

(5) The MRO may verify a test as positive without having communicated directly with the employee about the test in three circumstances:

(i) The employee expressly declines the opportunity to discuss the test;  
(ii) Neither the MRO nor the designated employer representative, after making all reasonable efforts, has been able to contact the employee within 14 days of the date on which the MRO receives the confirmed positive result from the laboratory;

(iii) The designated employer representative has successfully made and documented a contact with the employee and instructed the employee to contact the MRO (see paragraphs (c)(3) and (c)(4) of this section), and more than five days have passed since the date the employee was successfully contacted by the designated employer representative.

(6) If a test is verified positive under the circumstances specified in paragraph (c)(5) (ii) or (iii) of this section, the employee may present to the MRO information documenting that serious illness, injury, or other circumstances unavoidably prevented the employee from being contacted by the MRO or designated employer representative (paragraph (c)(5)(ii) of this section) or from contacting the MRO (paragraph (c)(5)(iii) of this section) within the times provided. The MRO, on the basis of such information, may reopen the verification, allowing the employee to present information concerning a legitimate explanation for the confirmed positive test. If the MRO concludes that there is a legitimate explanation, the MRO declares the test to be negative.

\* \* \* \* \*

(f) (1) \* \* \*

(2) If the analysis of the split specimen is reconfirmed by the second laboratory for the presence of the drug(s) or drug metabolites(s), the MRO shall notify the employer and employee of the results of the test.

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**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**50 CFR Part 679**

[Docket No. 960129018-6018-01; I.D. 071596A]

**Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Central Gulf of Alaska**

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

**ACTION:** Closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is prohibiting retention of Pacific ocean perch in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). NMFS is requiring that catches of Pacific ocean perch in this area be treated in the same manner as prohibited species and discarded at sea with a minimum of injury. This action is necessary because the Pacific ocean perch total allowable catch (TAC) in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA has been reached.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), July 15, 1996, until 2400 hrs, A.l.t., December 31, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mary Furuness, 907-586-7228.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the GOA (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 subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The TAC for Pacific ocean perch in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA was established by the Final 1996 Harvest Specifications of Groundfish (61 FR 4304, February 5, 1996), as 3,333 metric tons. (See § 679.20(c)(3)(ii).)

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, has determined that the TAC for Pacific ocean perch in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA has been reached. (See § 679.20(d)(2).) Therefore, NMFS is requiring that further catches of Pacific ocean perch in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA be treated as prohibited species in accordance with § 679.21(b).

**Classification**

This action is taken under 50 CFR 679.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: July 15, 1996.

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

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