

agreeing to repay all or any part of the award if the award should for any reason be subsequently reduced.

(b) [Reserved]

7. In § 296.14, paragraph (a) introductory text is revised to read as follows:

**§ 296.14 Subrogation.**

(a) The claim application will contain a subrogation statement signed by the claimant as a condition of payment of the claim which:

\* \* \* \* \*

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**50 CFR Part 675**

[Docket No. 960129019-6019-01; I.D. 021396A]

**Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Area; Atka Mackerel in the Eastern Aleutian District and the Bering Sea Subarea**

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

**ACTION:** Closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is closing the directed fishery for Atka mackerel in the Eastern Aleutian District and Bering Sea subarea of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the specification of Atka mackerel in these areas.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), February 14, 1996, until 12 midnight, A.l.t., December 31, 1996.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The groundfish fishery in the BSAI exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at 50 CFR parts 620 and 675.

In accordance with § 675.20(a)(7)(ii), the Final 1996 Harvest Specifications of Groundfish (61 FR 4311, February 5, 1996) for the BSAI established 22,695 metric tons (mt) as the initial total allowable catch of Atka mackerel for the Eastern Aleutian District and the Bering Sea subarea.

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Director), has determined, in accordance with § 675.20(a)(8), that the Atka mackerel initial total allowable catch in the Eastern Aleutian District and Bering Sea subarea soon will be reached. Therefore, the Regional Director has established a directed fishing allowance of 21,695 mt after determining that 1,000 mt will be taken as incidental catch in directed fishing for other species in the Eastern Aleutian District and Bering Sea subarea. NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for Atka mackerel in the Eastern Aleutian District and the Bering Sea subarea to prevent exceeding the directed fishing allowance.

Maximum retainable bycatch amounts for applicable gear types may be found in the regulations at § 675.20(h).

**Classification**

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

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

Dated: February 13, 1996.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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