

to waive the 30-day delay in the effective date of this action under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3). This finding is based upon the reasons provided above for waiver of prior notice and opportunity for public comment.

This action is required by § 679.20 and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

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

Dated: July 16, 2002.

**Virginia M. Fay,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 02-18261 Filed 7-16-02; 3:37 pm]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 011218304-1304-01; I.D. 071502B]

#### Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska

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

**ACTION:** Closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for Pacific ocean perch in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the 2002 total allowable catch (TAC) of Pacific ocean perch in this area.

**DATES:** Effective 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), July 16, 2002, through 2400 hrs, A.l.t., December 31, 2002.

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

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone according to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Gulf of Alaska (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Regulations governing fishing by U.S. vessels in accordance with the FMP appear at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The 2002 TAC of Pacific ocean perch for the Western Regulatory Area was established as 2,610 metric tons (mt) by an emergency rule implementing 2002

harvest specifications and associated management measures for the groundfish fisheries off Alaska (67 FR 956, January 8, 2002, and 67 FR 34860, May 16, 2002).

In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(i), the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), has determined that the 2002 TAC for Pacific ocean perch in the Western Regulatory Area will be reached before the end of the fishing season or year. Therefore, the Regional Administrator is establishing a directed fishing allowance of 2,470 mt, and is setting aside the remaining 140 mt as bycatch to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries. In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(iii), the Regional Administrator finds that this directed fishing allowance will soon be reached. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for Pacific ocean perch in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA.

Maximum retainable bycatch amounts may be found in the regulations at § 679.20(e) and (f).

#### Classification

This action responds to the best available information recently obtained from the fishery. The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA, finds good cause to waive the requirement to provide prior notice and opportunity for public comment pursuant to the authority set forth at 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) as such requirement is contrary to the public interest. This requirement is contrary to the public interest as it would delay the closure of the fishery, lead to exceeding the TAC, and therefore reduce the public's ability to use and enjoy the fishery resource.

The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA, also finds good cause to waive the 30-day delay in the effective date of this action under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3). This finding is based upon the reasons provided above for waiver of prior notice and opportunity for public comment.

This action is required by section 679.20 and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

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

Dated: July 15, 2002.

**Virginia M. Fay,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 02-18263 Filed 7-16-02; 3:37 pm]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 011218304-2062-02; I.D. 121701A]

RIN 0648-AP69

#### Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Steller Sea Lion Protection Measures and 2002 Harvest Specifications and Associated Management Measures for the Groundfish Fisheries off Alaska; Correction

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

**ACTION:** Emergency interim rule; correction.

**SUMMARY:** This document corrects the correction to an emergency interim rule published July 10, 2002, by adding information that should have been included in the correction. The emergency interim rule, published January 8, 2002, implements Steller sea lion protection measures and 2002 harvest specifications for the Alaska groundfish fishery. The correction was needed to afford Atka mackerel fishery participants an additional opportunity to register for the 2002 B season harvest limit area (HLA) fishery in the Aleutian Islands subarea. Through an oversight, the correction to the emergency rule did not reference collection-of-information requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, which had been submitted under the January 8, 2002, emergency interim rule. Therefore, this document is being published to address this issue.

**DATES:** Effective July 10, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments on collection-of-information requirements to Sue Salvesson, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK, 99802, Attn: Lori Durall and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Washington, DC 20503 (Attn: NOAA Desk Officer).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Melanie Brown, NMFS, 907-586-7228 or e-mail at melanie.brown@noaa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** An emergency interim rule was published January 8, 2002 (67 FR 956), amended and corrected May 1, 2002 (67 FR 21600), extended May 16, 2002 (67 FR

3486), and corrected July 10, 2002 (67 FR 45672). The July 10, 2002, correction to the emergency interim rule implements a registration process for the 2002 B season HLA directed fishery for Atka mackerel and clarified the requirements for registration in the Atka mackerel HLA directed fishery for the B season starting September 1, 2002. However, its Classification section did not address the information requirement for the registration process.

#### **Need for Correction**

This document inadvertently omitted required PRA text and must be corrected by adding it.

#### **Correction**

Accordingly, the correction to the emergency rule on July 10, 2002, FR Doc. 02-17045 is further corrected as follows:

On page 45672, column 2, under Classification add the following text as

the first paragraph of the Classification section:

#### **Classification**

The correction of an emergency interim rule published July 10, 2002 (67 FR 45671, FR Doc. 02-17045), contained a collection-of-information requirement subject to the PRA that has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under OMB control number 0648-0206. For the Federal Fisheries Permit registration, the estimated response time is 21 minutes. The response-time estimate includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate, or any other aspect of this data collection, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to NMFS (see

**ADDRESSES**) and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503 (Attn: NOAA Desk Officer).

Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, no person is required to respond to, and no person shall be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the PRA, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number.

#### **List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 679**

Alaska, Fisheries, Recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

Dated: July 15, 2002.

#### **Rebecca Lent,**

*Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 02-18264 Filed 7-18-02; 8:45 am]

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