

**§ 52.1120 Identification of plan.**

(c) (134) Revisions to the State Implementation Plan submitted by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection on July 12, 2006.  
 (i) Incorporation by reference.  
 (A) Massachusetts Regulation 310 CMR 7.38, entitled "Certification of Tunnel Ventilation Systems in the Metropolitan Boston Air Pollution

Control District," effective in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on December 30, 2005.  
 (B) Massachusetts Regulation Filing, dated December 13, 2005, amending 310 CMR 7.38 entitled "Certification of Tunnel Ventilation Systems in the Metropolitan Boston Air Pollution Control District."  
 (ii) Additional materials.  
 (A) Letter from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection dated July 12, 2006, submitting a

revision to the Massachusetts State Implementation Plan.  
 ■ 3. In § 52.1167, Table 52.1167 is amended by adding two new citations to the existing entry for 310 CMR 7.38 to read as follows:

**§ 52.1167 EPA-approved Massachusetts State regulations.**

\* \* \* \* \*

**TABLE 52.1167—EPA-APPROVED MASSACHUSETTS REGULATIONS**

State citation	Title/subject	Date submitted by State	Date approved by EPA	FEDERAL REGISTER citation	52.1120(c)	Comments/unapproved sections
310 CMR 7.38	Tunnel vent certification regulation.	7/12/06	2/15/08	[Insert FEDERAL REGISTER page number where the document begins].	134	Amendments to Certification of Tunnel Ventilation Systems in the Metropolitan Boston Air Pollution Control District.
		7/12/06	2/15/08	[Insert FEDERAL REGISTER page number where the document begins].	134	Massachusetts Regulation Filing, dated December 13, 2005, substantiating December 30, 2005, State effective date for amended 310 CMR 7.38 "Certification of Tunnel Ventilation Systems in the Metropolitan Boston Air Pollution Control District."

**Notes:**

1. This table lists regulations adopted as of 1972. It does not depict regulatory requirements which may have been part of the Federal SIP before this date.
2. The regulations are effective statewide unless stated otherwise in comments or title section.

[FR Doc. E8-2745 Filed 2-14-08; 8:45 am]  
 BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**50 CFR Part 679**

[Docket No. 070213033-7033-01]

RIN 0648-XF62

**Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Less Than 60 feet (18.3 m) LOA Using Jig or Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bogoslof Pacific Cod Exemption Area in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area**

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

**ACTION:** Temporary rule; closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for Pacific cod by catcher vessels less than 60 feet (< 18.3 meters (m)) length overall (LOA) using jig or hook-and-line gear in the Bogoslof Pacific cod exemption area of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the limit of Pacific cod for catcher vessels < 60 ft (18.3 m) LOA using jig or hook-and-line gear in the Bogoslof Pacific cod exemption area in the BSAI.

**DATES:** Effective 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), February 12, 2008, through 2400 hrs, A.l.t., December 31, 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Hogan, 907-586-7228.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the BSAI according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (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.

In accordance with § 679.22(a)(7)(i)(C), the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), has determined that 113 metric tons of Pacific cod have been caught by catcher vessels < 60 ft (18.3 m) LOA using jig or hook-and-line gear in the Bogoslof exemption area described at § 679.22(a)(7)(i)(C)(1). Consequently, the Regional Administrator is prohibiting directed fishing for Pacific cod by catcher vessels < 60 ft (18.3 m) LOA using jig or hook-and-line gear in the Bogoslof Pacific cod exemption area.

After the effective date of this closure the maximum retainable amounts at § 679.20(e) and (f) apply at any time during a trip.

**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 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 Pacific cod by catcher vessels < 60 ft (18.3 m) LOA using jig or hook-and-line gear in the Bogoslof Pacific cod exemption area. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data only became available as of February 11, 2008.

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 § 679.22 and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

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

Dated: February 11, 2008.

**Alan D. Risenhoover,**

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

[FR Doc. 08-706 Filed 2-12-08; 2:08 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 071029546-7546-02]

RIN 0648-AU85

#### Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Individual Fishing Quota Program

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

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS issues a final rule to modify the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program for the fixed-gear commercial Pacific halibut fishery and sablefish fishery by revising regulations governing the use of commercial halibut quota share (QS) and the processing of non-IFQ species when processed halibut

is onboard a vessel. This action amends current regulations to allow persons holding category A halibut QS to process IFQ regardless of whether a QS holder with unused category B, C, or D halibut QS is onboard the vessel. This action also allows catcher/processor vessels to process non-IFQ species regardless of whether any processed IFQ species is onboard the vessel. This action is necessary to improve the efficiency of fishermen fishing on catcher/processor vessels. The action is intended to allow halibut QS holders greater flexibility in using their QS, allow use of crew who hold unused category B, C, or D halibut QS while onboard a category A halibut QS vessel, and increase the product quality of non-IFQ species harvested incidentally to IFQ halibut.

**DATES:** Effective March 17, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the Categorical Exclusion (CE) and the Regulatory Impact Review/Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (RIR/FRFA) prepared for this action are available by mail from NMFS, Alaska Region, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668, Attn: Ellen Sebastian, Records Officer; in person at NMFS, Alaska Region, 709 West 9th Street, Room 420A, Juneau, AK; or via the Internet at the NMFS Alaska Region website at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Becky Carls, 907-586-7228 or [becky.carls@noaa.gov](mailto:becky.carls@noaa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) and NMFS manage fishing for Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) through regulations established under the authority of the Convention between the United States and Canada for the Preservation of the Halibut Fishery of the Northern Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea (Convention) and the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 (Halibut Act). The IPHC promulgates regulations pursuant to the Convention. The IPHC's regulations are subject to approval by the Secretary of State with concurrence from the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary). After approval by the Secretary of State and the Secretary, the IPHC regulations are published in the **Federal Register** as annual management measures pursuant to 50 CFR 300.62 (72 FR 11792; March 14, 2007).

The Halibut Act also authorizes the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) to develop and submit regulations to the Secretary to allocate harvesting privileges among U.S. fishermen. Regulations developed

by the Council are implemented only with the approval of the Secretary. Like the original Halibut and Sablefish IFQ Program (IFQ Program) regulations and subsequent amendments to them, this action was developed by the Council under authority of the Halibut Act.

The Council, under the authority of the Halibut Act (with respect to Pacific halibut) and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (with respect to sablefish), adopted the IFQ Program in 1991. The IFQ Program established a limited access system for managing the fixed gear Pacific halibut fishery in Convention waters in and off Alaska and sablefish fisheries in waters of the Exclusive Economic Zone, located between 3 and 200 miles off Alaska. The IFQ Program was approved by NMFS in January 1993, and promulgated in Federal regulation on November 9, 1993 (58 FR 59375). Fishing under the IFQ Program began on March 15, 1995, ending the open access fishery which preceded its implementation. Regulations implementing the IFQ Program are at 50 CFR part 679. In addition, Federal regulations at 50 CFR part 300, subpart E, also govern the halibut IFQ fishery.

#### Background and Need for Action

The background and need for this action were described in detail in the preamble to the proposed rule published in the **Federal Register** on November 14, 2007 (72 FR 64034). In summary, this final rule will relieve some of the restrictions affecting holders of commercial halibut QS.

Under the IFQ Program, QS represents a harvesting privilege for a person. On an annual basis, QS holders are authorized to harvest a specified poundage which is issued by NMFS as IFQ. Federal regulations at 50 CFR 679.40(a)(5) divide QS into vessel categories (A, B, C, and D for halibut) with unique restrictions designed to prevent excessive consolidation and regulate total harvest. With few exceptions, halibut QS or IFQ assigned to a vessel category may not be used to harvest IFQ species on a vessel of a different category.

The IFQ Program includes an economic protection measure prohibiting the processing of non-IFQ species (e.g., Pacific cod) onboard a vessel on which a person holds catcher vessel halibut IFQ. This prohibition resulted in the unanticipated waste of species caught incidentally to halibut, especially rockfish and Pacific cod. In addition, persons fishing halibut IFQ derived from category A QS could not process any species if a person onboard the vessel held unused halibut IFQ