NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for Pacific cod by catcher/processors using hook-and-line gear in the BSAI.

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

**Dated:** February 12, 2010.

**Emily H. Menashes,**

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

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