measures, and that additional rulemaking to add alternatives was not needed.

Because RSPA/OPS interprets its pipeline repair requirements as allowing for interim alternative mitigation measures while an operator is diligently pursuing the granting of a permit, no further regulatory action is necessary.

Issued in Washington, DC, on June 10, 2003.

Stacey L. Gerard,

Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.

[FR Doc. 03–15084 Filed 6–13–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–60–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 660

[Docket No. 021209300–3048–02; I.D. 112502C]

RIN 0648–AQ18

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Annual Specifications and Management Measures; Correction

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

ACTION: Final rule; correction.

SUMMARY: This document contains corrections to the final rule published on March 7, 2003, for the Pacific Coast groundfish fishery.

DATES: Effective June 15, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Becky Renko (NMFS, Northwest Region), 206–526–6140.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The specifications and management measures for the 2003 fishing year (January 1 - December 31, 2003) were initially published in the **Federal Register** as an emergency rule for January 1 - February 28, 2003 (68 FR 908, January 7, 2003) and as a proposed rule for March 1 - December 31, 2003 (68 FR 936, January 7, 2003). The emergency rule was amended at 68 FR 4719, January 30, 2003. The final rule for March 1 - December 31, 2003 was published in the **Federal Register** on March 7, 2003 (68 FR 11182) and was amended at 68 FR 18166 on April 15, 2003, and at 68 FR 23901, on May 6, 2003.

The final rule contained errors in the whiting allocation amounts listed in footnote d/ of Table 1a and in section IV. under B., Limited Entry Fishery, paragraph 3 that are being corrected. This document corrects the typographical errors in the non-tribal whiting allocations.

Correction

In the rule FR Doc. 03–51665, in the issue of Friday, March 7, 2003 (68 FR 11182) make the following corrections:

1. On page 11193, Tables 1a and 1b, are corrected to read as follows:

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

Table 1a. 2003 Specifications of Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC), Optimum Yields (Oys), and Limited Entry and Open Access Allocations, by International North Pacific Fisheries Commission (INPFC) Areas (weights in metric tons).

Species	ACCEPTABLE BIOLOGICAL CATCH (ABC)						OY (Total catch)	Commercial OY (Total Catch)	Allocations total catch			
	Vancouver a/	Columbia	Eureka	Monterey	Conception	Total Catch			Limited Entry		Open Access	
									Mt	%	Mt	%
ROUNDFISH												
Lingcod b/	841					841	651	284	230	81.0	54	19.0
Pacific Cod	3,200		c/			3,200	3,200	3,200	--	--	--	--
Pacific Whiting d/	188,000					188,000	148,200	121,200	--	--	--	--
Sablefish e/ (north of 36°)	8,209				--	8,209	6,500	5,767	5,225	90.6	542	9.4
Sablefish f/ (south of 36°)	--				441	441	294	294	--	--	--	--
FLATFISH												
Dover sole g/	8,510					8,510	7,440	7,318	--	--	--	--
English sole	2,000		1,100			3,100	na	-	-	-	-	-
Petrale sole h/	1,262		500	800	200	2,762	na	-	-	-	-	-
Arrowtooth flounder	5,800					5,800	na	-	-	-	-	-
Other flatfish i/	700	3,000	1,700	1,800	500	7,700	na	-	-	-	-	-

Species	ACCEPTABLE BIOLOGICAL CATCH (ABC)						OY (Total catch)	Commercial OY (Total Catch	Allocations total catch			
	Vancouver	Columbia	Eureka	Monterey	Conception	Total Catch			Limited Entry		Open Access	
									Mt	%	Mt	%
ROCKFISH:												
Pacific Ocean Perch j/	689			--		689	377	374	--	--	--	--
Shortbelly k/	13,900					13,900	13,900	13,900	--	--	--	--
Widow l/	3,871					3,871	832	781	757	97.0	23	3.0
Canary m/	272					272	44	23	20	87.7	2.8	12.3
Chilipepper n/	c/			2,700		2,700	2,000	1,985	1,106	55.7	879	44.3
Bocaccio o/	c/			198		198	≤20	14	8	52.7	6	44.3
Splitnose p/	c/			615		615	461	461	--	--	--	--
Yellowtail q/	3,146			c/		3,146	3,146	2,717	2,492	91.7	226	8.3
Shortspine thornyhead r/ north of 34°27'	1,004					1,004	955	941	939	99.7	3	0.27
Longspine thornyhead s/ north of 36°	2,461				--	2,461	2,461	2,434	--	--	--	--
south of 36° t/	--				390	390	195	195	--	--	--	--
Cowcod u/	c/			19	--	19	2.4	0	--	--	--	--
	c/			--	5	5	2.4	0	--	--	--	--
Darkblotched v/	205					205	172	170		--	170	–
Yelloweye w/	52					52	22	9.5	--	--	--	–

Species	ACCEPTABLE BIOLOGICAL CATCH (ABC)						OY (Total catch)	Commer-cial OY (Total Catch	Allocations total catch			
	Vancou-ver	Colum-bia	Eureka	Mont-erey	Concep-tion	Total Catch			Limited Entry		Open Access	
									Mt	%	Mt	%
Minor Rockfish North x/	4,795			--		4,795	3,056	2,292	2,102	91.7	190	8.3
Minor Rockfish South y/	--			3,506		3,506	1,894	1,401	780	55.7	621	44.3
Remaining Rockfish	2,727			854		--	--	--	--	-	-	--
bank z/	c/			350		350	--	--	--	--	--	--
black aa/	615		500			1,115	--	--	--	--	--	--
blackgill bb/	c/			75	268	343	--	--	--	--	--	--
bocaccio - north	8					318	--	--	--	--	--	--
chilipepper-north	32					32	--	--	--	--	--	--
redstripe	576			c/		576	--	--	--	--	--	--
sharpchin	307			45		352	--	--	--	--	--	--
silvergrey	38			c/		38	--	--	--	--	--	--
splitnose	242			c/		242	--	--	--	--	--	--
yellowmouth	99			c/		99	--	--	--	--	--	--
yellowtail-south				116		116	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other rockfish cc/	2,068			2,652		--	--	--	--	--	--	--
OTHER FISH dd/	2,500	7,000	1,200	2,000	2,000	14,700	na	-	--	--	--	-

Table 1b. 2003 OYs for minor rockfish by depth sub-groups (weights in metric tons).

Species	Total Catch ABC	OY (Total Catch)			Harvest Guidelines (total catch)			
		Total Catch OY	Recreational Estimate	Commercial OY for minor rockfish and HG for depth sub-groups	Limited Entry		Open Access	
					Mt	%	Mt	%
Minor Rockfish North x/	4,794	3,056	750	2,292	2,102	91.7	190	8.3
Nearshore		928	740	188				
Shelf		968	10	954				
Slope		1,160	0	1,156				
Minor Rockfish South y/	3,506	1,894	493	1,401	780	55.7	621	44.3
Nearshore		541	433	108				
Shelf		714	60	654				
Slope		639	0	639				

a/ ABC applies to the U.S. portion of the Vancouver area, except as noted under individual species.

b/ Lingcod was declared overfished on March 3, 1999. A stock assessment that included parts of Canadian waters was done in 2000 and updated for 2001. Following the assessment, lingcod was believed to be at 15 percent of its unfished biomass coastwide. The U.S. portion of the ABC for the Vancouver area was set at 44 percent of the total biomass for that area. The ABC of 841 mt was calculated using an Fmsy proxy of F45%. The total catch OY of 651 mt is based on a rebuilding plan with a 60 percent probability of rebuilding the stock to Bmsy by the year 2009 (Tmax). The total catch OY is reduced by 355 mt for the amount that is estimated to be taken by the recreational fishery, 3 mt for the amount estimated to be taken during research fishing, 4.3 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in non-groundfish fisheries, and by 5.2 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in the tribal fishery, resulting in a commercial OY of 284 mt. The open access total catch allocation is 54 mt (19 percent of the commercial OY) and the open access landed catch value is 43 mt. The limited entry total catch allocation is 230 mt and the landed catch value is 184 mt. The landed catch value is based on a discard mortality rate of 20 percent. Tribal vessels are estimated to land about 5.2 mt of lingcod in 2003, but do not have a specific allocation at this time.

c/ "Other species", these are neither common nor important to the commercial and recreational fisheries in the areas footnoted. Accordingly, Pacific cod is included in the non-commercial OY of "other fish" and rockfish species are included in either "other rockfish" or "remaining rockfish" for the areas footnoted.

d/ Pacific whiting - The most recent stock assessment was prepared in 2002, at which time the whiting stock was believed to be below 25 percent of its unfished biomass. Whiting was declared overfished on April 15, 2002 (67 FR 18117). The U.S.-Canada ABC of 235,000 mt is based on the 2002 assessment results with the application of an Fmsy

proxy harvest rate of 45%. In estimating the current biomass, NMFS used a medium level recruitment assumption of a recent (1999) large year class. The U.S. ABC of 188,000 mt is 80 percent of the coastwide ABC. The U.S. whiting OY is 148,200 mt which is 80percent of the coastwide OY (185,325 mt) and is based on the application of the 40-10 harvest rate policy. The total catch OY is further reduced by 25,000 mt for the tribal allocation, 200 mt for the amount estimated to be taken during research fishing, and 1,800 mt for the estimated catch in non-groundfish fisheries, resulting in a commercial OY of 121,200 mt. The commercial OY is allocated between the sectors with 42 percent (50,904 mt) going to the shore-based sector, 34 percent (41,208 mt) going to the catcher/processor sector, and 24 percent (29,088 mt) going to the mothership sector. Discards of whiting are estimated from the observer data and counted towards the OY inseason.

e/ Sablefish north of 36° N. lat. - NMFS did a new sablefish assessment in 2001 for the area north of Point Conception (34°27'N lat.) and updated it for 2002. Following the assessment update, sablefish north of 34° 27'N lat. was believed to be between 31 percent and 38 percent of its unfished biomass. The ABC for the surveyed area (8,459 mt) is based on environmentally driven projections with the Fmsy proxy of F45%. The ABC for the management area north of 36° N. lat. is 8,209 mt (97.04 percent of the ABC from the surveyed area). The total catch OY for the area north of 36° N. lat.is 6,500 mt and is 97.04 percent of the OY from the surveyed area with a risk averse precautionary adjustment. The total catch OY is reduced by 10 percent (650 mt) for the tribal set aside, by 11.1 mt for compensation to vessels that conducted resource surveys, 53.0 mt for the amount estimated to be taken as research catch, and 18.5 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in non-groundfish fisheries. The remainder (5,767 mt) is the commercial total catch OY. The open access allocation is 9.4 percent of the commercial OY, resulting in an open access total catch OY of 542 mt. The limited entry total catch OY is 5,225 mt. The limited entry total catch OY is further divided with 58 percent (3,031 mt) allocated to the trawl fishery and 42 percent (2,194 mt) allocated to the non-trawl fishery. To provide for bycatch in the at-sea whiting fishery 15 mt of the limited entry trawl allocation will be set aside. Discard rates will be applied as follows: 21 percent for limited entry trawl, 8 percent for limited entry fixed gear and open access, and 3 percent for the tribal fisheries. Landed catch OYs are 2,364 mt for limited entry trawl, excluding the at-sea whiting fishery, 2,019 mt for limited entry fixed gear, 499 mt for open access, and 631 mt for the tribal fisheries.

f/ Sablefish south of 36° N. lat. - The ABC of 441 mt is the sum of 250 mt (2.96 percent of the ABC from the 2002 survey based assessment update) and 191 mt (based on historical landings). The total catch OY (294 mt) is the sum of 198 mt (2.96 percent of the OY from the 2002 update of the survey based assessment with a risk averse precautionary adjustment) and 96 mt (that portion of the ABC based on historical landings which was reduced by 50 percent to address uncertainty, due to limited information). There are no limited entry or open access allocations in the Conception area at this time. The assumed discard value is 8 percent, resulting in a landed catch value of 271 mt.

g/ Dover sole north of 34° 27'N lat. was assessed in 2001 and was believed to be at 29 percent of its unfished biomass. The ABC (8,510 mt) is based on an Fmsy proxy of F40%. Because the biomass is estimated to be in the precautionary zone, the total catch OY of 7,440 mt is based on the application of the 40-10 harvest rate policy. The OY is reduced by 62.4 mt for compensation to vessels that conducted resource surveys, 58 mt for the amount estimated to be taken as research catch, and 2 mt for estimated catch in non-groundfish fisheries resulting in commercial OY of 7,318 mt. Discards are assumed to be 5 percent, resulting in a landed catch OY of 7,006 mt.

h/ Petrale Sole was believed to be at 42 percent of its unfished biomass following a 1999 assessment. For 2002, the ABC for the Vancouver-Columbia area (1,262 mt) is based on a F40% Fmsy proxy. The ABCs for the Eureka, Monterey, and Conception areas (1,500 mt) continue at the same level as 2001.

i/ Other flatfish are those species that do not have individual ABC/OYs and include butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sand dab, rex sole, rock sole, sand sole, and starry flounder. The ABC is based on historical catch levels.

j/ Pacfic ocean perch (POP) was declared overfished on March 3, 1999. The ABC (689 mt) was projected from the 2000 assessment which was updated for 2001 and is based on an Fmsy proxy of F50%. The OY (377 mt) is based on a 70 percent probability of

rebuilding the stock to Bmsy by the year 2041 (Tmax). The OY is reduced by 3 mt for the amount estimated to be taken during research fishing, resulting in a commercial OY of 374 mt. The landed catch value is 314 mt, and is based on a discard rate of 16 percent.

k/ Shortbelly rockfish remains as an unexploited stock and is difficult to assess quantitatively. The 1989 assessment provided 2 alternative yield calculations of 13,900 mt and 47,000 mt. NMFS surveys have shown poor recruitment in most years since 1989, indicating low recent productivity and a naturally declining population in spite of low fishing pressure. The ABC and OY therefore are set at 13,900 mt, the low end of the range in the assessment.

l/ Widow rockfish was assessed in 2000 and was believed to be at 24 percent of its unfished biomass. Widow rockfish was declared overfished on January 11, 2001 (66 FR 2338). The ABC (3,871 mt) is based on a F50% Fmsy proxy. The OY (832 mt) is based on a 60 percent probability of rebuilding the stock to Bmsy by the year 2039 (Tmax). The OY is reduced by 5 mt for the amount estimated to be taken as recreational catch, 1.5 mt for the amount estimated to be taken during research fishing, 0.4 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in non-groundfish fisheries, and 45 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in the tribal fisheries, resulting in a commercial OY of 781 mt. The commercial OY is divided with open access receiving 3 percent (23 mt) and limited entry receiving 97 percent (757 mt). The limited entry landed catch equivalent for the open access fishery is 20 mt. The limited entry allocation is reduced by 182 mt for anticipated bycatch in the at-sea whiting fishery and an additional 30 mt for anticipated bycatch in the shore-based sector of the whiting fishery. The remainder of the limited entry allocation is reduced by 16 percent to account for discards in the trip limit fisheries. The landed catch equivalent, excluding the at-sea whiting fishery, is 488 mt. Tribal vessels are estimated to land about 45 mt of widow rockfish in 2003, but do not have a specific allocation at this time.

m/ Canary rockfish was declared overfished on January 4, 2000 (65 FR 221). A new assessment was completed in 2002 for canary rockfish and the stock is believed to be at 8 percent of its unfished biomass coastwide. The coastwide ABC of 272 mt is based on a Fmsy proxy of F50%. The coastwide OY of 44 mt is based on the rebuilding plan, which has a 60 percent probability of rebuilding the stock to Bmsy by the year 2076 (Tmax). The OY is reduced by 15 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in the recreational fishery, 1 mt for the amount estimated to be taken during research fishing, 2.3 mt for the amount estimated to be taken during the tribal fisheries, and 2.5 for the amount estimated to be taken in non-groundfish fisheries, resulting in a commercial OY of 23 mt. For 2003, the total catch OY has been divided with 61 percent going to the commercial fisheries and 39 percent going to the recreational fisheries. The commercial OY is divided with open access receiving 12.3 percent (2.8 mt) and limited entry receiving 87.7 percent (20 mt). The landed catch value for the open access fishery is 2.3 mt. The limited entry allocation is further reduced by 3 mt for anticipated bycatch in the offshore whiting fishery. The limited entry landed catch value is 14 mt, which is based on a discard rate of 16 percent. Specific open access/limited entry allocations have been suspended during the rebuilding period as necessary to meet the overall rebuilding target while allowing harvest of healthy stocks. Tribal vessels are estimated to land about 2.3 mt of canary rockfish in 2003, but do not have a specific allocation at this time.

n/ Chilipepper rockfish - the ABC (2,700 mt) for the Monterey-Conception area is based on the 1998 stock assessment with the application of F50% Fmsy proxy. Because the unfished biomass is believed to be above 40 percent, the default OY could be set equal the ABC. However, the OY is set at 2,000 mt to discourage effort on chilipepper, which co-occur with bocaccio rockfish. The OY is reduced by 15 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in the recreational fishery, resulting in a commercial OY of 1,985 mt. Open access is allocated 44.3 percent (879 mt) of the commercial OY and limited entry is allocated 55.7 percent (1,106 mt) of the commercial OY. The assumed discard is 16 percent, resulting in a open access landed catch value of 739 mt and a limited entry landed catch value of 929 mt.

o/ Bocaccio rockfish was assessed in 2002 and is believed to be at 3.6 percent of its unfished biomass. Bocaccio rockfish was declared overfished on March 3, 1999. The ABC of 198 mt is based on a F50% Fmsy proxy. The OY of ≤20 mt is based on a sustainabitiy analysis with >80 percent probability of no further decline in spawning biomass. The OY is reduced by 0.2 mt for the amount estimated to be taken during research fishing, and 5 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in the recreational

fishery, resulting in a 14 mt commercial OY. Open access is allocated 44.3 percent (6 mt) of the commercial OY and limited entry is allocated 55.7 percent (8 mt) of the commercial OY. Boccacio retention will not be permitted in 2003. The OY will be used to accommodate discards of bocaccio rockfish resulting from incidental take in fisheries for co-occurring species.

p/ Splitnose rockfish - The 2001 ABC is 615 mt in the southern area (Monterey-Conception). The 461 mt OY for the southern area reflects a 25 percent precautionary adjustment because of the less rigorous assessment for this stock. In the north, splitnose is included in the minor slope rockfish OY. The assumed discard is 16 percent for a landed catch value of 387 mt.

q/ Yellowtail rockfish - Following the 2000 stock assessment, yellowtail rockfish was believed to be at 63 percent of its unfished biomass. The ABC of 3,146 mt is based on a 2000 stock assessment for the Vancouver-Columbia-Eureka areas with the Fmsy Proxy of F50%. The OY (3,146 mt) was set equal to the ABC. The OY is reduced by 15 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in the recreational fishery, 8 mt for the amount estimated to be taken during research fishing, 5.8 mt for the amount taken in non-groundfish
fisheries, and 400 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in the tribal fisheries, resulting in a commercial OY of 2,717 mt. The open access allocation (226 mt) is 8.3 percent of the commercial OY. The limited entry allocation (2,492 mt) is 91.7 percent the commercial OY. For anticipated bycatch in the at-sea whiting fishery, 300 mt is subtracted from the limited entry landed catch allocation. An additional 100 mt is deducted for the shore-based whiting fishery. The remainder (2,092 mt) is further reduced by 16 percent for assumed discard. The limited entry landed catch equivalent, excluding the at-sea whiting fishery, is 1,773 mt. The open access landed catch equivalent is 189 mt. Tribal vessels are estimated to land about 400 mt of yellowtail rockfish in 2003, but do not have a specific allocation at this time.

r/ Shortspine thornyhead was last assessed in 2001 and the stock was believed to be between 25 and 50 percent of its unfished biomass. The ABC (1,004 mt) for the area north of Pt. Conception (34° 27'N lat.) is based on a F50% Fmsy proxy. The OY of 955 mt is based on the new survey with the application of the 40-10 harvest policy. The OY is reduced by 9 mt for the amount estimated to be taken during research fishing, by 1.6 mt for compensation to vessels that conducted resource surveys, and 3.0 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in the tribal fisheries, resulting in commercial OY of 941 mt. Open access is allocated 0.27 percent (3 mt) of the commercial OY and limited entry is allocated 99.73 percent (939 mt) of the commercial OY. A 20 percent rate of discard is applied to obtain a limited entry landed catch value (751 mt). There is no ABC or OY for the southern Conception area. Tribal vessels are estimated to land about 3 mt of shortspine thornyhead in 2003, but do not have a specific allocation at this time.

s/ Longspine thornyhead is believed to be above 40 percent of its unfished biomass. The ABC (2,461 mt) in the north (Vancouver-Columbia-Eureka-Monterey) is based on the average of the 3-year individual ABCs at a F50%. The total catch OY (2,461 mt) is set equal to the ABC. The OY is further reduced by 8.9 mt for compensation to vessels that conducted resource surveys, by 18 mt for the amount estimated to be taken during research fishing, resulting in a commercial OY of 2,434 mt. To derive the landed catch equivalent of 2,020 mt, the limited entry allocation is reduced by 17 percent for estimated discards.

t/ Longspine thornyhead - A separate ABC (390 mt) is established for the Conception area and is based on historical catch for the portion of the Conception area north of 34° 27' N. lat. (Point Conception). To address uncertainty in the stock assessment due to limited information, the ABC was reduced by 50 percent to obtain the OY,(195 mt). There is no ABC or OY for the southern Conception Area.

u/ Cowcod in the Conception area was assessed in 1999 and was believed to be less than 10 percent of its unfished biomass. Cowcod was declared overfished on January 4, 2000 (65 FR 221). The ABC in the Conception area (5 mt) is based on the 1999 assessment, while the ABC for the Monterey (19 mt) is based on average landings from 1993-1997. An OY of 4.8 mt (2.4 mt in each area) is based on the rebuilding plan which has a 55 percent probability of rebuilding the stock to Bmsy by the year 2099 (Tmax). Cowcod retention will not be permitted in 2003. The OY will be used to accommodate discards of cowcod rockfish resulting from incidental take.

v/ Darkblotched rockfish was assessed in 2000 and was believed to be at 22 percent of its unfished biomass. The darkblotched rockfish stock was declared overfished on January 11, 2001 (66 FR 2338). The ABC is projected to be 205 mt and is based on an Fmsy proxy of F50%. The OY of 172 mt is based on the rebuilding plan, which has a 80 percent probability of rebuilding the stock to Bmsy by the year 2047 (Tmax). For anticipated bycatch in the at-sea whiting fishery, 5 mt is subtracted from the limited entry landed catch OY. The landed catch value for the remaining limited entry fisheries is 132 mt. The landed catch values are based on a discard rate of 20 percent.

w/ Yelloweye rockfish was assessed in 2001 and updated for 2002. On January 11, 2002 yelloweye rockfish was declared overfished (67 FR 1555). In 2002 following the assessment update, yelloweye rockfish was believed to be at 24.1 percent of its unfished biomass coastwide. The 52 mt coastwide ABC is based on an Fmsy proxy of F50%. The OY of 22 mt is based on a revised rebuilding analysis (August 2002) with a 50 percent probability of rebuilding to Bmsy by the year 2050 (Tmid). The OY is reduced by 7.7 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in the recreational fishery, 0.6 mt for the amount estimated to be taken during research fishing, 0.8 mt for the amount taken in non-groundfish fisheries, and 3 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in the tribal fisheries, resulting in a commercial OY of 9.5 mt. Tribal vessels are estimated to land about 3 mt of yelloweye rockfish in 2003, but do not have a specific allocation at this time.

x/ Minor rockfish north includes the "remaining rockfish" and "other rockfish" categories in the Vancouver, Columbia, and Eureka areas combined. These species include "remaining rockfish" which generally includes species that have been assessed by less rigorous methods than stock assessment, and "other rockfish" which includes species that do not have quantifiable assessments. The ABC is the sum of the individual "remaining rockfish" ABCs plus the "other rockfish" ABCs. The remaining rockfish ABCs continue to be reduced by 25 percent (F=0.75M) as a precautionary adjustment. To obtain the total catch OY (3,056 mt) the remaining rockfish ABCs are further reduced by 25 percent with the exception of black rockfish; other rockfish ABCs were reduced by 50 percent. These deductions were a precautionary measures due to limited stock assessment information. The OY is reduced by 750 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in the recreational fishery, resulting in a commercial OY of 2,292 mt. Open access is allocated 8.3 percent (190 mt) of the commercial OY and limited entry is allocated 91.7 percent (2,102 mt) of the commercial OY. The discard is assumed to be 5 percent for nearshore rockfish, 16 percent for shelf rockfish, and 20 percent for slope rockfish. Tribal vessels are estimated to land about 14 mt of minor rockfish (10 mt of shelf rockfish, and 4 mt of slope rockfish) in 2003, but do not have a specific allocation at this time.

y/ Minor rockfish south includes the "remaining rockfish" and "other rockfish" categories in the Monterey and Conception areas combined. These species include "remaining rockfish", which generally includes species that have been assessed by less rigorous methods than stock assessment, and "other rockfish", which includes species that do not have quantifiable assessments. The ABC (3,556 mt) is the sum of the individual "remaining rockfish" ABCs plus the "other rockfish" ABCs. The remaining rockfish ABCs continue to be reduced by 25 percent (F=0.75M) as a precautionary adjustment. To obtain total catch OY (2,015 mt), the remaining rockfish ABCs are further reduced by 25 percent, with the exception of blackgill rockfish, and the other rockfish ABCs were reduced by 50 percent. These deductions were a precautionary measures due to limited stock assessment information. The OY is reduced by 493 mt for the amount estimated to be taken in the recreational fishery, resulting in a commercial OY of 1,401 mt. Open access is allocated 44.3 percent (621 mt) of the commercial OY and limited entry is allocated 55.7 percent (780 mt) of the commercial OY. The discard is assumed to be 5 percent for nearshore rockfish, 16 percent for shelf rockfish, and 20 percent for slope rockfish.

z/ Bank rockfish -- The ABC is 350 mt which is based on a 2000 assessment for the Monterey and Conception areas. This stock contributes 263 mt towards the minor rockfish OY in the south.

aa/ Black rockfish -- the ABC (1,115 mt) is based on a 2000 assessment, and is the sum of the assessment area (615 mt) plus the average catch in the unassessed area (500 mt). To obtain the OY for the southern portion of this area, the ABC has been reduced by 50 percent as a precautionary measures due to limited information. For the assessed area the OY was set equal to the ABC. This stock contributes 865 mt towards

the minor rockfish OY in the north.

bb/ Blackgill rockfish is believed to be at 51 percent of its unfished biomass. The ABC of 343 mt is the sum of the Conception area ABC of 268 mt, based on the 1998 assessment with an Fmsy proxy of F50%, and the Monterey area ABC of 75 mt. This stock contributes 306 mt towards minor rockfish south (268 mt for the Conception area ABC and 38 mt for the Monterey area). The OY for the Monterey area is the ABC reduced by 50 percent for precautionary measures because of lack of information.

cc/ "Other rockfish" includes rockfish species listed in 50 CFR 660.302 and California scorpionfish. The ABC is based on the 1996 review of commercial Sebastes landings and includes an estimate of recreational landings. These species have never been assessed quantitatively.

dd/ "Other fish" includes sharks, skates, rays, ratfish, morids, grenadiers, and other groundfish species noted above in footnote c/.

2. On page 11222, in column 2, section IV, under B., Limited Entry Fishery, paragraph 3 (a)(i) and (3)(a)(ii) are revised to read as follows:

IV NMFS Actions

* * * * *

(B) Limited Entry Fishery

* * * * *

(3) * * *

(a) * * *

(i) Catcher/processor sector 41,208 mt (24 percent); and

(ii) Mothership sector--29,088 mt (34 percent).

* * * * *

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

Dated: June 9, 2003.

Rebecca Lent,

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

[FR Doc. 03–15155 Filed 6–13–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S