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(2) Continuation of eligibility for dependents of service members who die while on active duty or while a member of the Ready Reserve (*i.e.*, Selected Reserve or Individual Ready Reserve). Eligible dependents of active duty members while on active duty for a period of thirty-one (31) days or more and eligible dependents of Ready Reserve (*i.e.*, Selected Reserve or Individual Ready Reserve members), as specified in 10 U.S.C. 10143 and 10144(b) respectively, if on the date of the death of the member, the dependent is enrolled in the TDP, or if not enrolled by reason of a discontinuance of a former enrollment under paragraphs (c)(4)(ii) and (c)(4)(iii) of this section shall be eligible for continued enrollment in the TDP for up to three (3) years from the date of the member's death. This 3-year period of continued enrollment also applies to dependents of active duty members who died within the year prior to the beginning of the TDP while the dependents were enrolled in the TFMDP. This continued enrollment is not contingent on the Selected Reserve or Individual Ready Reserve member's own enrollment in the TDP. During the three-year period of continuous enrollment, the government will pay both the Government and the beneficiary's portion of the premium share.

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Dated: September 2, 2004.

L.M. Bynum,*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 04-20366 Filed 9-13-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-M**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****50 CFR Part 660**

[Docket No. 031125290-4058-02; I.D. 090304A]

RIN 0648-AQ97**Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; Coastal Pelagic Species Fisheries; Reallocation of Pacific Sardine**

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

ACTION: Reallocation of Pacific sardine.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the reallocation of the remaining Pacific

sardine harvest guideline in the exclusive economic zone off the Pacific coast. On September 1, 2004, 68,009 metric tons (mt) of the 122,747-*mt* harvest guideline were estimated to remain unharvested. The Coastal Pelagics Species Fishery Management Plan (FMP) requires that a review of the fishery be conducted and any uncaught portion of the harvest guideline remaining unharvested in Subarea A (north of Pt. Arena, CA) and Subarea B (south of Pt. Arena, CA) be added together and reallocated, with 20 percent allocated to Subarea A and 80 percent to Subarea B; therefore, 13,602 mt is allocated to Subarea A and 54,407 mt is allocated to Subarea B. The intended effect of this action is to ensure that a sufficient amount of the resource is available to all harvesters on the Pacific coast and to achieve optimum yield.

DATES: Effective September 8, 2004, through December 31, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tonya L. Wick, Southwest Region, NMFS, 562-980-4036.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On February 25, 2004, NMFS published notice of a harvest guideline of 122,747 mt for Pacific sardine in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 8572) for the fishing season January 1, 2004, through December 31, 2004. The harvest guideline was allocated as specified in the FMP, that is, one-third (40,916 mt) for Subarea A, which is north of 39°00'00" N. lat. (Pt. Arena, CA) to the Canadian border; and two-thirds (81,831 mt) for Subarea B, which is south of 39°00'00" N. lat. to the Mexican border.

On August 26, 2003, a regulatory amendment to the FMP developed by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) was approved, and a final rule implementing the amendment was published in the **Federal Register** on September 5, 2003 (68 FR 52523). The amendment: (1) changed the definition of Subarea A and Subarea B by moving the geographic boundary between the two areas from Pt. Piedras Blancas at 35°40'00" N. lat. to Pt. Arena at 39°00'00" N. lat.; (2) changed the date when Pacific sardine that remain unharvested are reallocated to Subarea A and Subarea B from October 1 to September 1; (3) changed the percentage of the unharvested sardine that is reallocated to Subarea A and Subarea B from 50 percent to both subareas to 20 percent to Subarea A and 80 percent to Subarea B; and (4) reallocated all unharvested sardine that remain on December 1 coast wide.

Landings in the Pacific Northwest in 2004 have been above the landings for

the same period during the 2003 fishing season. Landings by September 1 in Subarea A north of Pt. Arena were estimated at 30,919 mt; therefore, 9,997 mt of the initial allocation to Subarea A of 40,916 mt remained unharvested. Landings in California have been below landings for the same period in 2003. Landings by September 1 in Subarea B south of Pt. Arena were estimated at 23,819 mt; therefore, 58,012 mt of the initial allocation to Subarea B of 81,831 remained unharvested. Based on this information, a total of 68,009 mt of the 122,747-*mt* harvest guideline remained unharvested on September 1, 2004. Therefore, according to the requirements of the FMP, as amended, 20 percent of 68,009 mt (13,602 mt) is allocated to Subarea A, and 80 percent of 68,009 mt (54,407 mt) is allocated to Subarea B.

Any portion of 122,747 mt harvest guideline that remains unharvested in Subarea A and Subarea B on December 1, 2004, will be available for harvest coast-wide until the 122,747-*mt* harvest guideline is reached and the fishery is closed.

Classification

This action is authorized by the FMP in accordance with 50 CFR 660.517 and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA (AA) finds for good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) that providing prior notice and an opportunity for public comment on this action is unnecessary because redistribution of the harvest guideline is a ministerial act required by the FMP to ensure that all harvesters have access to the resource. This action relieves potential restrictions on those affected by Federal regulations, and affording additional notice and comment would impede the agency's ability to manage Pacific sardine. Accordingly, providing prior notice and an opportunity for public comment would serve no useful purpose.

Because this rule merely provides a redistribution of a harvest guideline to meet the requirements of the FMP and does not require any participants in the fishery to take action or to come into compliance, the AA finds for good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) that delaying the effective date of this rule for 30 days is unnecessary.

Because prior notice and opportunity for public comment are not required for this action by 5 U.S.C. 553, or any other law, the analytical requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*, are not applicable.

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

Dated: September 7, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 04-20615 Filed 9-8-04; 3:56 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 031125292-4061-02; I.D. 090804A]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Catching Pacific Cod for Processing by the Inshore Component in the Central 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 cod by vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the 2004 total allowable catch (TAC) of Pacific cod apportioned to vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component of the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA.

DATES: Effective 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), September 10, 2004, until 2400 hrs, A.l.t., December 31, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Josh Keaton, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish 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 2004 TAC of Pacific cod apportioned to vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component of the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA is 24,404 metric tons (mt) as established by the 2004 harvest specifications for groundfish of the GOA (69 FR 9261, February 27, 2004).

In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(i), the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), has determined that the 2004 TAC of Pacific cod apportioned to vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component of the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA will soon be reached. Therefore, the Regional Administrator is establishing a directed fishing allowance of 24,000 mt, and is setting aside the remaining 404 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 be reached. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting

directed fishing for Pacific cod by vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA.

Classification

This action responds to the best available information recently obtained from the fishery. The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA, (AA), 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 a requirement is impracticable and contrary to the public interest. This requirement is impracticable and contrary to the public interest as it would prevent NMFS from responding to the most recent fisheries data in a timely fashion and would delay the closure of the directed fishery for Pacific cod by vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA.

The AA 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 § 679.20 and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

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

Dated: September 8, 2004.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
[FR Doc. 04-20692 Filed 9-9-04; 3:06 pm]

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