Area 543 (see Figure 1 of this part).

Wing tip means the point where adjacent breast lines intersect or where a breast line intersects with the fishing line.

4. In § 672.3, paragraphs (a) and (c) are revised to read as follows:

§ 672.3 Relation to other laws.

(a) *Foreign fishing.* Regulations governing foreign fishing for groundfish in the GOA are set forth at § 611.92 of this chapter. Regulations governing

foreign fishing for groundfish in the BSAI are set forth at § 611.93 of this chapter. Regulations governing U.S. nationals fishing in the Russian fisheries are set forth in part 299 of this title.

* * * * *

(c) *Domestic fishing for groundfish.* Regulations governing the conservation and management of groundfish in the GOA for vessels of the United States are set forth at this part and parts 620, 676, and 677 of this chapter. Regulations governing the conservation and management of groundfish in the BSAI are set forth in this part and parts 620, 675, 676, and 677 of this chapter.

* * * * *

5. Section 672.4 is revised to read as follows:

§ 672.4 Fisheries permit.

(a) *General.* (1) No vessel of the United States may be used to fish for groundfish in the GOA or in the BSAI unless the owner first obtains a Federal fisheries permit for the vessel issued under this part, except as provided in paragraph (a)(2) of this section. A Federal fisheries permit is effective only until December 31 of the year in which it is issued. Fisheries permits are issued without charge.

(2) Vessels of the United States that fish in the GOA or BSAI for any non-groundfish species, including but not limited to, halibut, crab, salmon, scallops, and herring, and that do not retain any bycatch of groundfish are not required to obtain a Federal fisheries permit issued under this part.

(3) This section is effective from January 1, 1996, through December 31, 1998, unless otherwise specified. Unless specifically exempt under 50 CFR part 676, the owner of a vessel of the United States must obtain a moratorium permit issued under 50 CFR part 676 before using the vessel to conduct directed fishing for moratorium groundfish species, as defined at § 676.2 of this chapter, in the GOA or BSAI. The owner of a vessel of the United States that is not required to have a moratorium permit, because the vessel is specifically exempt under § 676.3 of this chapter, must obtain a fisheries permit issued under this part before using the vessel to fish for groundfish in the GOA or BSAI. Such permits shall be issued without charge.

(b) *Federal Fisheries Permit Application*—(1) *Request for application and permit.* A person may obtain an application for a Federal fisheries permit required under paragraph (a) of this section from: National Marine Fisheries Service, Restricted Access Management Division,

P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668, telephone number: 800-304-4846 or 907-586-7202.

(2) *Completed application.* (i) A person may obtain the Federal fisheries permit required under paragraph (a) of this section by submitting a written permit application to the address given in paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(ii) The owner or operator of a vessel must answer each question on the permit application in the manner set forth in paragraph (c) of this section.

(iii) The owner or operator must mail completed forms to the address given in paragraph (b)(1) of this section or fax completed forms to: 907-586-7354.

(iv) The owner or operator must complete a separate application for each vessel or processor and must retain a copy of each completed or revised application.

(v) The owner or operator must type or print legibly the information requested on the application.

(3) *Application deficiency.* Upon receipt of an incomplete or improperly completed fisheries permit application, the Regional Director will notify the applicant of the deficiency in the permit application. If the applicant fails to correct the deficiency, the permit will not be issued. No permit will be issued to an applicant until a complete application is received.

(c) *Permit application contents.* The owner or operator must record:

(1) If application is for an amended permit, the current Federal Fisheries Permit number and information that has changed.

(2) If for a vessel, the complete name and homeport (city and state) of the vessel; the ADF&G Vessel number; the U.S. Coast Guard documentation number or Alaska registration number; the vessel's LOA and registered net tonnage; and the telephone, fax, and COMSAT (satellite communication) numbers used on board the vessel.

(3) *Shoreside Processor Information.* Refer to § 677.4(b) of this chapter.

(4) *Owner Information.* The owner of the vessel or shoreside processor must record the owner's name, permanent business mailing address, telephone and fax numbers; and the name of any company (other than the owner) that manages the operations of the vessel or shoreside processor.

(5) *Federal Fisheries Permit Information.* The owner must record:

(i) The fishery or fisheries and the vessel operations category for which the permit would apply as set forth under paragraph (e) of this section and § 672.2;

(ii) If a catcher vessel or catcher/processor, the gear type(s) used for groundfish operations;

(iii) If a catcher vessel, whether groundfish is retained only as bycatch from halibut, crab, or salmon fisheries; and whether sablefish (black cod) is the only groundfish targeted in the GOA;

(iv) If a mothership or catcher/processor, check either inshore or offshore to indicate component in which Pacific cod in the GOA or pollock will be processed for the entire fishing year.

(6) *Signature.* The owner must sign and date the application.

(d) *Fisheries permit issuance.* (1) Except as provided in subpart D of 15 CFR part 904, upon receipt of a properly completed permit application, the Regional Director will issue a fisheries permit required by paragraph (a) of this section.

(2) The Regional Director will send the fisheries permit to the applicant along with the appropriate logbooks as provided under § 672.5.

(e) *Vessel operations category.* (1) A fisheries permit issued under paragraph (d)(1) of this section authorizes a vessel to conduct operations as a catcher vessel, catcher/processor, mothership, Tender Vessel, or support vessel.

(2) A vessel may be issued a fisheries permit as a support vessel or as any combination of the other four categories (catcher vessel, catcher/processor, mothership, Tender Vessel). A vessel permitted as a catcher vessel, catcher/processor, mothership, or Tender Vessel may also conduct all operations authorized for a support vessel.

(f) *Amended permit.* (1) An owner or operator who applied for and received a fisheries permit under this section must notify the Regional Director, in writing, of any change in the information provided under paragraph (c) of this section within 10 days of the date of that change.

(2) An application for an amended permit must be made on the permit application as set forth in paragraph (c) of this section.

(3) If the application is for an amended fisheries permit required under paragraph (a) of this section and designates a change or addition of a vessel operations category, the amended permit must be on board the vessel before the new type of operations begins.

(g) *Duration.* (1) A fisheries permit remains in effect through December 31 of the year for which it is issued unless it is revoked, suspended, or modified under 15 CFR part 904 (Civil Procedures), or unless it is surrendered or invalidated.

(2) A fisheries permit is surrendered when the original permit is submitted to

and received by NMFS Enforcement Office in Juneau.

(h) *Alteration.* No person may alter, erase, or mutilate any fisheries permit issued under paragraph (a) of this section. Any fisheries permit that is intentionally altered, erased, or mutilated is invalid.

(i) *Transfer.* A fisheries permit issued under paragraph (a) of this section is not transferable or assignable and is valid only for the vessel for which it is issued.

(j) *Inspection.* (1) An original fisheries permit issued under paragraph (a) of this section must be carried on board the vessel whenever the vessel is fishing. Photocopied or faxed copies are not considered originals.

(2) A permit issued under paragraph (a) of this section must be presented for inspection upon the request of any authorized officer.

(k) *Sanctions.* Procedures governing permit sanctions and denials are found at subpart D of 15 CFR part 904.

(l) *Moratorium permit.* In addition to the Federal fisheries permit required by paragraph (a) of this section and any other permits that may be required by Federal or Alaska State regulations, a moratorium permit may be required by part 676 of this chapter for a vessel of the United States if the vessel is used to conduct directed fishing for moratorium groundfish species, as defined at § 676.2 of this chapter, in the GOA or BSAI.

6. Section 672.5 is revised to read as follows:

§ 672.5 Recordkeeping and reporting.

(a) *Applicability and general requirements—(1) Applicability.* (i) Except as otherwise provided, this section applies to:

(A) Any catcher vessel, mothership, catcher/processor, or Tender Vessel, 5 net tons or larger, which is required to have a fisheries permit under § 672.4; and

(B) Any shoreside processor, mothership, or buying station that receives groundfish from vessels required to have a fisheries permit under § 672.4.

(ii) Catcher vessels that are less than 60 ft (18.3 m) LOA, are not required to comply with recordkeeping and reporting requirements under this section.

(iii) A shoreside processor, mothership, or buying station subject to recordkeeping and reporting requirements must report all groundfish and prohibited species received, including:

(A) Fish received from vessels not required to have a fisheries permit;

(B) Fish received under contract for handling or processing for another processor.

(2) *Responsibility.* The operator of a catcher vessel, catcher/processor, mothership, or buying station delivering to a mothership (hereafter referred to as the operator) and the manager of a shoreside processor or buying station delivering to a shoreside processor (hereafter referred to as the manager) are each responsible for compliance with the applicable recordkeeping and reporting requirements of this section. In addition, the owner of a vessel, shoreside processor, or buying station must ensure that the operator, manager, or designated representative (see paragraph (b) of this section) complies with these requirements and is responsible for compliance.

(3) *Groundfish logbooks and forms.* The Regional Director will prescribe and provide logbooks and forms required under this section as shown in Table 9 of this part. The operator or manager must use these logbooks and forms or obtain approval from the Regional Director to use electronic versions of the logbooks and forms.

(4) *Participant identification information.* The operator or manager must record on all required records, reports, and logbooks:

(i) The name of the catcher vessel, catcher/processor, mothership, shoreside processor, or buying station as displayed in official documentation;

(ii) If a vessel, the Federal Fisheries Permit number and ADF&G Vessel number (if applicable);

(iii) If a processor, the Federal Processor Permit number and ADF&G Processor number;

(iv) If a buying station, the name and ADF&G Vessel number (if applicable) of the buying station; the name, ADF&G Processor number, and Federal Processor Permit number of associated processor;

(v) If a shoreside processor or land-based buying station, the geographic location of operations.

(5) *Representative identification.* The name, daytime business telephone number (including area code), fax or telex number, and the COMSAT number (if applicable) of the representative;

(6) *Maintenance of records—(i) General.* The operator or manager must maintain all records, reports, and logbooks in a legible, timely, and accurate manner; in English; if handwritten, in indelible ink; if computer-generated, a printed, paper copy; and based on Alaska local time.

(ii) The operator or manager must account for each day of the fishing year, starting with January 1 and ending with December 31, and the time periods must be consecutive in the logbook.

(iii) When applicable, the operator or manager must record in each report, form, and logbook the following information:

(A) *Page number.* Number the pages in each logbook consecutively, beginning with page one and continuing throughout the logbook for the remainder of the fishing year, except that the manager of a shoreside processor must number the DCPL pages within Part I and Part II separately beginning with page one;

(B) *Date,* presented as month-day-year;

(C) *Time,* in military format to the nearest hour, A.l.t.;

(D) *Position coordinates,* latitude and longitude to the nearest minute (optional: Record to the nearest second or fraction of minute);

(E) *Reporting area codes,* given in Figures 1 and 3 of this part;

(F) *Species codes,* each target species, the "other species" category, and prohibited species (see §§ 672.20(e) and 675.20(c) of this chapter), using the species codes given in Table 2 of this part;

(G) *Original/revised report.* If a report is the first one submitted to the Regional Director for a given date, gear type, and reporting area, "ORIGINAL REPORT." If report is a correction to a previously submitted report for a given date, gear type, and reporting area, "REVISED REPORT.;"

(H) *Metric tons.* The required weight units used to record amounts of landings, product, and discards of groundfish and herring must be recorded in pounds (lb) or to the nearest 0.01 mt on all forms and logbooks;

(7) *Active and inactive periods.* The operator or manager must, in the DFL, DCL, or DCPL:

(i) Account for each day of the fishing year by indicating active and inactive periods, as defined in § 672.2;

(ii) Use a separate logbook page for each day of an active period;

(iii) Indicate on one page the first and last day of an inactive period;

(iv) *Fishing activity.* The operator or manager must indicate all fishing activity, which is defined for each type of vessel as follows:

(A) If a catcher vessel, harvest or discard of groundfish;

(B) If a catcher/processor, harvest, discard, or processing of groundfish;

(C) If a mothership or shoreside processor, receipt, discard, or processing of groundfish;

(D) If a buying station, receipt, discard, or delivery of groundfish;

(v) If in an active period and conducting fishing activity, the operator or manager must record:

(A) The gear type used to harvest the groundfish. If a catcher vessel or catcher/processor and using hook-and-line longline gear, the average number of hooks per skate;

(B) The reporting area code where gear retrieval was completed; whether gear retrieval was in Federal or Alaska State waters;

(C) If a catcher vessel, whether a NMFS-certified observer is on board the vessel. If a catcher/processor, mothership, or shoreside processor, the number of NMFS-certified observers on board or on site;

(D) The number of crew, except certified observer;

(E) Whether harvest is under a CDQ program; if yes, the CDQ number;

(F) If a catcher vessel or buying station, the name and ADF&G Processor number of the mothership or shoreside processor to which groundfish deliveries were made;

(vi) If in an active period and not conducting fishing activity, the operator or manager must indicate "NO FISHING ACTIVITY" and briefly describe the reason.

(8) *Landings information.* The manager of a shoreside processor must:

(i) Record and report groundfish landings by species codes and product codes as defined in Tables 1 and 2 of this part for each reporting area, whether from Alaska State waters or Federal waters, gear type, and CDQ number;

(ii) Record in the DCPL each day on the day such landings occur, the following additional information:

(A) The daily combined scale weight of landings retained for processing from a catcher vessel or any associated buying station, in pounds or to at least the nearest 0.01 mt;

(B) If more than one page is used during a weekly reporting period, the total amount of landings carried forward from the previous page;

(C) At the end of each weekly reporting period, the cumulative total weight, calculated by adding the daily totals and total carried forward for that week;

(iii) If no landings occurred, write "NO LANDINGS" for that day.

(9) *Product information.* The operator or manager of a catcher/processor, mothership, or shoreside processor must, where required:

(i) Record and report groundfish products by species codes, product codes, and product designations as defined in Tables 1 and 2 of this part for each reporting area, whether in Alaska State waters or Federal waters, gear type, and CDQ number;

(ii) Record in the DCPL each day on the day such production occurs, the

daily total, balance brought forward (except for shoreside processor), and cumulative total fish product weight (see § 672.2) for each product of groundfish in pounds or to at least the nearest 0.01 mt;

(iii) If no production occurred, write "NO PRODUCTION" for that day.

(10) *Discarded/donated species information.* The manager or operator must, where required:

(i) Record and report discards and donations by species codes and discard product codes as defined in Tables 1 and 2 of this part for each reporting area, whether in Alaska State waters or Federal waters, gear type, and CDQ number;

(ii) Record the estimated daily total, balance brought forward, and cumulative total round fish weight in the DFL, DCL, or DCPL each day on the day such discards and donations occur for each discard and donation of groundfish species, groundfish species groups, and Pacific herring in pounds or to at least the nearest 0.01 mt;

(iii) Record the estimated daily total, balance brought forward, and cumulative total numbers in the DFL, DCL, or DCPL each day on the day such discards and donations occur for each discard and donation of Pacific salmon, steelhead trout, Pacific halibut, king crab, and Tanner crab;

(iv) If there were no discards or donations, write "NO DISCARDS", "0", or "ZERO" for that day.

(v) *Catcher Vessel discards/donations.* (A) For deliveries of unsorted codends, the catcher vessel is exempt from recording of discards in the DFL and from submittal of the blue logsheet (discards copy) for that delivery. The operator is required to check the box entitled, "unsorted codend", and the blue DFL logsheet (discards copy) remains in the DFL;

(B) For presorted deliveries or in the event a catcher vessel has "bled" a codend prior to delivery to a processor, the operator must check the "presorted delivery" box, enter the amount of discards and donations by species, and submit the blue DFL logsheet (discards copy) to the mothership, buying station, or shoreside processor with each harvest delivery.

(vi) *Buying Station discards/donations.* (A) The operator or manager must record in the DCL on a daily basis on the day such discard occurs, all discards and donations that occur after receipt of harvest from a catcher vessel and prior to delivery to a mothership or shoreside processor;

(B) If a blue DFL logsheet is received from a catcher vessel and contains reports of discards or donations, the

operator or manager must record in the DCL the discards and donations on the day the DFL logsheet is received from the catcher vessel;

(vii) *Catcher/Processor discards/donations.* The operator must record in the DCPL on the day such discard or donation occurs all discards and donations that occur prior to harvest, during harvest, and during processing;

(viii) *Mothership or shoreside processor discards/donations.* (A) The operator or manager must record in the DCPL on a daily basis on the day such discard or donation occurs, all discards and donations that occur on site after receipt of groundfish, and all discards and donations that occur during processing of groundfish;

(B) If an unsorted codend is received from a catcher vessel, the catcher vessel is not required to submit a blue discard logsheet to the mothership or shoreside processor. The operator or manager must sort the catch received from the unsorted codends and must record the discards by species in the DCPL as discard at sea on the day the harvest is received from the catcher vessel;

(C) If discards are reported on a blue DFL logsheet from a catcher vessel delivering a pre-sorted codend or if a catcher vessel reports an amount bled at sea, the operator or manager must record in the DCPL the discards on the day the DFL logsheet is received from the catcher vessel.

(D) If a yellow DCL logsheet is received from a buying station and discards and donations are reported, the operator or manager must record in the DCPL the discards and donations on the day the DCL logsheet is received from the buying station;

(11) *Contract processing.* (i) The manager of a shoreside processor or operator of a mothership who receives groundfish to be handled or processed under contract for another processor or business entity must report these fish to the Regional Director consistently throughout a fishing year using one of two methods:

(A) Record landings (if applicable), discards, and products of contract-processed groundfish routinely in the DCPL without separate identification; or

(B) Record landings (if applicable), discards, and products of contract-processed groundfish in a separate DCPL identified by the name, Federal Processor Permit number, Federal Fisheries Permit number (if applicable), and ADF&G Processor code of the associated business entity;

(ii) If contract-processed groundfish records are kept separate from the routine DCPL, the operator or manager of the mothership or shoreside

processor must summarize and report that information on a WPR identified by the name, Federal Processor Permit number, Federal Fisheries Permit number (if applicable), and ADF&G Processor code of the associated business entity.

(12) *Alteration of records.* (i) The operator, manager, or any other person may not alter or change any entry or record in a logbook except that an inaccurate or incorrect entry or record may be corrected by lining out the original and inserting the correction, provided that the original entry or record remains legible.

(ii) No person except an authorized officer may remove any original page of any logbook.

(13) *Inspection of records.* The operator or manager of a catcher vessel, catcher/processor, mothership, or shoreside processor, must make all logbooks, reports, and forms required under paragraph (a)(3) of this section available for inspection upon the request of an authorized officer.

(14) *Submittal of logbooks, reports and forms—*(i) *Quarterly submittal of logbook.* (A) The operator of a catcher vessel, catcher/processor, mothership, or the manager of a shoreside processor must submit the yellow logsheets on a quarterly basis to: NMFS Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Logbook Program, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Building 4, Seattle, WA 98115.

(B) The operator or manager must submit the yellow logsheets as follows: First quarter, by May 1 of that year; second quarter, by August 1 of that year; third quarter, by November 1 of that year; and fourth quarter, by February 1 of the following year.

(C) During an inactive period that extends across two or more quarters, the operator or manager must complete two separate logsheets: one to indicate the last day of the quarter and the next page to indicate the first day of the next quarter.

(ii) *Submittal of reports and forms.* Reports and forms may be submitted by the operator or manager by:

(A) Using the NMFS printed form and faxing it to the fax number on the form; or

(B) Transmitting a data file with required information and forms to NMFS by modem or satellite (specifically INMARSAT standards A, B, or C).

(15) *Record retention—*(i) *Original Copy.* (A) The operator of a catcher vessel, catcher/processor, or mothership and the manager of a shoreside processor must retain the original (white) copy of all logbooks and a paper copy of all reports and forms, including

those reports and forms that were originally submitted electronically;

(1) On site until the end of the fishing year during which the records were made and for as long thereafter as fish or fish products recorded in the logbook, reports, and forms are retained;

(2) For 3 years after the end of the fishing year during which the records were made;

(B) The operator or manager of a buying station must retain the original (white) copy of all DCLs required under paragraph (a)(2) of this section on site until the buying station has concluded receiving groundfish for a shoreside processor or mothership and for as long as fish and fish products recorded in the DCL are retained by the buying station;

(ii) *Yellow DCL logsheet.* When the operator of a mothership or the manager of a shoreside processor submits on a quarterly basis to NMFS, the yellow DCL logsheets received from associated buying stations per paragraph (a)(14) of this section, the operator or manager must retain a photocopy of the yellow DCL logsheets until the original DCL is received from the associated buying station operator or manager.

(iii) *Blue DFL logsheet.* (A) The operator of a mothership and the manager of a shoreside processor must retain the blue DFL logsheets (discard reports) submitted to them by operators of catcher vessels through the last day of the fishing year during which the records were made.

(B) The operator or manager of a buying station must submit to the mothership or shoreside processor any blue logsheets (discards copy) received from catcher vessels delivering groundfish to the buying station.

(iv) *Pink DCL logsheet.* The operator or manager of a buying station must retain the pink DCL logsheets for 3 years after the end of the fishing year during which the records were made.

(16) *Integration of Buying Station records.* (i) The operator or manager of a buying station must maintain a separate DCL for each shoreside processor or mothership to which the buying station delivers groundfish during a fishing year.

(ii) The operator or manager of a buying station must submit upon delivery of catch, the yellow DCL logsheets, to the shoreside processor or mothership to which it delivers groundfish, along with the blue DFL logsheets and ADF&G fish tickets or catch receipts for that delivery.

(iii) Upon conclusion of receiving groundfish for a shoreside processor or mothership, the buying station operator or manager must submit the original DCL to the shoreside processor manager

or mothership operator to which deliveries were made.

(iv) If the mothership operator or the shoreside processor manager receives fish from a buying station, the operator or manager must incorporate all of the DCL information into the DCPL.

(b) *Designated Representative.* The operator or manager of a catcher vessel, mothership, catcher/processor, shoreside processor or buying station may identify one person to fill out and sign the logbook, complete the recordkeeping and reporting forms, or both, and to identify who will be the contact person for inquiries from NMFS. Designation of a representative under this paragraph does not relieve the owner, operator, or manager of responsibility for compliance with this part.

(c) *Catcher Vessel DFL and Catcher/Processor DCPL—(1) Requirement.* (i) The operator of each catcher vessel or catcher/processor subject to this part must:

(A) Answer each question on the DFL or DCPL in the manner set forth under paragraphs (c)(3) through (7) of this section; and

(B) Submit the DFL or DCPL in the manner set forth under paragraphs (a)(14) and (c)(2) of this section.

(ii) *Pair trawl.* If two catcher vessels are dragging a trawl between them (pair trawl), a separate DFL must be maintained by each of the vessels. Each vessel operator must log the amount of the catch retained by that vessel and any fish discarded by the vessel.

(2) *Time limit and submittal.* (i) The operator must record in the DFL or DCPL, the time, position, and estimated groundfish catch weight within 2 hours after gear retrieval;

(ii) The operator must record all other information required in the DFL or DCPL by noon of the day following gear retrieval if a catcher vessel or by noon of the day following completion of production if a catcher/processor;

(iii) The operator of a catcher vessel must submit the blue DFL logsheets with delivery of the harvest to the operator or manager of the buying station, mothership, or shoreside processor;

(iv) Notwithstanding other time limits, the operator of a catcher vessel must record all information required in the DFL within 2 hours after the vessel's catch is offloaded;

(3) The operator must record on each page:

(i) Page number as defined at paragraph (a)(6)(i) of this section;

(ii) The start date and end date of the fishing trip;

(iii) If a catcher vessel, the vessel name and ADF&G vessel registration number. If a catcher/processor, the name, ADF&G Processor number, and Federal Processor number of the catcher/processor;

(iv) The operator's signature;

(v) *Active/inactive period.* Whether catcher vessel or catcher/processor is in an active or inactive period as defined at paragraph (a)(7) of this section.

(4) The operator must record the following for each haul or set:

(i) Date (month-day-year);

(ii) *Gear deployment.* The number of haul or set, by sequence; begin time and position coordinates of gear deployment; average sea depth and average gear depth, recorded to the nearest meter or fathom.

(iii) *Gear retrieval.* The date, time, and position coordinates of gear retrieval. If the vessel is using longline hook-and-line gear, the number of skates set. If the vessel is using longline pot or single pot gear, the total number of pots set.

(iv) The estimated total round fish weight of the groundfish catch; and

(v) The species code of the intended target species from Table 2 of this part.

(vi) The estimated IFQ sablefish amounts in the "comments" column.

(5) The operator must record discard/donation information as defined at paragraph (a)(10) of this section.

(6) If a catcher vessel, the operator must record:

(i) The date of delivery.

(ii) The name, ADF&G processor code, and ADF&G fish ticket number(s) provided by the manager or operator of the mothership, shoreside processor, or buying station.

(7) If a catcher/processor, the operator must record product information as set forth at paragraph (a)(9) of this section.

(d) *Buying station DCL—(1) Requirement.* The operator or manager of each buying station subject to this part must:

(i) Answer each question on the DCL in the manner set forth under paragraphs (d) (3) through (5) of this section; and

(ii) Submit the DCL in the manner set forth under paragraphs (d)(2) and (a)(14), respectively, of this section.

(2) *Time limits.* (i) The operator or manager must record entries in the DCL as to catcher vessel delivery information within 2 hours after completion of receipt of the groundfish.

(ii) All other information required in the DCL must be recorded by noon of the day following the day the receipt of groundfish was completed or discard occurred.

(3) The operator or manager must record for each page:

(i) Page number as defined at paragraph (a)(6)(i) of this section;

(ii) The date;

(iii) The buying station name and, if a vessel, the ADF&G Vessel number;

(iv) The operator's or manager's signature.

(v) *Active/inactive period.* Whether buying station is in an active or inactive period as defined at paragraph (a)(7) of this section.

(vi) The name and ADF&G processor code of the mothership or shoreside processor to which groundfish deliveries were made;

(vii) The number of crew;

(4) The operator or manager must record the following information for each delivery of groundfish:

(i) The ADF&G fish ticket number issued to each catcher vessel delivering groundfish. If a fish ticket was not issued, the catch receipt number of the transaction;

(ii) Whether blue DFL logsheets were received from catcher vessel;

(iii) The time when receipt of groundfish catch was completed;

(iv) The name and ADF&G vessel registration number of the catcher vessel delivering the groundfish;

(v) The total groundfish delivery weight.

(5) The operator or manager must record discard/donation information as defined at paragraph (a)(10) of this section.

(e) *Mothership DCPL—(1)*

Requirement. The operator of each mothership subject to this part must:

(i) Answer each question on the DCPL in the manner set forth under paragraphs (e) (3) through (6) of this section; and

(ii) Submit the DCPL in the manner set forth under paragraphs (e)(2) and (a)(14), respectively, of this section.

(2) *Time limits.* (i) The operator must record entries in the DCPL as to catcher vessel or buying station delivery information within 2 hours after completion of the groundfish receipt.

(ii) All other information required in the DCPL must be recorded by noon of the day following the day the catch receipt, discard, or production occurred.

(3) The operator must record on each page:

(i) Page number as defined at paragraph (a)(6) of this section;

(ii) The date;

(iii) The name, ADF&G Processor number, and Federal Processor number;

(iv) The operator's signature.

(v) Whether mothership is in an active or inactive period as defined at paragraph (a)(7) of this section.

(4) The operator must record for each delivery:

(i) Whether delivery is from a catcher vessel or a buying station;

(ii) The name and ADF&G vessel registration number (if applicable) of the catcher vessel or buying station delivering the groundfish;

(iii) The time and position coordinates of the mothership when groundfish catch is received;

(iv) The estimated total round fish weight of the groundfish catch;

(v) The ADF&G fish ticket number issued to each catcher vessel delivering groundfish. If a fish ticket is not issued, record the catch receipt number of the transaction.

(5) The operator must record discard/donation information as defined at paragraph (a)(10) of this section.

(6) The operator must record product information as defined at paragraph (a)(9) of this section.

(f) *Shoreside Processor DCPL—(1)*

Requirement. The manager of each shoreside processor subject to this part must:

(i) Answer each question on the DCPL in the manner set forth under paragraphs (f)(3) through (f)(7) of this section;

(ii) Submit the DCPL in the manner set forth under paragraphs (f)(2) and (a)(14) of this section.

(2) *Time limits.* (i) The manager must record in the DCPL all catcher vessel or buying station delivery information within 2 hours after completion of the groundfish receipt.

(ii) All other information required in the DCPL must be recorded by noon of the day following the day the catch receipt, discard, or production occurred.

(3) *Part IA.* The operator must record on each page:

(i) *Page number.* If page is for an individual day, the date. If page is for 1 week, week-ending date. See also paragraph (a)(6)(iii) of this section;

(ii) Participant identification information as defined at paragraph (a)(4) of this section;

(iii) The signature of the manager;

(iv) Whether the shoreside processor is in an active or inactive period as defined at paragraph (a)(7) of this section.

(4) *Delivery information (Part IB).* The manager must record the following information for each delivery:

(i) Date and time when receipt of groundfish catch was completed;

(ii) Whether delivery is from catcher vessel or buying station;

(iii) Whether blue DFL logsheets were submitted by catcher vessel;

(iv) The name and ADF&G vessel registration number (if applicable) of the catcher vessel or buying station delivering the groundfish;

(v) The total scale weight of groundfish delivery in pounds or to the nearest 0.01 mt;

(vi) The ADF&G fish ticket number issued to the catcher vessel delivering groundfish. If a fish ticket is not issued, record the catch receipt number of the transaction.

(5) *Landings information (Part IC).*

The manager must record:

(i) The date next to the appropriate day of the week (SUN through SAT);

(ii) Landings information as defined at paragraph (a)(8) of this section.

(6) *Discarded/donated species information (Part ID).* The manager must record:

(i) The date next to the appropriate day of the week (SUN through SAT);

(ii) Discard information as defined at paragraph (a)(10) of this section.

(7) *Part II.* The manager must record:

(i) Page numbers must be consecutive within Part II, beginning with page one for the first day product was produced after the start of the fishing year and continuing throughout the section for the remainder of the fishing year;

(ii) The name, ADF&G processor code number, and Federal Processor number of shoreside processor;

(iii) The signature of the manager.

(iv) *Product information.* (A) The week-ending date;

(B) The management area (BSAI or GOA);

(C) The date next to the appropriate day of the week (SUN through SAT);

(D) Product information as defined at paragraph (a)(9) of this section.

(g) *Groundfish Product Transfer Report (PTR)—(1) Requirement.* (i) The operator of a mothership or catcher/processor or the manager of a shoreside processor must record each transfer of groundfish product on a separate PTR.

(ii) The operator or manager must answer each question on the PTR in the manner set forth under paragraphs (g)(3) through (g)(6) of this section for each transfer of groundfish or groundfish product and must submit the PTR in the manner set forth under paragraph (g)(2) of this section.

(iii) *Shoreside Processor transfer to offsite meal reduction plant.* The manager of a shoreside processor must report on a PTR those fish products which are subsequently transferred to an offsite meal reduction plant;

(iv) *Transfer of groundfish for bait.* The operator or manager must report on a PTR, daily sales or transfer of groundfish to vessels for bait. Individual sales of groundfish for bait purposes during a day may be aggregated when recording the amount of product leaving a facility that day.

(2) *Time limits and submittal.* The operator or manager must:

(i) Record all product transfer information on a PTR within 2 hours of the completion of the transfer;

(ii) Submit a copy of each PTR to the Regional Director to fax number 907-586-7313 within 24 hours of completion of transfer.

(3) The operator or manager must record on each page:

(i) Whether an original or revised report, as defined at paragraph (a)(6) of this section;

(ii) Page numbers must be numbered sequentially, with the first transfer of the fishing year as page 1 and continuing throughout the remainder of the fishing year;

(iii) If product (including raw fish) is received, "RECEIPT". If product (including raw fish) is offloaded from a mothership or catcher/processor, "OFFLOAD". If product (including raw fish) is shipped from a shoreside processor, "SHIPMENT";

(iv) Representative identification information, as defined at paragraph (a)(5) of this section;

(v) If a catcher/processor or mothership, the participant identification information as defined at paragraph (a)(4) of this section and USCG documentation number. If a shoreside processor, the participant identification information as defined at paragraph (a)(4).

(4) *Transfer information.* The operator or manager must record the following information for each transfer:

(i) If another vessel is involved with the transfer, the name and call sign of the vessel receiving or delivering groundfish or groundfish products;

(ii) If a mothership or catcher/processor and the transfer takes place in port, the port of landing and country, if a foreign location;

(iii) If transfer is made to an agent, the agent's name. For purposes of this part, agent is defined as the transport company, the buyer, or the distributor;

(iv) *Intended first destination of product.* (A) If an offload or shipment, the intended destination of vessel or agent receiving groundfish or groundfish product. If receipt, not applicable;

(B) If an offload or shipment has several destinations, the primary or first intended destination;

(C) If offload or shipment is going to a single agent and initial destination but requires loading on multiple vans, trucks, or airline flights, the transfer may be recorded on a single PTR page;

(v) *Date and time of product transfer—(A) Start date.* The date and time the transfer starts;

(B) *Finish date.* The date and time the transfer is completed;

(1) If shipment is an individual van load or flight, the date and time when each shipment leaves the plant;

(2) If shipment involves multiple vans or trucks, the date and time when loading of vans or trucks is completed for each day;

(3) If shipment involves air freight, record date and time when the last air freight shipment of the day leaves the plant;

(vi) *Position transferred.* If a catcher/processor or mothership and transfer of product is made at sea, the transfer position coordinates.

(5) *Products and quantities offloaded, shipped, or received.*

(i) If a catcher/processor or mothership, the Harvest Zone code of the area in which groundfish were harvested as defined in Table 8 of this part;

(ii) The species code and product code for each product transferred as defined in Tables 1 and 2 of this part;

(iii) The number of cartons or production units transferred;

(iv) The average net weight of one carton for each species and product code in kilograms or pounds;

(v) The total net weight (fish product weight, to the nearest 0.01 mt) of the products transferred;

(6) If a catcher/processor or mothership, whether transfer is a total or partial offload. If partial offload, the total fish product weight, to the nearest 0.01 mt, of the products (by harvest zone, species and product codes) remaining on board after this transfer;

(h) *Check-in/Check-out Report—(1)*

Requirement—(i) Check-in report (BEGIN Message). Before a catcher/processor commences harvest of groundfish in Alaska State or Federal waters of any reporting area except 300, 400, 550, or 690 or before a mothership, shoreside processor or buying station commences receipt of groundfish from Alaska State or Federal waters of any reporting area except 300, 400, 550, or 690, the operator or manager must answer each question on the Check-in/Check-out Report in the manner set forth under paragraphs (h)(3), (h)(4), and (h)(6) of this section; and must submit the Check-in/Check-out Report in the manner set forth under paragraph (h)(2) of this section.

(ii) *Check-out report (CEASE Message).* (A) If a catcher/processor departs a reporting area or moves between Alaska State and Federal waters in a reporting area, and gear retrieval is complete from that area, the operator or manager must answer each question on a Check-out report in the manner set forth in paragraphs (h)(3), (h)(5), and (h)(6) of this section and

must submit the Check-in/Check-out Report in the manner set forth under paragraph (h)(2) of this section;

(B) If a mothership or shoreside processor, and groundfish receipt and processing are completed, the operator or manager must answer each question on a Check-out report in the manner set forth in paragraphs (h)(3), (h)(5), and (h)(6) of this section and must submit the Check-in/Check-out Report in the manner set forth under paragraph (h)(2) of this section;

(iii) *Transit between reporting areas.* If a vessel is transiting through a reporting area and is not fishing or receiving fish, a Check-in or Check-out report is not required from that area;

(iv) *Multiple vessel operations categories.* If a catcher/processor is functioning simultaneously as a mothership in the same reporting area, the operator must submit a separate Check-in report for each vessel operations category. Upon completion of each activity, the operator must submit a Check-out report for each vessel operations category.

(2) *Time limits and submittal—(i) Check-in report.* (A) The operator of a catcher/processor must submit by fax a Check-in report (BEGIN message) to the Regional Director at fax number 907-586-7313 before commencing any harvest of groundfish.

(B) The operator or manager of a mothership, shoreside processor, or buying station must submit by fax a Check-in report (BEGIN message) to the Regional Director at fax number 907-586-7313 before commencing any receipt of groundfish.

(ii) *Check-out report.* (A) For a catcher/processor, mothership, or buying station, the operator must submit by fax a Check-out report (CEASE message) to the Regional Director at fax number 907-586-7313 within 24 hours after leaving either the Alaska State or Federal part of a reporting area.

(B) For a shoreside processor, the manager must submit by fax a Check-out report (CEASE message) to the Regional Director at fax number 907-586-7313 within 48 hours after the end of the applicable weekly reporting period that a shoreside processor ceases to process groundfish for the fishing year or has not processed groundfish for more than one weekly reporting period;

(3) The operator or manager must record on each page:

(i) Whether it is an original or revised report as defined at paragraph (a)(6) of this section;

(ii) Participant identification information as defined at paragraph (a)(4) of this section;

(iii) Representative identification information as defined at paragraph (a)(5) of this section;

(iv) For a mothership or catcher/processor, the processor type and gear type used to harvest the groundfish. If groundfish are received by a mothership in the same reporting area from more than one gear type, or if groundfish are caught by a catcher/processor in the same reporting area using more than one gear type, the operator must submit a separate form for each gear type;

(v) Whether harvest is under a CDQ Program; if yes, the CDQ number;

(vi) If a buying station, the number of crew on the last day of the reporting week.

(4) *BEGIN Message*. The operator or manager must record:

(i) For a catcher/processor, date and time that gear is deployed. For a mothership, date and time that receipt of groundfish begins;

(ii) For a catcher/processor, position coordinates where gear is set. For a mothership, position coordinates where groundfish receipt is begun;

(iii) For a catcher/processor, the reporting area code of gear deployment and whether gear deployment was in Federal or Alaska State waters. For a mothership or buying station, the reporting area code where groundfish receipt begins and whether receipt of groundfish occurred in Federal or Alaska State waters;

(iv) For a shoreside processor, the date receipt of groundfish will begin; whether checking in for first time in fishing year or checking in to restart receipt and processing of groundfish after filing a Check-out report;

(v) For a mothership or catcher/processor, the primary and secondary species expected to be harvested. For a buying station, the intended primary target expected to be harvested. A change in intended target species within the same reporting area does not require a new BEGIN message.

(5) *CEASE Message*. The operator or manager must report:

(i) If a mothership or catcher/processor, the date, time and position coordinates where the vessel departed the reporting area or moved to Federal waters from Alaska State waters within a reporting area, or vice versa;

(ii) If a shoreside processor or buying station, the date that receipt of groundfish ceased.

(6) *Fish or fish product held at plant*. For a shoreside processor, the weight of the fish or fish products in pounds or to the nearest 0.01 mt by species and product codes.

(i) *Weekly Production Report (WPR)*—

manager of a mothership, catcher/processor, or shoreside processor must answer each question on the WPR in the manner set forth in paragraphs (i)(3) through (i)(7) of this section for any week the mothership, catcher/processor, or shoreside processor is checked in pursuant to paragraph (h)(1)(i) of this section and must submit a WPR in the manner set forth in paragraph (i)(2) of this section.

(ii) *Multiple vessel operations categories*. The operator of a vessel that is authorized to conduct operations as both a catcher/processor and as a mothership must submit separate WPRs to report production and discard as a catcher/processor and production and discard as a mothership.

(2) *Time limits and submittal*. The operator or manager must submit a WPR by fax to the Regional Director at fax number 907-586-7131 by 1200 hours, A.l.t., on the Tuesday following the end of the applicable weekly reporting period.

(3) The operator or manager must record on each page:

(i) Whether an original or revised report, as defined at paragraph (a)(6) of this section;

(ii) Participant identification information as defined at paragraph (a)(4) of this section;

(iii) Representative identification information as defined at paragraph (a)(5) of this section and date WPR was completed;

(iv) If a mothership or catcher/processor, the processor type and gear type used to harvest the groundfish;

(v) Whether harvest is under a CDQ Program; if yes, the CDQ number;

(vi) The week-ending date;

(vii) The primary and secondary target codes for the next week;

(viii) If a mothership or catcher/processor, the number of crew on the last day of the reporting week;

(4) *Landings information*. If a shoreside processor, see landings information requirements at paragraph (a)(8) of this section.

(5) *Discarded/donated species information (Part ID)*. For discard/donate information requirements, see paragraph (a)(10) of this section.

(6) *Product information*. For product information requirements, see at paragraph (a)(9) of this section.

(7) *Catcher Vessel delivery information*. If ADF&G fish tickets are issued by the mothership or shoreside processor, list the fish ticket numbers issued to catcher vessels for the weekly reporting period.

(j) *Daily Production Report (DPR)*—(1) *Notice*. If the Regional Director determines that DPRs are necessary to

avoid exceeding a groundfish TAC or prohibited species bycatch allowance, NMFS may require submission of DPRs for reporting one or more specific species, in addition to a WPR. NMFS will publish a document in the Federal Register specifying the fisheries that require DPRs and the effective dates that submittal of DPRs is required.

(2) *Requirement*. (i) If a catcher/processor, mothership, or shoreside processor is checked in to the specified reporting area and is harvesting, receiving, processing, or discarding the specified species or is receiving reports from a catcher vessel of discard at sea of the specified species, the operator or manager must submit a DPR.

(ii) The operator of a mothership or catcher/processor or manager of a shoreside processor must:

(A) Answer each question on the DPR in the manner set forth in paragraphs (j)(4) through (j)(7) of this section;

(B) Submit the DPR in the manner set forth in paragraph (j)(3) of this section;

(C) Use a separate DPR for each gear type, processor type, and CDQ number.

(3) *Time limit and submittal*. The operator or manager must submit a DPR by fax to the Regional Director at fax number 907-586-7131 by 1200 hours, A.l.t., the day following each day of landings, discard, or production.

(4) The operator or manager must record on each page:

(i) Whether it is an original or revised report as defined at paragraph (a)(6) of this section;

(ii) Participant identification information as defined at paragraph (a)(4) of this section and processor type;

(iii) Representative identification information as defined at paragraph (a)(5) of this section;

(iv) The gear type used to harvest the groundfish, date landings were received, and Federal reporting area where landings were harvested;

(v) Whether harvest is under a CDQ Program; if yes, the CDQ number.

(5) *Landing information*. If a shoreside processor, see landings information requirements at paragraph (a)(8) of this section.

(6) *Product information*. For a mothership or catcher/processor, see product information requirements at paragraph (a)(9) of this section.

(7) *Discard/donate information*. For discard/donate information requirements, see paragraph (a)(10) of this section.

(k) *U.S. Vessel Activity Report (VAR)*—(1) *Requirement*. The operator of a catcher vessel, a catcher/processor, or a mothership regulated under this part that crosses the seaward boundary of the EEZ off Alaska or crosses the

United States/Canada international boundary between Alaska and British Columbia must answer each question on the VAR in the manner set forth in paragraphs (k)(3) and (k)(4) of this section and must submit a VAR in the manner set forth in paragraph (k)(2) of this section.

(2) *Time limits and submittal.* The operator must submit a VAR by fax to NMFS Alaska Enforcement Division at fax number 907-586-7313 before the vessel crosses the seaward boundary of the EEZ off Alaska or the U.S./Canada international boundary between Alaska and British Columbia.

(3) The operator must record on each page:

(i) Whether an original or revised report as defined at paragraph (a)(6) of this section;

(ii) Participant identification information as defined at paragraph (a)(4) of this section;

(iii) Representative identification information as defined at paragraph (a)(5) of this section and date VAR was completed;

(iv) If vessel is crossing into the seaward boundary of the EEZ off Alaska or crossing the U.S./Canada international boundary between Alaska and British Columbia, the operator must indicate "return" report. If vessel is crossing out of the seaward boundary of the EEZ off Alaska or crossing the U.S./Canada international boundary between Alaska and British Columbia into Canadian waters, the operator must indicate "depart" report.

(v) Port of landing;

(vi) Whether vessel is returning from fishing or departing to fish in the Russian Zone;

(vii) Date and time vessel will cross the EEZ off Alaska or the U.S./Canada international boundary between Alaska and British Columbia;

(viii) Latitude and longitude at the point of crossing the EEZ off Alaska or U.S./Canada international boundary between Alaska and British Columbia.

(4) *Fish or fish product on board the vessel when crossing the EEZ off Alaska or U.S./Canada international boundary.*

(i) The Harvest Zone code of the area in which groundfish were harvested as defined in Table 8 of this part;

(ii) The species code and product code for each species on board as defined in Tables 1 and 2 of this part;

(iii) The fish product weight of products on board in pounds or to the nearest 0.01 mt.

7. In § 672.7, paragraphs (p) and (q) are added, and paragraphs (i) and (j) are revised to read as follows:

§ 672.7 Prohibitions.

* * * * *

(i) Except as authorized by permit issued pursuant to the section of the Donut Hole Convention implementing legislation authorizing the Secretary to issue Donut Hole fishing permits (Public Law 104-43, section 104(d)), it is unlawful for any person to fish in the Donut Hole from a vessel for which a Federal fisheries permit has been issued pursuant to section 672.4 of this part during the year for which the permit was issued;

(j) Except as authorized by permit issued pursuant to the section of the Donut Hole Convention implementing legislation authorizing the Secretary to issue Donut Hole fishing permits (Public Law 104-43, section 104(d)), it is unlawful for any person to possess within the EEZ fish harvested from the Donut Hole on board a vessel for which a Federal fisheries permit has been issued pursuant to section 672.4 of this part during the year for which the permit was issued.

* * * * *

(p) Fail to comply with or fail to ensure compliance with requirements at § 672.5.

(q) Use a catcher vessel or catcher/processor as a Tender Vessel before offloading all groundfish or groundfish product harvested or processed by that vessel.

8. In § 672.20, paragraphs (a)(1), (e)(1), (h)(2) and the headings for paragraphs (c)(1), (c)(2)(i), (c)(2)(ii), and paragraphs (i)(4), and (j) are revised; headings for paragraphs (c)(1)(i)(A), (i)(1), (i)(2), (i)(3), and (i)(6) are added to read as set forth below. In paragraphs (g)(1) and (g)(3) the phrase, "Table 2 to this section" is removed and the phrase "Table 10 of this part" is added in its place; and tables 1 and 2 to the section are removed.

§ 672.20 General limitations.

(a) * * * (1) *Optimum yield (OY).* The OY for the fishery regulated by this section and by § 611.92 of this chapter is a range of 116,000 to 800,000 mt for target species and the "other species" category in the GOA, to the extent this amount can be harvested consistently with this part and part 611 of this chapter, plus the amounts of "non-specified species" taken incidentally to the harvest of target species and the "other species" category. The species categories are defined in Table 1 of the specifications as provided in paragraph (c)(1) of this section.

* * * * *

(c) * * * (1) *Proposed specifications, interim harvest limits, and final specifications.* (i) * * * (A) *Proposed specifications.* * * *

(2) * * *

(i) *Directed fishing allowance—Applicable after December 31, 1998.*

* * *

(ii) *Directed fishing allowance—Applicable through December 31, 1998.*

* * *

(e) * * *

(1) Prohibited species, for the purpose of this part, means any of the species of Pacific salmon (*Oncorhynchus* spp.), steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*), Pacific herring (*Clupea harengus pallasii*), king crab (*Paralithodes* spp. and *Lithodes* spp.), and Tanner crab (*Chionoecetes* spp.) caught by a vessel regulated under this part while fishing for groundfish in the GOA, unless retention is authorized by other applicable laws, including the Pacific Halibut Fishery Regulations (part 301 of this title).

* * * * *

(h) * * *

(2) *Fishing trip.* For purposes of this section, an operator of a vessel is engaged in a fishing trip from the time the harvesting, receiving, or processing of groundfish is begun or resumed until:

(i) The transfer or offloading of all groundfish product;

(ii) The vessel leaves the area where fishing activity commenced; or

(iii) The end of a weekly reporting period, whichever comes first.

(i) * * *

(1) *Pollock roe.* * * *

(2) *Primary product.* * * *

(3) *Pollock product recovery rates.*

* * *

(4) *Fishing trip.* For purposes of this paragraph, a fishing trip is defined as set forth under paragraph (h)(2) of this section.

* * * * *

(6) *Primary pollock product.* * * *

* * * * *

(j) *Standard product types and standard product recovery rates (PRRS)—(1) Calculating round-weight equivalents from standard PRRs.*

Round-weight equivalents for groundfish products are calculated using the product codes and standard PRRs specified in Table 3 of this part.

(2) *Adjustments to Table 3 of this part.* The Regional Director may adjust standard PRRs and product types specified in Table 3 of this part if he determines that existing standard PRRs are inaccurate or if new product types are developed.

(3) *Procedure.* Adjustments to any standard PRR listed in Table 3 of this part that are within and including 15 percent of that standard PRR may be made without providing notice and

opportunity for prior public comment. Adjustments of any standard PRR during a calendar year, when aggregated with all other adjustments made during that year, will not exceed 15 percent of the standard PRR listed in Table 3 of this part at the beginning of that calendar year, and no new product type will be announced until NMFS publishes the proposed adjustment and/or new product type in the Federal Register and provides the public with at least 30 days opportunity for public comment. Any adjustment of a PRR that acts to further restrict the fishery will not be effective until 30 days after the date of publication in the Federal Register. If NMFS makes any adjustment or announcement without providing a prior notice and opportunity for prior public comment, the Regional Director will receive public comments on the adjustment or announcement for a period of 15 days after its publication in the Federal Register.

§ 672.22 [Amended]

9. In § 672.22, paragraph (d) is removed.

10. Section 672.23 is revised to read as follows:

§ 672.23 Seasons.

(a) *Fishing year.* Fishing for groundfish is authorized from 0001 hours, A.l.t., January 1, through 2359 hours, A.l.t., December 31, subject to the other provisions of this part, except as provided in paragraphs (c) through (e) of this section.

(b) *Time of openings and closures.* The time of all openings and closures of fishing seasons other than the beginning and end of the calendar fishing year is 1200 hours, A.l.t.

(c) *Directed fishing for trawl rockfish.* Directed fishing for rockfish of the genera *Sebastes* and *Sebastobus* with trawl gear is authorized from 1200 hours, A.l.t., on the first day of the third quarterly reporting period of a fishing

year, through 2359 hours, A.l.t., December 31, subject to other provisions of this part.

(d) *Opening date for trawl groundfish.* Notwithstanding other provisions of this part, fishing for groundfish with trawl gear in the Gulf of Alaska is prohibited from 0001 hours, A.l.t. on January 1 through 1200 hours, A.l.t., January 20.

(e) *Directed fishing for pollock.* Subject to other provisions of this part, directed fishing for pollock in the Western and Central Regulatory Areas is authorized: From 0001 hours, A.l.t., January 1, through 1200 hours, A.l.t., April 1; from 1200 hours, A.l.t., June 1, through 1200 hours, A.l.t., July 1; from 1200 hours, A.l.t., October 1, through 1200 hours A.l.t., October 1, through 2359 hours, A.l.t., December 31.

11. In § 672.24, paragraphs (d)(3) and (d)(4) are redesignated as paragraphs (d)(4) and (d)(5), respectively; headings for paragraphs (c)(4), redesignated paragraphs (d)(4) and (d)(5), (f)(2) and (f)(3) are added; paragraph (d)(3) is added; headings of paragraphs (a), (b), and (d) are revised; and paragraphs (d)(1), (d)(2), (e), (f)(4), and (f)(5) are revised to read as follows:

§ 672.24 Gear limitations.

(a) *Marking of gear—longline marker buoys.* * * *

(b) *Gear restrictions—pots.* * * *

(c) * * *

(4) *Longline pot gear.* * * *

(d) *Trawls other than pelagic trawls—Kodiak Island—(1) Type I Closures.* No person may trawl in waters of the EEZ within the vicinity of Kodiak Island, as shown in Figure 5 of this part as Type I areas, from a vessel having any trawl other than a pelagic trawl either attached or on board.

(2) *Type II Closures.* From February 15 to June 15, no person may trawl in waters of the EEZ within the vicinity of Kodiak Island, as shown in Figure 5 of this part as Type II areas, from a vessel having any trawl other than a pelagic trawl either attached or on board.

(3) *Type III Closures.* Type III areas are open to any trawl other than a pelagic trawl gear year round.

(4) *Net-sounder device.* * * *

(5) *Footrope of the trawl.* * * *

(e) *Steller sea lion protection areas—(1) Year-round closures.* Trawling is prohibited in the GOA within 10 nm of the 14 Steller sea lion rookeries designated in Table 6a of this part.

(2) *Seasonal closures.* During January 1 through April 15, or a date earlier than April 15, if adjusted under § 675.20(a)(8) of this chapter, trawling is prohibited in the GOA within 20 nm of each of the three Steller sea lion rookeries presented in Table 6b of this part.

(f) * * *

(2) *Trawl gear testing.* * * *

(3) *Test area criteria.* * * *

(4) *Kodiak Test Area.* Trawl gear testing is allowed in an area (Figure 7 of this part) bounded by straight lines connecting the following coordinates in the order listed at all times:

| <i>W. longitude</i> | <i>N. latitude</i> |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 152°02' | 57°37' |
| 151°25' | 57°37' |
| 151°25' | 57°23' |
| 152°02' | 57°23' |
| 152°02' | 57°37' |

(5) *Sand Point Test Area.* Trawl gear testing is allowed in an area (Figure 7 of this part) bounded by straight lines connecting the following coordinates in the order listed at all times:

| <i>W. longitude</i> | <i>N. latitude</i> |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 161°00' | 54°50' |
| 160°30' | 54°50' |
| 160°30' | 54°35' |
| 161°00' | 54°35' |
| 161°00' | 54°50' |

12. In Part 672, figures 1 and 2 are revised, figures 3 through 7 and tables 1 through 11 are added to read as follows:

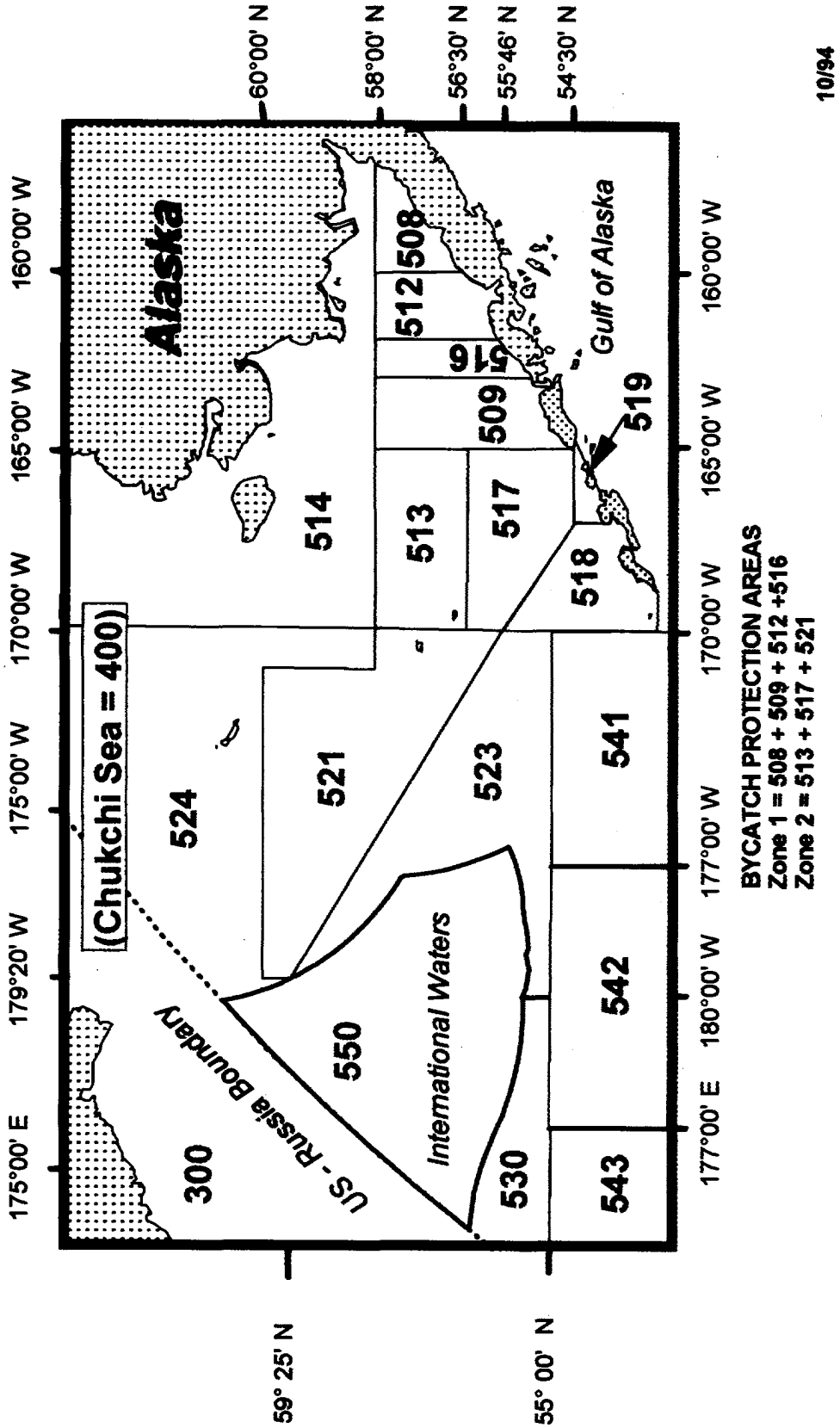


Figure 1.—BSAI Statistical and Reporting Areas
a. Map

FIGURE 1.—BSAI STATISTICAL AND REPORTING AREAS
[b. Coordinates of Reporting Areas]

| Code | Description |
|-----------|--|
| 300 | <i>Russian waters.</i> Those waters inside the Russian 200 mile limit as described in the current editions of NOAA chart INT 813 Bering Sea (Southern Part) and NOAA chart INT 814 Bering Sea (Northern Part). |
| 400 | <i>Chukchi Sea.</i> North of a diagonal line between 66°00'N, 169°42.5'W (Cape Dezhneva, Russia); and 65°37.5'N, 168°7.5'W (Cape Prince of Wales, Alaska) and to the limits of the U.S. EEZ as described in the current edition of NOAA chart INT 814 Bering Sea (Northern Part). |
| 508 | South of 58° 00' N between the intersection of 58° 00' North lat with the Alaska Peninsula and 160° 00' W long. |
| 509 | South of 58° 00' N lat between 163° 00' W long and 165° 00' W long. |
| 512 | South of 58° 00' N lat, north of the Alaska Peninsula between 160° 00' W long and 162° 00' W long. |
| 513 | Between 58° 00' N lat and 56° 30' N lat, and between 165° 00' W long and 170° 00' W long. |
| 514 | North of 58° 00' N to the southern boundary of the Chukchi Sea, area 400, and east of 170° 00' W long. |
| 516 | South of 58° 00' N lat, north of the Alaska Peninsula, and between 162° 00' and 163° 00' W long. |
| 517 | South of 56° 30' N lat, between 165° 00' W long and 170° 00' W long; and north of straight lines between: 54° 30' N lat, 165° 00' W long, 54° 30' N lat, 167°00' W long, and 55° 46' N lat, 170° 00' W long. |
| 518 | <i>Bogoslof District:</i> South of a straight line between 55° 46' N lat, 170° 00' W long and 54° 30' N lat, 167° 00' W long, and between 167° 00' W long and 170° 00' W long, and north of the Aleutian Islands and straight lines between the islands connecting the following coordinates in the order listed: 52° 49.2' N, 169° 40.4' W, 52° 49.8' N, 169° 06.3' W, 53° 23.8' N, 167° 50.1' W, 53° 18.7' N, 167° 51.4' W. |
| 519 | South of a straight line between 54° 30' N lat, 167° 00' W long and 54° 30' N lat, 164° 54' W long; east of 167° 00' W long; west of Unimak Island; and north of the Aleutian Islands and straight lines between the islands connecting the following coordinates in the order listed: 53° 59.0' N, 166° 17.2' W, 54° 02.9' N, 166° 03.0' W, 54° 07.7' N, 165° 40.6' W, 54° 08.9' N, 165° 38.8' W, 54° 11.9' N, 165° 23.3' W, 54° 23.9' N, 164° 44.0' W. |
| 521 | The area bounded by straight lines connecting the following coordinates in the order listed: 55° 46' N, 170° 00' W, 59° 25' N, 179° 20' W, 60° 00' N, 179° 20' W, 60° 00' N, 171° 00' W, 58° 00' N, 171° 00' W, 58° 00' N, 170° 00' W, 55° 46' N, 170° 00' W. |
| 523 | The area bounded by straight lines connecting the following coordinates in the order listed: 59° 25' N, 179° 20' W; 55° 46' N, 170° 00' W; 55° 00' N, 170° 00' W; 55° 00' N, 180° 00' W; and north to the limits of the US EEZ as described in the current edition of NOAA chart INT 813 Bering Sea (Southern Part). |
| 524 | The area west of 170° 00' W bounded south by straight lines connecting the following coordinates in the order listed: 58° 00' N, 170° 00' W, 58° 00' N, 171° 00' W; 60° 00' N, 171° 00' W; 60° 00' N, 179° 20' W; 59° 25' N, 179° 20' W and to the limits of the US EEZ as described in the current edition of NOAA chart INT 813 Bering Sea (Southern Part). |
| 530 | The area north of 55° 00' N lat and west of 180° 00' W long to the limits of the US EEZ as described in the current edition of NOAA chart INT 813 Bering Sea (Southern Part). |
| 541 | <i>Eastern Aleutian District.</i> The area south of 55° 00' N lat, west of 170° 00' W long, and east of 177° 00' W long and bounded on the south by the limits of the US EEZ as described in the current editions of NOAA chart INT 813 Bering Sea (Southern Part) and NOAA chart 530 (San Diego to Aleutian Islands and Hawaiian Islands). |
| 542 | <i>Central Aleutian District.</i> The area south of 55° 00' N lat, west of 177° 00' W long, and east of 177° 00' E long and bounded on the south by the limits of the US EEZ as described in the current editions of NOAA chart INT 813 Bering Sea (Southern Part) and NOAA chart 530 (San Diego to Aleutian Islands and Hawaiian Islands). |
| 543 | <i>Western Aleutian District.</i> The area south of 55° 00' N lat and west of 177° 00' E long, and bounded on the south and west by the limits of the US EEZ as described in the current editions of NOAA chart INT 813 Bering Sea (Southern Part) and NOAA chart 530 (San Diego to Aleutian Islands and Hawaiian Islands). |
| 550 | <i>Donut Hole.</i> International waters of the Bering Sea outside the limits of the EEZ and Russian economic zone as depicted on the current edition of NOAA chart INT 813 Bering Sea (Southern Part). |

Statistical Area. A statistical area is the part of a reporting area contained in the EEZ.

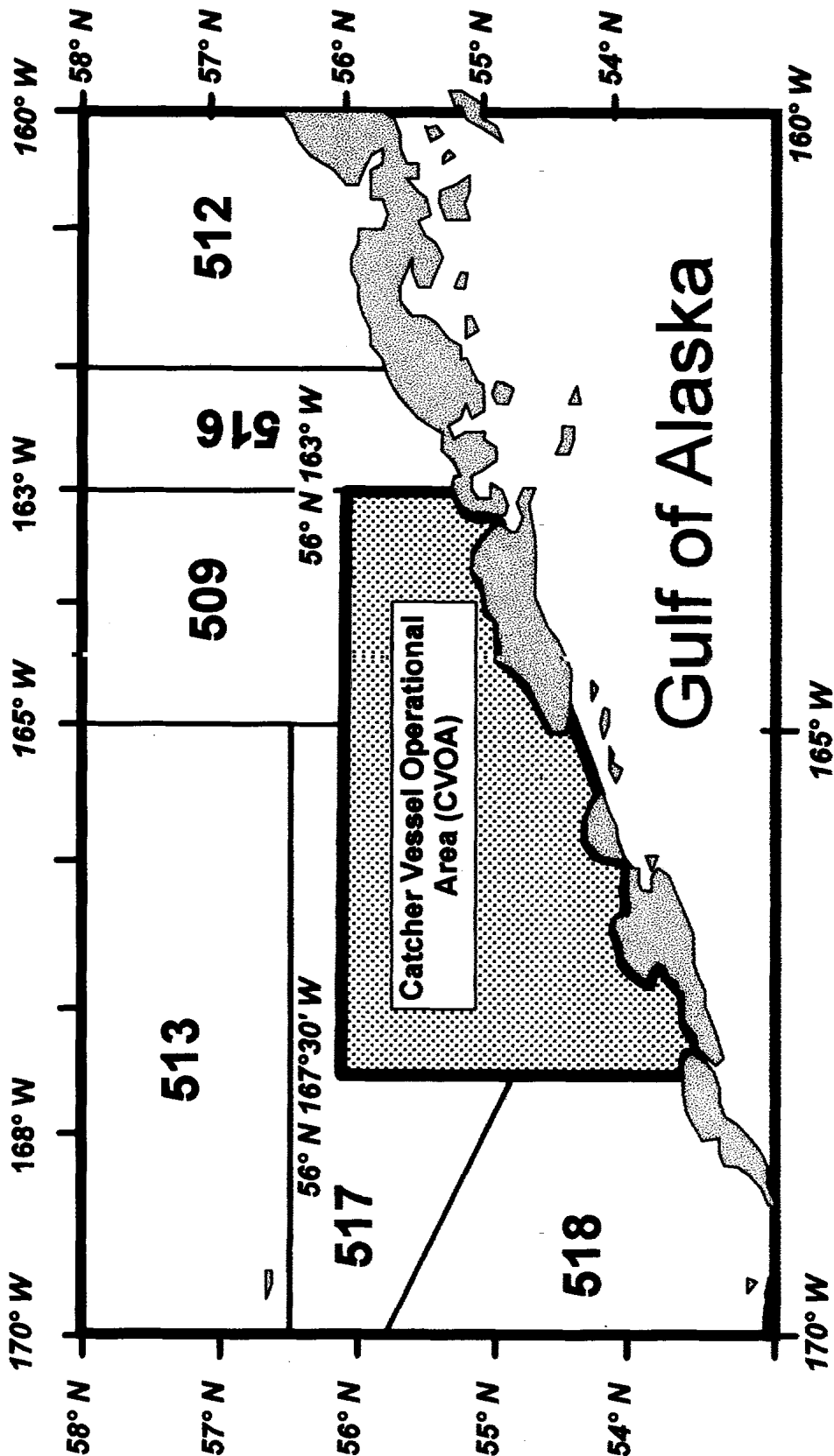


Figure 2.—BSAI Catcher Vessel Operational Area

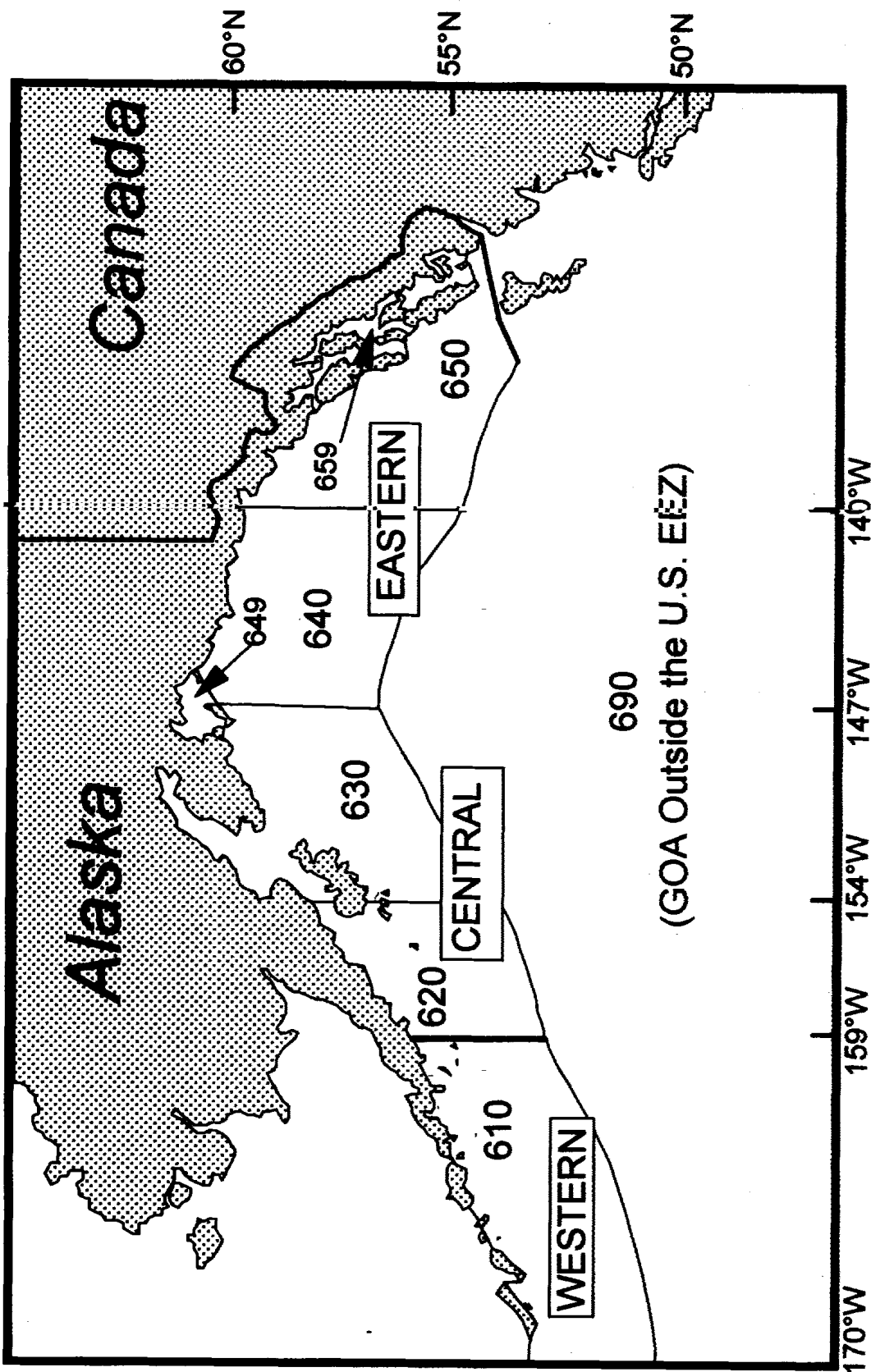


Figure 3.—Gulf of Alaska Statistical and Reporting Areas
a. Map

FIGURE 3.—GULF OF ALASKA STATISTICAL AND REPORTING AREAS
[b. Coordinates of Reporting Areas]

| Code | Description |
|--|---|
| 610 | <p><i>Western Regulatory Area, Shumagin District.</i> Along the south side of the Aleutian Islands and straight lines between the islands and the Alaska Peninsula connecting the following coordinates in the order listed:</p> <p>52° 49.2' N, 169° 40.4' W; 52° 49.8' N, 169° 06.3' W; 53° 23.8' N, 167° 50.1' W; 53° 18.7' N, 167° 51.4' W; 53° 59.0' N, 166° 17.2' W; 54° 02.9' N, 166° 03.0' W; 54° 07.7' N, 165° 40.6' W; 54° 08.9' N, 165° 38.8' W; 54° 11.9' N, 165° 23.3' W; 54° 23.9' N, 164° 44.0' W; and southward to the limits of the US EEZ as described in the current editions of NOAA chart INT 813 (Bering Sea, Southern Part) and NOAA chart 500 (West Coast of North America, Dixon Entrance to Unimak Pass), between 170° 00' W long and 159° 00' W long.</p> |
| 620 | <p><i>Central Regulatory Area, Chirikof District.</i> Along the south side of the Alaska Peninsula, between 159° 00' W long and 154° 00' W long, and southward to the limits of the US EEZ as described in the current edition of NOAA chart 500 (West Coast of North America, Dixon Entrance to Unimak Pass).</p> |
| 630 | <p><i>Central Regulatory Area, Kodiak District.</i> Along the south side of continental Alaska, between 154° 00' W long and 147° 00' W long, and southward to the limits of the US EEZ as described in the current edition of NOAA chart 500 (West Coast of North America, Dixon Entrance to Unimak Pass). Excluding area 649.</p> |
| 640 | <p><i>Eastern Regulatory Area, West Yakutat District.</i> Along the south side of continental Alaska, between 147° 00' W long and 140° 00' W long, and southward to the limits of the US EEZ, as described in the current edition of NOAA chart 500 (West Coast of North America, Dixon Entrance to Unimak Pass). Excluding area 649.</p> |
| 649 | <p><i>Prince William Sound.</i> Includes those waters of the State of Alaska inside the base line as specified in Alaska State regulations at 5 AAC 28.200.</p> |
| 650 | <p><i>Eastern Regulatory Area, Southeast Outside District.</i> East of 140° 00' W long and southward to the limits of the US EEZ as described in the current edition of NOAA chart 500 (West Coast of North America, Dixon Entrance to Unimak Pass). Excluding area 659.</p> |
| 659 | <p><i>Southeast Inside District.</i> As specified in Alaska State regulations at 5 AAC 28.105(a) (1) and (2).</p> |
| 690 | <p><i>Gulf of Alaska Outside the U.S. EEZ</i> as described in the current editions of NOAA chart INT 813 (Bering Sea, Southern Part) and NOAA chart 500 (West Coast of North America, Dixon Entrance to Unimak Pass).</p> |
| <p><i>Statistical Area.</i> A statistical area is the part of a reporting area contained in the EEZ.</p> | |

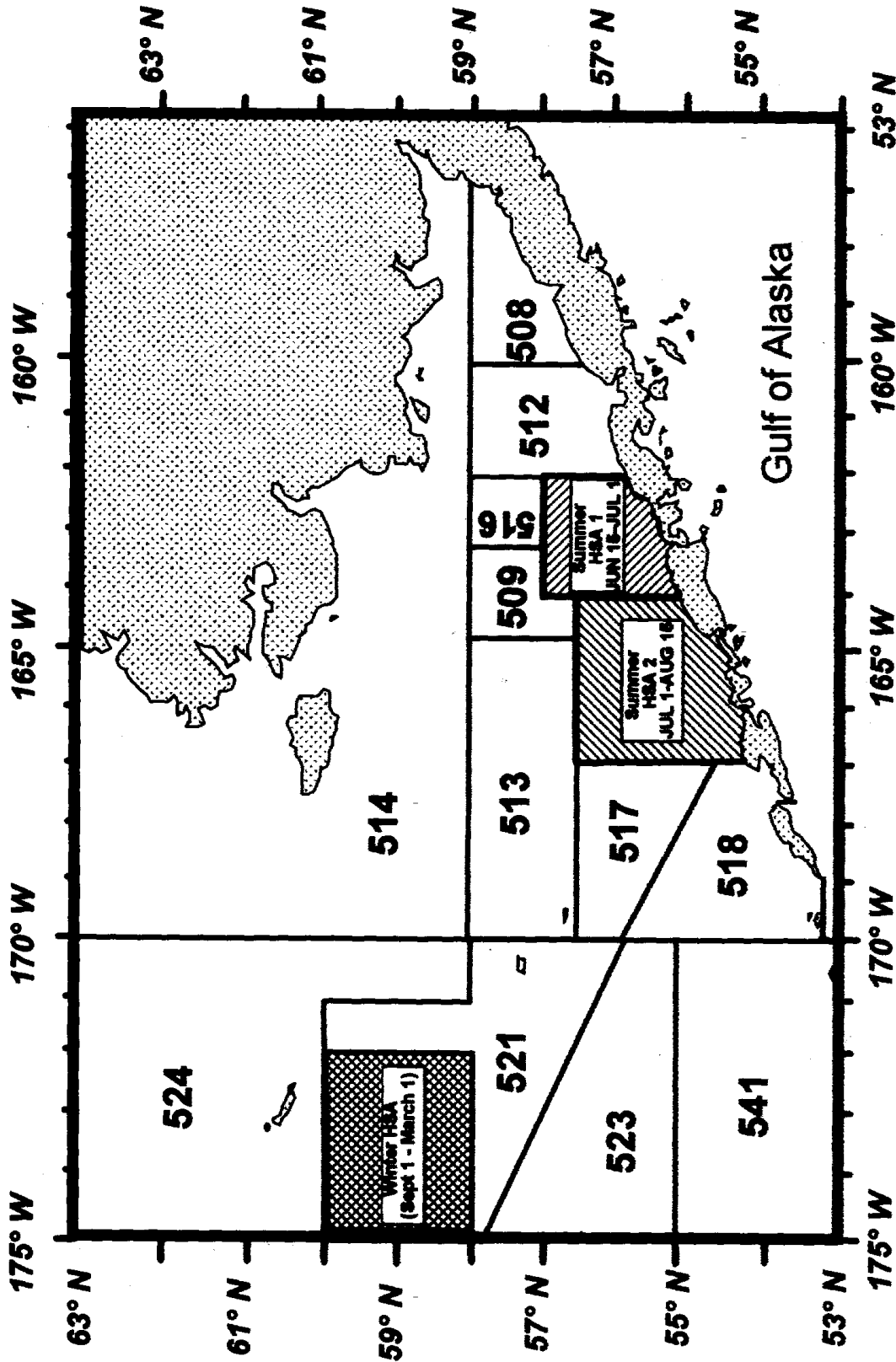


Figure 4.—Herring Savings Areas in the BSAI

a. Map

FIGURE 4.—HERRING SAVINGS AREAS IN THE BSAI
[b. Coordinates]

| Name | Description and effective date |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Summer Herring Savings Area 1 | That part of the Bering Sea subarea that is south of 57° N. latitude and between 162° and 164° W. longitude from 1200 hours, A.I.t., June 15 through 1200 hours, A.I.t. July 1 of a fishing year. |
| Summer Herring Savings Area 2 | That part of the Bering Sea subarea that is south of 56°30' N. latitude and between 164° and 167° W. longitude from 1200 hours, A.I.t., July 1 through 1200 hours, A.I.t. August 15 of a fishing year. |
| Winter Herring Savings Area | That part of the Bering Sea subarea that is between 58° and 60° N. latitude and between 172° and 175° W. longitude from 1200 hours, A.I.t. September 1 of the current fishing year through 1200 hours, A.I.t. March 1 of the succeeding fishing year. |

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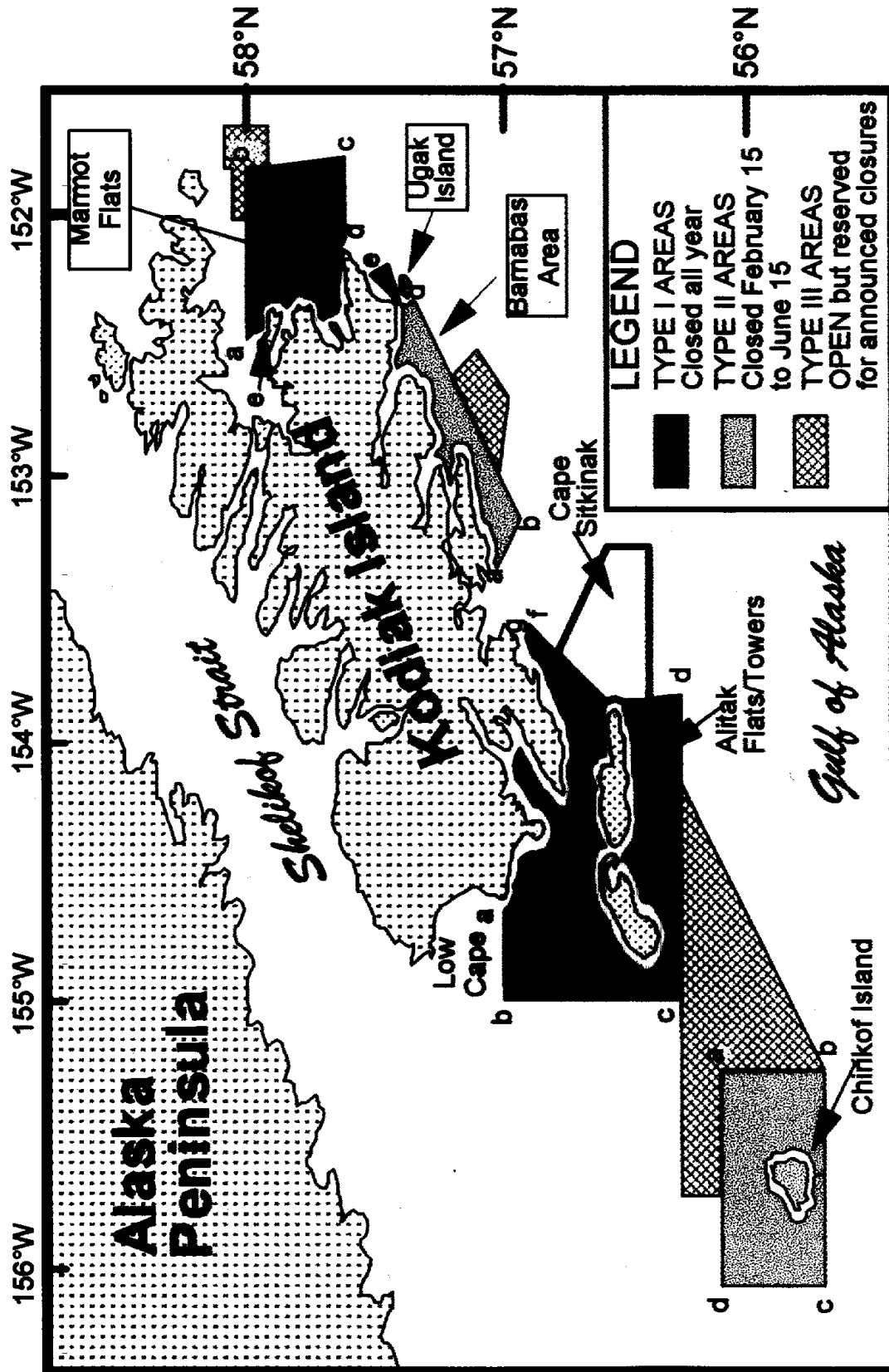


Figure 5.—Kodiak Island Areas Closed to Non-pelagic Trawl Gear
a. Map

FIGURE 5.—KODIAK ISLAND AREAS CLOSED TO NON-PELAGIC TRAWL GEAR
[b. Coordinates]

| Name and description of reference area reference point | North latitude/West longitude |
|--|--|
| Alitak Flats and Towers Areas—All waters of Alitak Flats and the Towers Areas enclosed by a line connecting the following 7 points in the order listed: | |
| b | 57° 00' 0" 155° 00' 0". |
| c | 56° 17' 0" 155° 00' 0". |
| d | 56° 17' 0" 153° 52' 0". |
| e | 56° 33' 5" 153° 52' 0" Cape Sitkinak. |
| f | 56° 54' 5" 153° 32' 5" East point of Twoheaded Island. |
| g | 56° 56' 0" 153° 35' 5" Kodiak Island, thence, along the coastline of Kodiak Island until intersection of Low Cape. |
| a | 56° 59' 4" 154° 31' 1" Low Cape. |
| Marmot Flats Area—All waters enclosed by a line connecting the following five points in the clockwise order listed: | |
| a | 58° 00' 0" 152° 30' 0". |
| b | 58° 00' 0" 151° 47' 0". |
| c | 57° 37' 0" 151° 47' 0". |
| d | 57° 37' 0" 152° 10' 1" Cape Chiniak, thence, along the coastline of Kodiak Island to |
| e | 57° 54' 5" 152° 30' 0" North Cape. |
| a | 58° 00' 0" 152° 30' 0". |
| Chirikof Island Area—All waters surrounding Chirikof Island enclosed by a line connecting the following four points in the counter-clockwise order listed: | |
| a | 56° 07' 0" 155° 13' 0". |
| b | 56° 07' 0" 156° 00' 0". |
| c | 55° 41' 0" 156° 00' 0". |
| d | 55° 41' 0" 155° 13' 0". |
| a | 56° 07' 0" 155° 13' 0". |
| Barnabas Area—All waters enclosed by a line connecting the following six points in the counter clockwise order listed: | |
| a | 57° 00' 0" 153° 18' 0" Black Point. |
| b | 56° 56' 0" 153° 09' 0". |
| c | 57° 22' 0" 152° 18' 5" South Tip of Ugak Island. |
| d | 57° 23' 5" 152° 17' 5" North Tip of Ugak Island. |
| e | 57° 25' 3" 152° 20' 0" Narrow Cape, thence, along the coastline of Kodiak Island. |
| f | 57° 04' 2" 153° 30' 0" Cape Kasick to |
| a | 57° 00' 0" 153° 18' 0" Black Point, including inshore waters. |

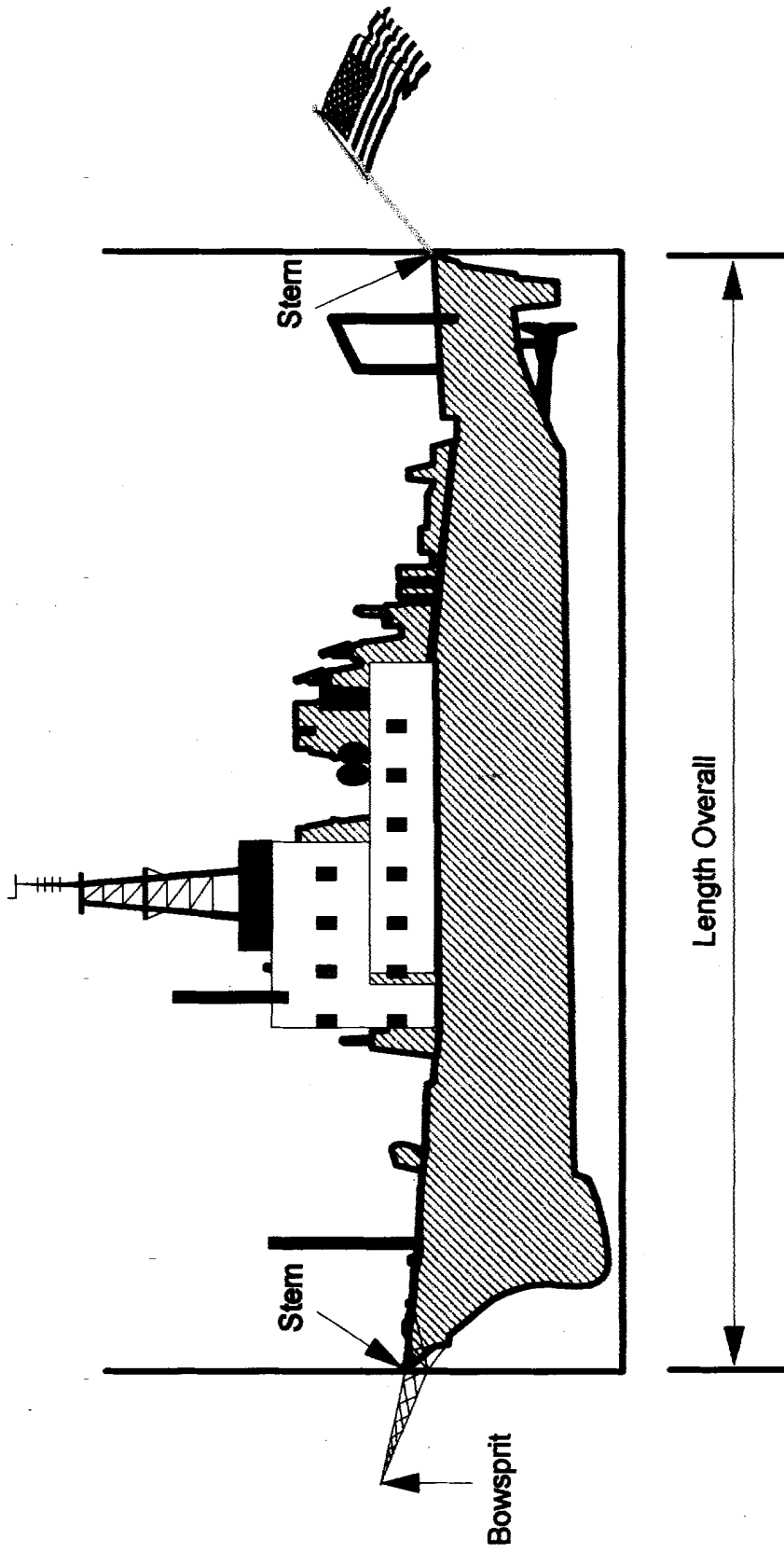


Figure 6.—Length Overall of Vessel here

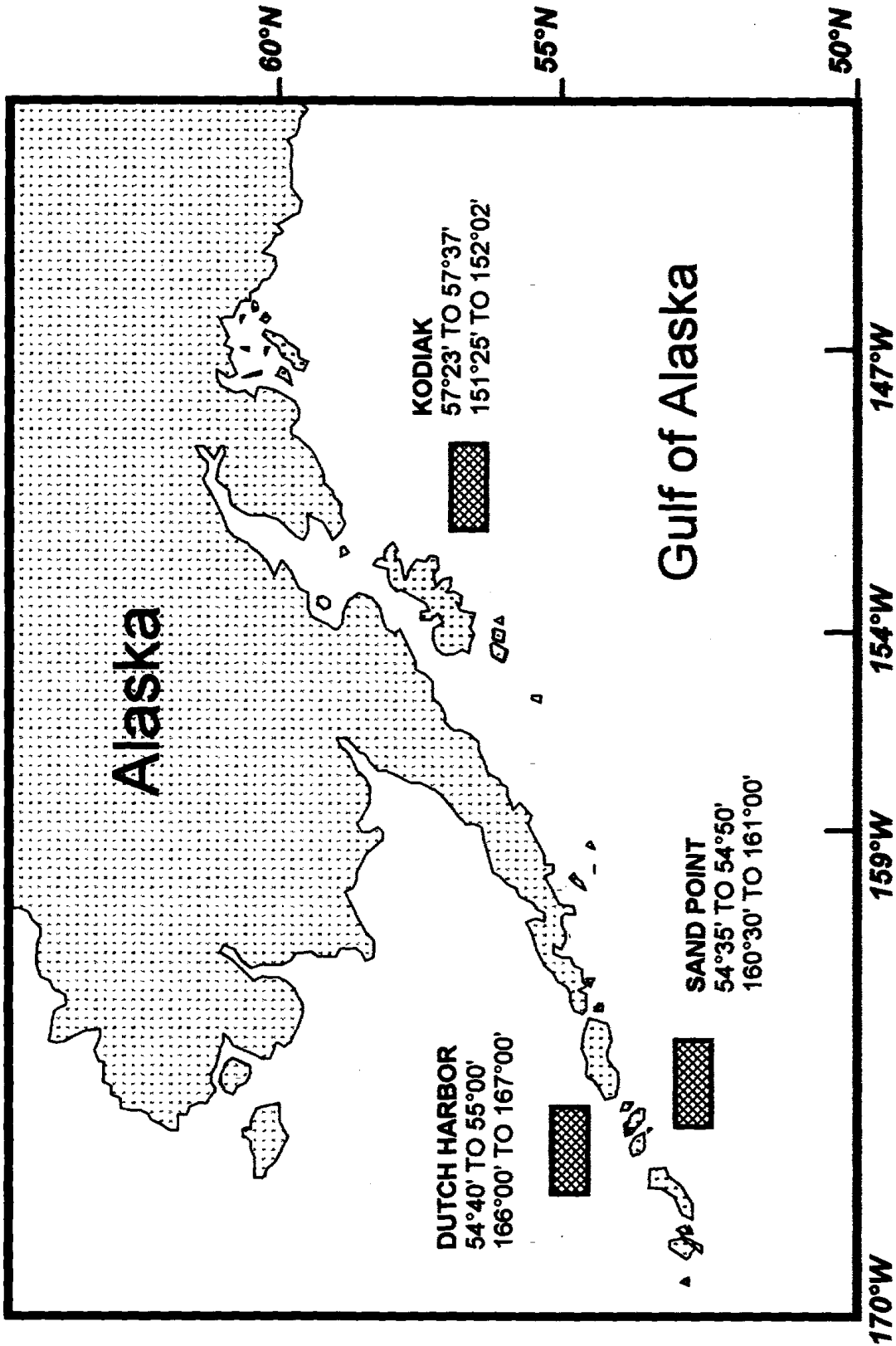


Figure 7.—Location of trawl gear test areas in the GOA and the BSAI

TABLES—PART 672
TABLE 1.—PRODUCT CODES

| Fish product code/description |
|--|
| 1. Whole fish/food fish. |
| 2. Whole fish/bait. Processed for bait. |
| 3. Bled only. Throat, or isthmus, slit to allow blood to drain. |
| 4. Gutted only. Belly slit and viscera removed. |
| 6. Head and gutted, with roe. |
| 7. Headed and gutted, Western cut. Head removed just in front of the collar bone, and viscera removed. |
| 8. Headed and gutted, Eastern cut. Head removed just behind the collar bone, and viscera removed. |
| 10. Headed and gutted, tail removed. Head removed usually in front of collar bone, and viscera and tail removed. |
| 11. Kirimi. Head removed either in front or behind the collar bone, viscera removed, and tail removed by cuts perpendicular to the spine, resulting in a steak. |
| 12. Salted and split. Head removed, belly slit, viscera removed, fillets cut from head to tail but remaining attached near tail. Product salted. |
| 13. Wings. On skates, side fins are cut off next to body. |
| 14. Roe. Eggs, either loose or in sacs, or skeins. |
| 15. Pectoral girdle. Collar bone and associated bones, cartilage and flesh. |
| 16. Heads. Heads only, regardless where severed from body. |
| 17. Cheeks. Muscles on sides of head. |
| 18. Chins. Lower jaw (mandible), muscles, and flesh. |
| 19. Belly. Flesh in region of pelvic and pectoral fins and behind head. |
| 20. Fillets with skin and ribs. Meat and skin with ribs attached, from sides of body behind head and in front of tail. |
| 21. Fillets with skin, no ribs. Meat and skin with ribs removed, from sides of body behind head and in front of tail. |
| 22. Fillets with ribs and no skin. Meat with ribs with skin removed, from sides of body behind head and in front of tail. |
| 23. Fillets, skinless/boneless. Meat with both skin and ribs removed, from sides of body behind head and in front of tail. |
| 24. Deep-skin fillet. Meat with skin, adjacent meat with silver lining, and ribs removed from sides of body behind head and in front of tail, resulting in thin fillets. |
| 30. Surimi. Paste from fish flesh and additives. |
| 31. Minced. Ground flesh. |
| 32. Fish meal. Meal from fish and fish parts, including bone meal. |
| 33. Fish oil. Rendered oil. |
| 34. Milt. (in sacs, or testes). |
| 35. Stomachs. Includes all internal organs. |
| 36. Octopus/squid mantles. Flesh after removal of viscera and arms. |
| 37. Butterfly, no backbone. Head removed, belly slit, viscera and most of backbone removed; fillets attached. |
| 39. Bones (if meal, report as 32). |
| 86. Donated Salmon. Includes salmon retained and donated under Salmon Donation Program. |
| 97. Other retained product |

Discard Product Codes

| |
|--|
| 92. Discard, bait. Whole fish used as bait on board vessel. |
| 94. Discard, consumption. Fish or fish products eaten on board or taken off the vessel for personal use. |
| 96. Previously discarded fish (decomposed) taken with trawl gear in current fishing efforts. Discarded. |
| 98. Discard, at sea. Whole groundfish and prohibited species discarded by catcher vessels, Catcher/Processors, Motherships, or Buying Stations delivering to Motherships. |
| 99. Discard, dockside. Discard after delivery and before processing; Discard, at plant. In-plant discard of whole groundfish and prohibited species by Shoreside Processors and Buying Stations delivering to Shoreside Processors before and during processing. |
| M99 Discard, off site meal reduction plant. Discarded fish that are transferred to any off site facility for reduction to fish meal, fish oil and/or discard at sea. |

Product Designation

- A Ancillary. Product made in addition to a primary product from the same fish.
- P Primary. Product made from each fish with the highest recovery rate.
- R Reprocessed. Product that results from processing a previously reported product.

TABLE 2.—SPECIES CODES

| Code | Species |
|-----------|---|
| 110 | Pacific cod. |
| 120 | Miscellaneous flatfish (all flatfish without separate codes). |
| 121 | Arrowtooth flounder and/or Kamchatka flounder. |
| 122 | Flathead sole. |
| 123 | Rock sole. |
| 124 | Dover sole. |
| 125 | Rex sole. |
| 126 | Butter sole. |
| 127 | Yellowfin sole. |
| 128 | English sole. |
| 129 | Starry flounder. |
| 131 | Petrable sole. |
| 132 | Sand sole. |
| 133 | Alaska Plaice flounder. |

TABLE 2.—SPECIES CODES—Continued

| Code | Species |
|-----------|--|
| 134 | Greenland turbot. |
| 135 | Greenstripe rockfish. |
| 136 | Northern rockfish. |
| 137 | Bocaccio rockfish. |
| 138 | Copper rockfish. |
| 141 | Pacific ocean perch (<i>S. alutus</i> only). |
| 142 | Black rockfish. |
| 143 | Thornyhead rockfish (all <i>Sebastolobus</i> species). |
| 145 | Yelloweye rockfish. |
| 146 | Canary rockfish. |
| 147 | Quillback rockfish. |
| 148 | Tiger rockfish. |
| 149 | China rockfish. |
| 150 | Rosethorn rockfish. |
| 151 | Rougheye rockfish. |
| 152 | Shortraker rockfish. |
| 153 | Redbanded rockfish. |
| 154 | Dusky rockfish. |
| 155 | Yellowtail rockfish. |
| 156 | Widow rockfish. |
| 157 | Silvergray rockfish. |
| 158 | Redstripe rockfish. |
| 159 | Darkblotched rockfish. |
| 160 | Sculpins. |
| 166 | Sharpchin rockfish. |
| 167 | Blue rockfish. |
| 175 | Yellowmouth rockfish. |
| 176 | Harlequin rockfish. |
| 177 | Blackgill rockfish. |
| 178 | Chilipepper rockfish. |
| 179 | Pygmy rockfish. |
| 181 | Shortbelly rockfish. |
| 182 | Splitnose rockfish. |
| 183 | Stripetail rockfish. |
| 184 | Vermilion rockfish. |
| 185 | Aurora rockfish. |
| 193 | Atka mackerel. |
| 270 | Pollock. |
| 510 | Smelt. |
| 511 | Eulachon. |
| 516 | Capelin. |
| 689 | Sharks. |
| 700 | Skates. |
| 710 | Sablefish. |
| 870 | Octopus. |
| 875 | Squid. |

GROUP CODES

These group codes may be used if individual species cannot be identified.

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 144 | Slope rockfish (aurora, blackgill, Bocaccio, redstripe, silvergray, chilipepper, darkblotched, greenstriped, harlequin, pygmy, shortbelly, splitnose, stripetail, vermillion, yellowmouth, sharpchin) |
| 168 | Demersal shelf rockfish (china, copper, quillback, rosethorn, tiger, yelloweye, canary) |
| 169 | Pelagic shelf rockfish (blue, dusky, yellowtail, widow). |
| 171 | Shortraker/rougheye rockfish |

PROHIBITED SPECIES CODES

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| 000 | Unspecified salmon. |
| 200 | Pacific halibut. |
| 235 | Pacific herring. |
| 410 | Salmon, Chinook. |
| 420 | Salmon, Sockeye. |
| 430 | Salmon, Coho. |
| 440 | Salmon, Pink. |
| 450 | Salmon, Chum. |
| 540 | Steelhead trout. |
| 920 | Unspecified king crab. |
| 921 | Red king crab. |
| 922 | Blue king crab. |
| 923 | Gold/brown king crab. |
| 930 | Unspecified tanner crab. |
| 931 | Bairdi tanner crab. |
| 932 | Opilio tanner crab. |

TABLE 3.—PRODUCT RECOVERY RATES FOR GROUND FISH SPECIES REFERENCED IN 50 CFR 672.20(a)(1) AND/OR 50 CFR 675.20(a)(1) (continued)

| FMP species | Species code | Product code | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|------|----------|---------|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | Oil | Milt | Stomachs | Mantles | Butterfly backbone removed | Decomposed fish | Discards | | | | | | |
| | | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 | 96 | 92, 94, 98, 99, M99 | | | | | | |
| PACIFIC COD | 110 | | | | | 0.43 | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| ARROWTOOTH FLOUNDER | 121 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| ROCKFISH | | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| SCULPINS | 160 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| ATKA MACKEREL | 193 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| POLLOCK | 270 | | | | | 0.43 | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| SMELTS | 510 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| EULACHON | 511 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| CAPELIN | 516 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| SHARKS | 689 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| SKATES | 700 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| SABLEFISH | 710 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| OCTOPUS | 870 | | | | 0.85 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| Target species categories only at 50 CFR 672.20(a) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DEEP WATER FLATFISH | 118 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| FLATHEAD SOLE | 122 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| REX SOLE | 125 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| SHALLOW WATER FLATFISH | 119 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| THORNYHEAD ROCKFISH | 143 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| Target species categories only at 50 CFR 675.20(a) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OTHER FLATFISH | 120 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| ROCK SOLE | 123 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| YELLOWFIN SOLE | 127 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| GREENLAND TURBOT | 134 | | | | | | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |
| SQUID | 875 | | | | 0.75 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 | | | | | | |

¹ Rockfish means all species of *Sebastes* and *Sebastolobus*.
² Standard pollock surimi rate during January through June.
³ Standard pollock surimi rate during July through December.

TABLE 4.—BERING SEA SUBAREA STELLER SEA LION PROTECTION AREAS

| Island | From | | To | |
|---|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| | Latitude | Longitude | Latitude | Longitude |
| 3-nm NO TRANSIT ZONES described at 50 CFR 227.12(a)(2) | | | | |
| a. Year-round Trawl Closures (Trawling Prohibited Within 10 nm). | | | | |
| Sea Lion Rocks | 55°28.0' N | 163°12.0' W | | |
| Ugamak Island | 54°14.0' N | 164°48.0' W | 54°13.0' N | 164°48.0' W |
| Akun Island | 54°18.0' N | 165°32.5' W | 54°18.0' N | 165°31.5' W |
| Akutan Island | 54°03.5' N | 166°00.0' W | 54°05.5' N | 166°05.0' W |
| Bogoslof Island | 53°56.0' N | 168°02.0' W | | |
| Ogchul Island | 53°00.0' N | 168°24.0' W | | |
| Adugak Island | 52°55.0' N | 169°10.5' W | | |
| Walrus Island | 57°11.0' N | 169°56.0' W | | |
| b. Seasonal Trawl Closures (During January 1 through April 15, or a date earlier than April 15, if adjusted under 50 CFR 672.30(a)(8), Trawling Prohibited Within 20 nm). | | | | |
| Sea Lion Rocks | 55°28.0' N | 163°12.0' W | | |
| Akun Island | 54°18.0' N | 165°32.5' W | 54°18.0' N | 165°31.5' W |
| Akutan Island | 54°03.5' N | 166°00.0' W | 54°05.5' N | 166°05.0' W |
| Ugamak Island | 54°14.0' N | 164°48.0' W | 54°13.0' N | 164°48.0' W |
| Seguam Island | 52°21.0' N | 172°35.0' W | 52°21.0' N | 172°33.0' W |
| Agligadak Island | 52°06.5' N | 172°54.0' W | | |

Note: The bounds of each rookery extend in a clockwise direction from the first set of geographic coordinates, along the shoreline at mean lower low water, to the second set of coordinates; if only one set of geographic coordinates is listed, the rookery extends around the entire shoreline of the island at mean lower low water.

TABLE 5.—ALEUTIAN ISLANDS SUBAREA STELLER SEA LION PROTECTION AREAS

| Island | From | | To | |
|---|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| | Latitude | Longitude | Latitude | Longitude |
| 3-nm NO TRANSIT ZONES described at 50 CFR 227.12(a)(2) | | | | |
| a. Year-round Trawl Closures (Trawling Prohibited Within 10 nm). | | | | |
| Yunaska Island | 52°42.0' N | 170°38.5' W | 52°41.0' N | 170°34.5' W |
| Seguam Island | 52°21.0' N | 172°35.0' W | 52°21.0' N | 172°33.0' W |
| Agligadak Island | 52°06.5' N | 172°54.0' W | | |
| Kasatochi Island | 52°10.0' N | 175°31.0' W | 52°10.5' N | 175°29.0' W |
| Adak Island | 51°36.5' N | 176°59.0' W | 51°38.0' N | 176°59.5' W |
| Gramp Rock | 51°29.0' N | 178°20.5' W | | |
| Tag Island | 51°33.5' N | 178°34.5' W | | |
| Ulak Island | 51°20.0' N | 178°57.0' W | 51°18.5' N | 178°59.5' W |
| Semisopochnoi | 51°58.5' N | 179°45.5' E | 51°57.0' N | 179°46.0' E |
| Semisopochnoi | 52°01.5' N | 179°37.5' E | 52°01.5' N | 179°39.0' E |
| Amchitka Island | 51°22.5' N | 179°28.0' E | 51°21.5' N | 179°25.0' E |
| Amchitka Is/Column Rocks | 51°32.5' N | 178°49.5' E | | |
| Ayugadak Point | 51°45.5' N | 178°24.5' E | | |
| Kiska Island | 51°57.5' N | 177°21.0' E | 51°56.5' N | 177°20.0' E |
| Kiska Island | 51°52.5' N | 177°13.0' E | 51°53.5' N | 177°12.0' E |
| Buldir Island | 52°20.5' N | 175°57.0' E | 52°23.5' N | 175°51.0' E |
| Agattu Is./Gillion Pt | 52°24.0' N | 173°21.5' E | | |
| Agattu Island | 52°23.5' N | 173°43.5' E | 52°22.0' N | 173°41.0' E |
| Attu Island | 52°54.5' N | 172°28.5' E | 52°57.5' N | 172°31.5' E |
| b. Seasonal Trawl Closures (During January 1 through April 15, or a date earlier than April 15, if adjusted under 50 CFR 675.20(a)(8). Trawling Prohibited Within 20 nm). | | | | |
| Seguam Island | 52°21.0' N | 172°35.0' W | 52°21.0' N | 172°33.0' W |
| Agligadak Island | 52°06.5' N | 172°54.0' W | | |

Note: Each rookery extends in a clockwise direction from the first set of geographic coordinates, along the shoreline at mean lower low water, to the second set of coordinates; if only one set of geographic coordinates is listed, the rookery extends around the entire shoreline of the island at mean lower low water.

TABLE 6.—GULF OF ALASKA STELLER SEA LION PROTECTION AREAS

| Island | From | | To | |
|---|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| | Latitude | Longitude | Latitude | Longitude |
| 3-nm NO TRANSIT ZONES described at 50 CFR 227.12(a)(2) | | | | |
| a. Year-round Trawl Closures (Trawling Prohibited Within 10 nm). | | | | |
| Outer Island | 59°20.5' N | 150°23.0' W | 59°21.0' N | 150°24.5' W |
| Sugarloaf Island | 58°53.0' N | 152°02.0' W | | |
| Marmot Island | 58°14.5' N | 151°47.5' W | 58°10.0' N | 151°51.0' W |
| Chirikof Island | 55°46.5' N | 155°39.5' W | 55°46.5' N | 155°43.0' W |
| Chowiet Island | 56°00.5' N | 156°41.5' W | 56°00.5' N | 156°42.0' W |
| Atkins Island | 55°03.5' N | 159°18.5' W | | |
| Chernabura Island | 54°47.5' N | 159°31.0' W | 54°45.5' N | 159°33.5' W |
| Pinnacle Rock | 54°46.0' N | 161°46.0' W | | |
| Clubbing Rocks-N | 54°43.0' N | 162°26.5' W | | |
| Clubbing Rocks-S | 54°42.0' N | 162°26.5' W | | |
| Ugamak Island | 54°14.0' N | 164°48.0' W | 54°13.0' N | 164°48.0' W |
| Akun Island | 54°18.0' N | 165°32.5' W | 54°18.0' N | 165°31.5' W |
| Akutan Island | 54°03.5' N | 166°00.0' W | 54°05.5' N | 166°05.0' W |
| Ogchul Island | 53°00.0' N | 168°24.0' W | | |
| b. Seasonal Trawl Closures (During January 1 through April 15, or a date earlier than April 15, if adjusted under 50 CFR 672.30(a)(8). Trawling Prohibited Within 20 nm). | | | | |
| Akun I | 54°18.0' N | 165°32.5' W | 54°18.0' N | 165°31.5' W |
| Akutan I | 54°03.5' N | 166°00.0' W | 54°05.5' N | 166°05.0' W |
| Ugamak I | 54°14.0' N | 164°48.0' W | 54°13.0' N | 164°48.0' W |

Note: The bounds of each rookery extend in a clockwise direction from the first set of geographic coordinates, along the shoreline at mean lower low water, to the second set of coordinates; if only one set of geographic coordinates is listed, the rookery extends around the entire shoreline of the island at mean lower low water.

TABLE 7.—COMMUNITIES DETERMINED TO BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUOTAS [Other communities may also be eligible, but do not appear on this table]

- Aleutian Region:*
 1. Atka
 2. False Pass
 3. Nelson Lagoon
 4. Nikolski
 5. St. George
 6. St. Paul
- Bering Strait:*
 1. Brevig Mission
 2. Diomede/Inalik
 3. Elim
 4. Gambell
 5. Golovin
 6. Koyuk
 7. Nome
 8. Savoonga
 9. Shaktolik
 10. St. Michael
 11. Stebbins
 12. Teller
 13. Unalakleet
 14. Wales
 15. White Mountain
- Bristol Bay:*
 1. Alegnagik
 2. Clark's Point
 3. Dillingham

TABLE 7.—COMMUNITIES DETERMINED TO BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUOTAS—Continued [Other communities may also be eligible, but do not appear on this table]

4. Egegik
 5. Ekuk
 6. Manokotak
 7. Naknek
 8. Pilot Point/Ugashi
 9. Port Heiden/Meschick
 10. South Naknek
 11. Sovonoski/King Salmon
 12. Togiak
 13. Twin Hills
- Southwest Coastal Lowlands:*
 1. Alakanuk
 2. Chefornak
 3. Chevak
 4. Eek
 5. Emmonak
 6. Goodnews Bay
 7. Hooper Bay
 8. Kipnuk
 9. Kongiganak
 10. Kotlik
 11. Kwigillingok
 12. Mekoryuk
 13. Newtok
 14. Nightmute
 15. Platinum

TABLE 7.—COMMUNITIES DETERMINED TO BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUOTAS—Continued [Other communities may also be eligible, but do not appear on this table]

16. Quinhagak
 17. Scammon Bay
 18. Sheldon's Point
 19. Toksook Bay
 20. Tununak
 21. Tuntutuliak

TABLE 8.—HARVEST ZONE CODES FOR USE WITH PRODUCT TRANSFER REPORTS AND VESSEL ACTIVITY REPORTS

| Harvest zone | Description |
|--------------|---|
| A | EEZ off Alaska. |
| D | Donut Hole. |
| F | Foreign Waters Other than Russia. |
| I | International Waters other than Donut Hole and Seamounts. |
| R | Russian waters. |
| S | Seamounts in International waters. |
| U | U.S. EEZ other than Alaska. |

TABLE 9.—REQUIRED LOGBOOKS, REPORTS AND FORMS FROM PARTICIPANTS IN THE FEDERAL GROUND FISH FISHERIES

| Name of logbook/form | Catcher-vessel | Catcher-processor | Mothership | Shoreside processor | Buying station |
|--|----------------|-------------------|------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Daily Fishing Logbook (DFL) | Yes | No | No | No | No. |
| Daily Cumulative Production Logbook (DCPL) | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | No. |
| Daily Cumulative Logbook (DCL) | No | No | No | No | Yes. |
| Check-in/check-out Report | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes. |
| U.S. Vessel Activity Report (VAR) | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | No. |
| Weekly Production Report (WPR) | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | No. |
| Daily Production Report (DPR)* | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | No. |
| Product Transfer Report (PTR) | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | No. |

* When required by Regional Director.

TABLE 10.—GULF OF ALASKA RETAINABLE PERCENTAGES REFERENCED IN 50 CFR 672.20

| Basis species ¹ | Bycatch species ¹ | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | Pollock | Pacific cod | Deep flatfish | Rex sole | Flat-head sole | Shal-low flatfish | Arrowtooth | Sable-fish | Aggre-gated rock-fish ² | DSR SEEO ³ | Atka mack-erel | Other spe-cies |
| Pollock | ⁴ na | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 1 | 5 | 10 | 20 | 20 |
| Pacific cod | 20 | ⁴ na | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 1 | 5 | 10 | 20 | 20 |
| Deep-water flatfish | 20 | 20 | ⁴ na | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| Rex sole | 20 | 20 | 20 | ⁴ na | 20 | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| Flathead sole | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | ⁴ na | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| Shallow-water flatfish ... | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | ⁴ na | 35 | 1 | 5 | 10 | 20 | 20 |
| Arrowtooth | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | ⁴ na | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sablefish | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | ⁴ na | 15 | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| Pacific Ocean Perch | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| Shortraker/rougheyeye ... | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| Other rockfish | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| Northern rockfish | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| Pelagic rockfish | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| DSR-Southeast Outside | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | ⁴ na | 20 | 20 |
| Thornyhead | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | 1 | 20 | 20 |
| Atka mackerel | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 1 | 5 | 10 | ⁴ na | 20 |
| Other species | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 1 | 5 | 10 | 20 | ⁴ na |

TABLE 10.—GULF OF ALASKA RETAINABLE PERCENTAGES REFERENCED IN 50 CFR 672.20—Continued

| Basis species ¹ | Bycatch species ¹ | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-------------|---------------|----------|----------------|-------------------|------------|------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Pollock | Pacific cod | Deep flatfish | Rex sole | Flat-head sole | Shal-low flatfish | Arrowtooth | Sable-fish | Aggre-gated rock-fish ² | DSR SEEO ³ | Atka mack-erel | Other spe-cies |
| Aggregated amount non-groundfish spe-cies | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 1 | 5 | 10 | 20 | 20 |

¹ For definition of species, see Table 1 of the Gulf of Alaska groundfish specifications.

² Aggregated rockfish means rockfish of the general *Sebastes* and *Sebastolobus* except in the southeast Outside District where demersal shelf rockfish (DSR) is a separate category.

³ SEEO—Southeast Outside District.

⁴ na=not applicable.

TABLE 11.—BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS MANAGEMENT AREA RETAINABLE PERCENTAGES REFERENCED IN 50 CFR 675.20

| Basis species ⁵ | Bycatch species ¹ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | Pol-lock | Pa-cific cod | Atka mack-erel | Arrowtooth | Yel-lowfin sole | Other flat-fish | Rock sole | Flat-head sole | Green-land turbot | Sa-ble-fish | Ag-gre-gated rock-fish ⁶ | Squid | Other spe-cies |
| Pollock | ⁷ na | 20 | 20 | 35 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 20 |
| Pacific cod | 20 | ³ na | 20 | 35 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 20 |
| Atka mackerel | 20 | 20 | ³ na | 35 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 20 |
| Arrowtooth | 0 | 0 | 0 | ³ na | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Yellowfin sole | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | ³ na | 35 | 35 | 35 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 20 |
| Other flatfish | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 35 | ³ na | 35 | 35 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 20 |
| Rocksole | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 35 | 35 | ³ na | 35 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 20 |
| Flathead sole | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 35 | 35 | 35 | ³ na | 35 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 20 |
| Greenland turbot | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | ³ na | 15 | 15 | 20 | 20 |
| Sablefish | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | ³ na | 15 | 20 | 20 |
| Other rockfish | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 20 |
| Other red rockfish-BS | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 20 |
| Pacific Ocean perch | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 5 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 20 |
| Sharpchin/Northern-AI | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 20 |
| Shortraker/Roughye-AI | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 20 |
| Squid | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 1 | 1 | 5 | ³ na | 20 |
| Other species | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 20 | na ³ |
| Aggregated amount non-groundfish species | 20 | 20 | 20 | 35 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 20 | 20 |

¹ For definition of species, see Table 1 of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands groundfish specifications.

² Aggregated rockfish of the genera *Sebastes* and *Sebastolobus*.

³ na=not applicable.

PART 675—GROUND FISH OF THE BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS AREA

13. The authority citation for part 675 continues to read as follows:

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

14. In § 675.1, paragraph (a) is revised to read as follows:

§ 675.1 Purpose and scope.

(a) Regulations in this part, along with parts 620, 672, 676, and 677 of this chapter implement the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area.

* * * * *

15. Section 675.2 is revised to read as follows:

§ 675.2 Definitions.

Definitions for this part are identical to the definitions for part 672. See § 672.2 of this chapter.

16. Section 675.3 is revised to read as follows:

§ 675.3 Relation to other laws.

Regulations for this section are located in § 672.3 of this chapter.

17. Section 675.4 is revised to read as follows:

§ 675.4 Permits.

Fisheries permit requirements for vessels fishing for groundfish in the BSAI are located at § 672.4 of this chapter.

18. Section 675.5 is revised to read as follows:

§ 675.5 Recordkeeping and reporting.

Recordkeeping and reporting requirements regulated under this part and § 672.4 of this chapter are located at § 672.5 of this chapter.

19. In § 675.7, paragraphs (a), (l), and (m) are revised, and paragraphs (q) and (r) are added to read as follows:

§ 675.7 Prohibitions.

* * * * *

(a) Fish for groundfish in the BSAI with a vessel of the United States that does not have on board a valid permit issued under § 672.4 of this chapter.

* * * * *

(l) Except as authorized by permit issued pursuant to the section of the Donut Hole Convention implementing legislation authorizing the Secretary to

issue Donut Hole fishing permits (Public Law 104-43, section 104(d)), it is unlawful for any person to fish in the Donut Hole from a vessel for which a Federal fisheries permit has been issued pursuant to section 672.4 of this chapter during the year for which the permit was issued;

(m) Except as authorized by permit issued pursuant to the section of the Donut Hole Convention implementing legislation authorizing the Secretary to issue Donut Hole fishing permits (Public Law 104-43, section 104(d)), it is unlawful for any person to possess within the EEZ fish harvested from the Donut Hole on board a vessel for which a Federal fisheries permit has been issued pursuant to section 672.4 of this chapter during the year for which the permit was issued.

* * * * *

(q) Fail to comply with or fail to ensure compliance with requirements at § 672.5 of this chapter.

(r) Use a catcher vessel or catcher/processor as a Tender Vessel before offloading all groundfish or groundfish product harvested or processed by that vessel.

20. In § 675.20, paragraphs (a)(1), (c)(1), (i)(2), and (j)(4) are revised; headings for paragraphs (a)(8) through (a)(12), (d), (j)(1), (j)(2) and (j)(3) are added; paragraphs (h)(1) and (h)(3) are amended by revising the words, "Table 1 to this section" to read "Table 11 of part 672," and Table 1 to § 675.20 is removed.

§ 675.20 General limitations.

(a) * * *

(1) *Optimum yield (OY)*. The OY for the fishery regulated by this section and by § 611.93 of this chapter is a range of 1.4 million to 2.0 million mt for target species and the "other species" category in the BSAI, to the extent this amount can be harvested consistently with this part and part 611 of this chapter, plus the amounts of "non-specified species" taken incidentally to the harvest of target species and the "other species" category. The species categories are defined in Table 1 of the specifications as provided in paragraph (a)(7) of this section.

* * * * *

- (8) *Directed fishing allowance.* * * *
- (9) *Prohibited species closure.* * * *
- (10) *Overfishing closure.* * * *
- (11) *JVP or TALFF prohibitions.* * * *
- (12) *Factors to be considered.* * * *

* * * * *

(c) * * *

(1) Prohibited species, for the purpose of this part, means any of the species of Pacific salmon (*Oncorhynchus* spp.),

steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*), Pacific herring (*Clupea harengus pallasii*), king crab (*Paralithodes* spp. and *Lithodes* spp.), and Tanner crab (*Chionoecetes* spp.) caught by a vessel regulated under this part while fishing for groundfish in the BSAI, unless retention is authorized by other applicable law, including Part 301—Pacific Halibut Fisheries Regulations.

* * * * *

(d) *Winter Halibut Savings Area.*

* * *

* * * * *

(i) * * *

(2) *Fishing trip*. For purposes of this paragraph, a fishing trip is defined as set forth under paragraph 672.20(h)(2) of this chapter.

(j) * * *

(1) *Pollock roe.* * * *

(2) *Primary product.* * * *

(3) Standard product recovery rates.

* * *

* * * * *

(4) For purposes of this paragraph, a fishing trip is defined as set forth under part 672.20(h)(2) of this chapter.

* * * * *

21. In § 675.21, headings are added to paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(6), and (b)(4), to read as follows:

§ 675.21 Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) Limitations.

(a) * * *

(1) *Red king crab, Zone 1.* * * *

(2) *Tanner crab, Zone 1.* * * *

(3) *Tanner crab, Zone 2.* * * *

(4) *Pacific halibut, trawl.* * * *

(5) *Pacific herring.* * * *

(6) *Pacific halibut, non-trawl.* * * *

(b) * * *

(4) *Bycatch allowances and seasonal apportionments.* * * *

* * * * *

22. In § 675.22, paragraph (a) is revised and headings are added to paragraphs (b) through (f) to read as follows:

§ 675.22 Time and area closures.

(a) *Year-round closures, Area 512*. No fishing with trawl gear is allowed at any time in that part of Zone 1 in the Bering Sea subarea that is south of 58°00' N. lat. and between 160°00' W. long. and 162°00' W. long. (see Figure 1 to part 672), except as described in paragraph (c) of this section.

(b) *Seasonal closures, Area 516.*

* * *

(c) *Partial closures, Area 512.* * * *

(d) *Partial closures, Area 516.* * * *

(e) *Red king crab closures.* * * *

(f) *Walrus Protection Areas.* * * *

* * * * *

23. In § 675.23, paragraphs (a) and (d) are revised and headings are added to paragraphs (b) and (c) to read as follows:

§ 675.23 Seasons.

(a) *Fishing year*. Fishing for groundfish in the subareas and statistical areas of the BSAI is authorized from 0001 hours, A.l.t., January 1, through 2359 hours, A.l.t., December 31, subject to the other provisions of this part, except as provided in paragraphs (c) through (e) of this section.

(b) *Time of openings and closures.*

* * *

(c) *Directed fishing for arrowtooth flounder and Greenland turbot.* * * *

(d) *Trawl gear prohibition, BSAI.*

Notwithstanding other provisions of this part, fishing for groundfish with trawl gear in the BSAI is prohibited from 0001 hours, A.l.t. on January 1, through 1200 hours, A.l.t., January 20.

* * * * *

24. In § 675.24, paragraph (e) is removed; paragraphs (f), (g), and (h) are redesignated as paragraphs (e), (f), and (g) respectively; headings are added to paragraphs (c)(1), (c)(2), (c)(3), (d)(1), (d)(2), and newly redesignated paragraphs (f)(2) and (f)(3); the headings for paragraph (b) and newly redesignated paragraph (f) are revised; newly redesignated paragraphs (e) and (f)(4) are revised; and paragraph (a)(4) is added to read as follows:

§ 675.24 Gear limitations.

* * * * *

(a) * * *

(4) Marking shall be in characters at least 4 inches (10.2 cm) in height and one-half inch (1.3 cm) in width, in a contrasting color visible above the water line, and shall be maintained in good condition.

(b) *Gear restrictions—pots.* * * *

* * * * *

(c) * * * (1) *Sablefish.* * * *

(2) *Pollock.* * * *

(3) *Longline pot gear.* * * *

(d) * * *

(1) *Directed fishing closures.* * * *

(2) *PSC closures.* * * *

* * * * *

(e) *Steller sea lion protection areas—(1) Bering Sea Subarea and Bogoslof District—(i) Year-round closures.* Trawling is prohibited within 10 nm (18.5 km) of each of the eight Steller sea lion rookeries shown in Table 4a to part 672 of this chapter.

(ii) *Seasonal closures.* During January 1 through April 15, or a date earlier than April 15 if adjusted under § 675.20(a)(8), trawling is prohibited within 20 nm (37 km) of each of the six Steller sea lion

rookeries shown in Table 4b to part 672 of this chapter.

(2) *Aleutian Islands Subarea*—(i) *Year-round closures.* Trawling is prohibited within 10 nm (18.4 km) of each of the 19 Steller sea lion rookeries shown in Table 5a of part 672 of this chapter.

(ii) *Seasonal closures.* During January 1 through April 15, or a date earlier than April 15 if adjusted under § 675.20(a)(8), trawling is prohibited within 20 nm (37 km) of each of the two Steller sea lion rookeries shown in Table 5b of part 672 of this chapter.

(f) *Trawl gear testing areas.* * * *
 (2) *Test area conditions.* * * *
 (3) *Test area criteria.* * * *
 (4) *Bering Sea Testing Area.* Trawl gear testing is allowed in an area (Figure 7 to part 672 of this chapter) bounded by straight lines connecting the following coordinates in the order listed, at all times:

W. longitude N. latitude

| | |
|----------|---------|
| 167° 00' | 55° 00' |
| 166° 00' | 55° 00' |
| 166° 00' | 54° 40' |
| 167° 00' | 54° 40' |
| 167° 00' | 55° 00' |

* * * * *

25. In § 675.27, the table to § 675.27 is removed; paragraph (d)(2) introductory text and paragraph (g) are revised; the heading of paragraph (c) is revised, and headings are added to paragraphs (a)(1), (a)(2), (c)(1), (c)(2), (e)(2), and (f)(1) through (f)(3), to read as follows:

§ 675.27 Western Alaska Community Development Quota Program (applicable through December 31, 1998).

(a) *State of Alaska CDQ regulations.*—

- (1) *Compliance.* * * *
- (2) *Public hearing.* * * *

* * * * *

(c) *Secretarial review and approval of CDPs.*—(1) *Consistent with criteria.*

- * * *
- (2) *Not consistent with criteria.* * * *
- (d) *Evaluation criteria.* * * *

(2) Prior to approval of a CDP recommended by the Governor, NMFS will review the Governor's findings to determine that each community that is part of a CDP is listed on Table 7 to part 672 of this chapter or meets the following criteria for an eligible community:

* * * * *

- (e) * * *
- (2) *Increase in CDQ allocation.* * * *
- (f) * * *
- (1) *Recommendation of Governor.*

- * * *
- (2) *Non-compliance.* * * *
- (3) *Review of allocation.* * * *
- (g) *CDQ fishing requirements.*

Recordkeeping and reporting requirements are set out at § 672.5 of this chapter.

* * * * *

26. Part 675 is amended by removing figures 1 through 3 to this part.