

(3) Persons desiring to transit the area of the security zone must first request authorization from the Captain of the Port Baltimore or his designated representative. To seek permission to transit the area, the Captain of the Port Baltimore and his designated representatives can be contacted at telephone number 410-576-2693 or on Marine Band Radio, VHF-FM channel 16 (156.8 MHz). The Coast Guard vessels enforcing this section can be contacted on Marine Band Radio, VHF-FM channel 16 (156.8 MHz). Upon being hailed by a U.S. Coast Guard vessel, or other Federal, State, or local agency vessel, by siren, radio, flashing lights, or other means, the operator of a vessel shall proceed as directed. If permission is granted, all persons and vessels must comply with the instructions of the Captain of the Port Baltimore or his designated representative and proceed at the minimum speed necessary to maintain a safe course while within the zone.

(4) *Enforcement.* The U.S. Coast Guard may be assisted in the patrol and enforcement of the zone by Federal, State, and local agencies.

(d) *Enforcement period.* This section will be enforced from 6 a.m. through 5 p.m. on May 24, 2010.

Dated: May 11, 2010.

Mark P. O'Malley,

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard, Captain of the Port Baltimore Maryland.

[FR Doc. 2010-12341 Filed 5-21-10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 622

[Docket No. 090225243-0170-03]

RIN 0648-AX67

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Amendment 31; Correction

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

ACTION: Final rule; correction.

SUMMARY: This document contains a correction to the final rule to implement Amendment 31 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico that was published in the **Federal Register** Monday, April 26, 2010.

DATES: This correction is effective May 26, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Scott Sandorf, 727-824-5305; fax: 727-824-5308; e-mail: *scott.sandorf@noaa.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Need for Correction

On April 26, 2010, (75 FR 21520, April 26, 2010) an incorrect coordinate for Point G, in § 622.34 (q) was published and this document corrects that coordinate.

1. On page 21520, in the third column, under § 622.34 (q), the Point G coordinate is corrected to read as follows:

§ 622.34 Gulf EEZ seasonal and/or area closures.

* * * * *
(q) * * *

Point	North lat.	West long.
* * *	* * *	*
G	26°48.80'	83°40.00'
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Dated: May 18, 2010

Eric C. Schwaab,

Assistant Administrator For Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2010-12383 Filed 5-21-10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 622

[Docket No. 100121040-0177-01]

RIN 0648-AY58

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Revisions To Allowable Bycatch Reduction Devices

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

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the framework procedures for adjusting management measures of the Fishery

Management Plan for the Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf FMP) and the Fishery Management Plan for the Shrimp Fishery of the South Atlantic region (South Atlantic FMP) NMFS provisionally recertifies two bycatch reduction devices (BRDs) and revises the construction and installation requirements of one of these BRD designs in the southeastern shrimp fishery. The intended effect of this rule is to improve bycatch reduction in the shrimp fishery and better meet the requirements of National Standard 9.

DATES: This rule is effective June 23, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Copies of supporting documentation for this final rule, which includes a regulatory impact review and a regulatory flexibility act analysis may be obtained from Steve Branstetter, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701-5505.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Branstetter, telephone: 727-824-5305.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The fishery for shrimp in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the Gulf is managed under the FMP prepared by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. The fishery for shrimp in the EEZ of the South Atlantic is managed under the FMP prepared by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. The FMPs are implemented under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) by regulations at 50 CFR part 622.

Background

Regulations implementing Amendment 2 to the South Atlantic Shrimp FMP (73 FR 18536, April 16, 1997) established BRD requirements in the South Atlantic EEZ. The rule established a certification criterion, descriptions of BRD designs and configurations allowed for use in the South Atlantic shrimp fishery, as well as procedures to develop and test new BRDs for certification.

Regulations implementing Amendment 9 to the Gulf Shrimp FMP were published April 14, 1998 (63 FR 18139), and established a requirement, with limited exceptions, for the use of certified BRDs in shrimp trawls towed in the Gulf EEZ shoreward of the 100-fm (183-m) depth contour west of 85° 30' W. longitude (western Gulf), the approximate longitude of Cape San Blas, FL. The rule established descriptions of BRD designs and configurations allowed for use in the western Gulf shrimp fishery.

To better address the requirements of National Standard 9 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, regulations implementing Amendment 10 to the Gulf FMP (69 FR 1538, January 9, 2004) required BRDs in shrimp trawls fished in the EEZ east of 85° 30' W. longitude (eastern Gulf).

In accordance with the BRD framework procedures of the Gulf FMP, NMFS recently modified the existing BRD certification criterion for the western Gulf (73 FR 8219, February 13, 2008) to be consistent with the criterion for the eastern Gulf and South Atlantic. The new standardized certification criterion for the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic specifies data must demonstrate a BRD achieves a 30-percent reduction in the weight of finfish bycatch to be certified for use in the southeastern shrimp fishery. In addition, this rule established a provisional certification criterion. To be provisionally certified, on a time-limited basis, the data must demonstrate that there is at least a 50-percent probability that the BRD reduces the weight of finfish bycatch by 25 percent.

In accordance with these new criteria, NMFS provisionally certified the Extended Funnel BRD for use in the Gulf of Mexico, and the Composite Panel BRD for use in both the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic. By regulation, the provisional certification of both BRDs automatically expired on February 16, 2010. However, no new information exists regarding the effectiveness of these BRDs as they are used in the fisheries that would indicate if the BRDs have been improved, or that they do not continue to meet the provisional certification requirement. Collection of new data and sufficient industry-level evaluation of these BRDs was hindered, in part, because of delays in getting compatible regulations allowing their use in state waters off Texas and state waters off both the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic coasts of Florida. Texas developed compatible regulations allowing the use of these two BRDs in November 2008; Florida in December 2009. Thus, fishermen in these states have not had the opportunity to use these new BRDs or to make improvements to them. In addition, net shops that would be manufacturing these BRDs needed to wait on the final regulatory specifications before they could begin producing the BRDs, thus there was an initial shortage of these BRDs.

Therefore, to address the expiration of the initial provisional certification of these two BRDs and allow for sufficient evaluation of these designs by industry, on April 20, 2010, NMFS published a proposed rule (75 FR 20548) to

provisionally recertify the extended funnel BRD and the composite panel BRD and revise the construction and installation requirements of the composite panel BRD design in the southeastern shrimp fishery.

Because no new information exists to decertify these BRDs, and because of the limited time fishermen in two major shrimping states have had to evaluate these BRDs, this final rule renews the provisional certification for these two BRD types for an additional two years through May 24, 2012. This final rule also revises the construction and installation requirements for the Composite Panel BRD in order to provide more flexibility for what material and size mesh may be used to construct this particular BRD design. The intended effect of this rule is to maintain adequate bycatch reduction in the shrimp fishery and better meet the requirements of National Standard 9.

NMFS received no comments on the proposed rule and, therefore, no changes have been made in this final rule.

Classification

The Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, determined that this final rule is necessary for the conservation and management of the southeastern shrimp fishery and that it is consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Act and other applicable laws.

This final rule has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

The Chief Counsel for Regulation of the Department of Commerce certified to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration during the proposed rule stage that this action would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The factual basis for this certification was published in the proposed rule and is not repeated here. No comments were received regarding this certification. As a result, a regulatory flexibility analysis was not required and none was prepared.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 622

Fisheries, Fishing, Puerto Rico, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Virgin Islands.

Dated: May 18, 2010.

Eric C. Schwaab,

Assistant Administrator For Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

■ For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 622 is amended as follows:

PART 622—FISHERIES OF THE CARIBBEAN, GULF, AND SOUTH ATLANTIC

■ 1. The authority citation for part 622 continues to read as follows:

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

■ 2. In § 622.41, paragraphs (g)(3)(ii)(A) and (B) are revised to read as follows:

§ 622.41 Species specific limitations.

* * * * *

(g) * * *

(3) * * *

(ii) * * *

(A) Extended funnel—Gulf EEZ only; through May 24, 2012.

(B) Composite Panel—Gulf EEZ and South Atlantic EEZ; through May 24, 2012.

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■ 3. In Appendix D to part 622, section G, the first sentence of paragraph 2(a), and paragraph 2(b) are revised to read as follows:

Appendix D to Part 622—Specifications for Certified BRDs

* * * * *

G. * * *

2. * * *

(a) * * * The webbing extension must be constructed from a single rectangular piece of 1 1/2-inch to 1 3/4-inch (3.8-cm to 4.5-cm) stretch mesh with dimensions of 24 1/2 meshes by 150 to 160 meshes. * * *

(b) *Funnel.* The V-shaped funnel consists of two webbing panels attached to the extension along the leading edge of the panels. The top and bottom edges of the panels are sewn diagonally across the extension toward the center to form the funnel. The panels are 2-ply in design, each with an inner layer of 1 1/2-inch to 1 5/8-inch (3.8-cm to 4.1-cm) heat-set and depth-stretched polyethylene webbing and an outer layer constructed of no larger than 2-inch (5.1-cm) square mesh webbing (1-inch bar). The inner webbing layer must be rectangular in shape, 36 meshes on the leading edge by 20 meshes deep. The 36-mesh leading edges of the polyethylene webbing should be sewn evenly to 24 meshes of the extension webbing 1 1/2 meshes from and parallel to the leading edge of the extension starting 12 meshes up from the bottom center on each side. Alternately sew 2 meshes of the polyethylene webbing to 1 mesh of the extension webbing then 1 mesh of the polyethylene webbing to 1 mesh of the extension webbing toward the top. The bottom 20-mesh edges of the polyethylene layers are sewn evenly to the extension webbing on a 2 bar 1 mesh angle toward the bottom back center forming a v-shape in the bottom of the extension webbing. The top 20-mesh edges of the polyethylene layers are sewn evenly along the bars of the extension webbing toward the top back center. The square mesh layers must be rectangular in shape and constructed of no larger than 2-inch (5.1-cm) webbing that is 18 inches (45.7 cm) in length on the leading edge. The depth

of the square mesh layer must be no more than 2 inches (5.1 cm) less than the 20 mesh side of the inner polyethylene layer when stretched taught. The 18-inch (45.7-cm) leading edge of each square mesh layer must be sewn evenly to the 36-mesh leading edge of the polyethylene section and the sides are sewn evenly (in length) to the 20-mesh edges of the polyethylene webbing. This will form a v-shape funnel using the top of the extension webbing as the top of the funnel and the bottom of the extension webbing as the bottom of the funnel.

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[FR Doc. 2010-12384 Filed 5-21-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 0907021105-0024-03]

RIN 0648-AY00

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Amendment 10; Correction

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

ACTION: Final rule; correction.

SUMMARY: On March 11, 2010, a final rule to implement Amendment 10 to the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish (MSB) Fishery Management Plan (FMP) was published in the Federal Register. The regulatory text specifying gear restrictions did not reflect the increase in the minimum mesh size requirement for net strengtheners in the Loligo fishery from 4 1/2 inches (11.43 cm) to

5 inches (12.7 cm) that was enacted in the MSB specifications and management measures for the 2010 fishing year. This document corrects that error.

DATES: Effective September 13, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lindsey Feldman, Fisheries Management Specialist, (978) 675-2179, fax (978) 281-9135.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On March 11, 2010 (75 FR 11441), a final rule was published implementing Amendment 10 to the MSB FMP (Amendment 10). Amendment 10 increased the minimum codend mesh size requirement for the Loligo squid (Loligo) fishery, established a butterflyfish rebuilding program with a butterflyfish mortality cap for the Loligo fishery, established a 72-hr trip notification requirement for the Loligo fishery, and required an annual assessment of the butterflyfish rebuilding program by the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC). The regulatory text specifying gear restrictions (§ 648.23) did not reflect the increase in the minimum mesh sizes requirement for net strengtheners in the Loligo fishery from 4 1/2 inches (11.43 cm) to 5 inches (12.7 cm) that was implemented in the final MSB specifications and management measures for the 2010 fishing year (February 3, 2010, 75 FR 5537), and becomes effective on September 13, 2010. This document corrects this error.

Correction

Accordingly, the final rule, published on March 11, 2010, at 75 FR 11441, is corrected as follows:

1. On page 11450, beginning in column 2, § 648.23 (a)(3)(i) is correctly revised to read as follows:

§ 648.23 Gear restrictions.

(a) * * *

(3) * * *

(i) Net obstruction or constriction.

Owners or operators of otter trawl vessels fishing for and/or possessing Loligo shall not use any device, gear, or material, including, but not limited to, nets, net strengtheners, ropes, lines, or chafing gear, on the top of the regulated portion of a trawl net that results in an effective mesh opening of less than 2 1/8 inches (54 mm), during Trimesters I (Jan-Apr) and III (Sept-Dec), or 1 7/8 inches (48 mm), during Trimester II (May-Aug), diamond mesh, inside stretch measure. "Top of the regulated portion of the net" means the 50 percent of the entire regulated portion of the net that would not be in contact with the ocean bottom if, during a tow, the regulated portion of the net were laid flat on the ocean floor. However, owners or operators of otter trawl vessels fishing for and/or possessing Loligo may use net strengtheners (covers), splitting straps, and/or bull ropes or wire around the entire circumference of the codend, provided they do not have a mesh opening of less than 5 inches (12.7 cm) diamond mesh, inside stretch measure. For the purposes of this requirement, head ropes are not to be considered part of the top of the regulated portion of a trawl net.

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Dated: May 18, 2010.

Eric C. Schwaab,

Assistant Administrator For Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service

[FR Doc. 2010-12388 Filed 5-21-10; 8:45 am]

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