### TABLE 4—FINAL 2021 ALLOCATIONS OF POLLOCK TACS TO THE DIRECTED POLLOCK FISHERIES AND TO THE CDQ DIRECTED FISHING ALLOWANCES (DFA) ¹—Continued

[Amounts are in metric tons]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area and sector</th>
<th>2021 allocations</th>
<th>2021 A season ¹</th>
<th>2021 B season ¹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A season DFA</td>
<td>SCA harvest</td>
<td>B season DFA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>limit ²</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Bering Sea non-CDQ DFA</td>
<td>1,188,000</td>
<td>534,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AFA Inshore</td>
<td>594,000</td>
<td>267,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AFA Catcher/Processors ³</td>
<td>475,200</td>
<td>213,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Catch by CPs</td>
<td>434,808</td>
<td>195,664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Catch by CVs ³</td>
<td>40,392</td>
<td>18,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unlisted CP Limit ⁴</td>
<td>2,376</td>
<td>1,069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AFA Motherships</td>
<td>118,800</td>
<td>53,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Excessive Harvesting Limit ⁵</td>
<td>207,900</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Excessive Processing Limit ⁶</td>
<td>356,400</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aleutian Islands subarea ABC</td>
<td>58,384</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aleutian Islands subarea TAC ¹</td>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CDQ DFA</td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ICA</td>
<td>14,700</td>
<td>14,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Area harvest limit ⁷</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>541</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>542</td>
<td>18,515</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>543</td>
<td>8,758</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>543</td>
<td>2,919</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bogoslof District ICA ⁸</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(A), the Bering Sea subarea pollock TAC, after subtracting the CDQ DFA (10 percent) and the ICA (4 percent), is allocated as a DFA as follows: Inshore sector—50 percent, catcher/processor sector (CP)—40 percent, and mothership sector—10 percent. In the Bering Sea subarea, 45 percent of the DFA is allocated to the A season (January 20–June 10) and 55 percent of the DFA is allocated to the B season (June 11–November 1). Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(ii)(B)(i) through (iii), the annual Aleutian Islands pollock TAC, after subtracting first for the CDQ DFA (10 percent) and second for the ICA (2,400 mt), is allocated to the Aleut Corporation for a pollock directed fishery. In the Aleutian Islands subarea, the A season is allocated up to 40 percent of the AI pollock ABC.

² Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(iii)(B)(ii), 8.5 percent of the DFA allocated to listed CPs shall be available for harvest only by eligible catcher vessels with a CP endorsement delivering to listed CPs, unless there is a CP sector cooperative for the year.

³ Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(4), the AFA unlisted catcher/processors are limited to harvesting not more than 0.5 percent of the catcher/processors sector’s allocation of pollock.

⁴ Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(6), NMFS establishes an excessive harvesting share limit equal to 17.5 percent of the sum of the non-CDQ pollock DFAs.

⁵ Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(7), NMFS establishes an excessive processing share limit equal to 30.0 percent of the sum of the non-CDQ pollock DFAs.

⁶ Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(ii)(B)(6), NMFS establishes harvest limits for pollock in the A season in Area 541 of no more than 30 percent, in Area 542 of no more than 15 percent, and in Area 543 of no more than 5 percent of the Aleutian Islands pollock ABC.

⁷ Pursuant to §679.20(a)(7)(B), the Bogoslof District is closed to directed fishing for pollock. The amounts specified are for incidental catch only and are not apportioned by season or sector.

**Note:** Seasonal or sector apportionments may not be determined precisely due to rounding.

### Classification

NMFS issues this action pursuant to section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. This action is required by 50 CFR part 679, which was issued pursuant to section 304(b), and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866. Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), there is good cause to waive prior notice and an opportunity for public comment on this action, as notice and comment would be 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 reallocation of Aleutian Islands pollock. Since the pollock fishery opened January 20, 2021, it is important to immediately inform the industry as to the Bering Sea subarea pollock CDQ DFA. Immediate notification is necessary to allow for the orderly conduct and efficient operation of this fishery; allow the industry to plan for the fishing season and avoid potential disruption to the fishing fleet as well as processors; and provide opportunity to harvest increased seasonal pollock allocations while value is optimum. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data only became available as of February 25, 2021.

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

Dated: March 8, 2021.

Jennifer M. Wallace,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2021–05124 Filed 3–11–21; 8:45 am]

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### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 210210–0018; RTID 0648–XA781]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Greater Than or Equal to 50 Feet (15.2 Meters) Length Overall Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska

**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 greater than or equal to 50 feet (15.2 meters (m)) length overall using hook-and-line (HAL) gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the A season allowance of the 2021 total allowable catch (TAC) of catcher vessels greater than or equal to 50 feet (15.2 m) length overall using HAL gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA.

DATES: Effective 1200 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), March 9, 2021, through 1200 hours, A.l.t., June 10, 2021.


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 A season allowance of the 2021 Pacific cod TAC apportioned to catcher vessels greater than or equal to 50 feet (15.2 m) length overall using HAL gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA is 569 metric tons (mt) as established by the final 2021 and 2022 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (86 FR 10184, February 19, 2021).

In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(i), the Regional Administrator has determined that the A season allowance of the 2021 Pacific cod TAC apportioned to catcher vessels greater than or equal to 50 feet (15.2 m) length overall using HAL gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA will soon be reached. Therefore, the Regional Administrator is establishing a directed fishing allowance of 500 mt and is setting aside the remaining 200 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 has been reached. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska.

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

Classification

NMFS issues this action pursuant to section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. This action is required by 50 CFR part 679, which was issued pursuant to section 304(b), and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866. Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), there is good cause to waive prior notice and an opportunity for public comment on this action, as notice and comment would be 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 greater than or equal to 50 feet (15.2 m) length overall using HAL gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data only became available as of March 8, 2021.

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

Dated: March 9, 2021.

Jennifer M. Wallace,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 210210–0018]

RTID 0648–XA882

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska

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

ACTION: Temporary rule; closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in the West Yakutat District of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the 2021 total allowable catch of pollock in the West Yakutat District of the GOA.

DATES: Effective 1200 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), March 9, 2021, through 2400 hours, A.l.t., December 31, 2021.


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 2021 total allowable catch (TAC) of pollock in the West Yakutat District of the GOA is 5,412 metric tons (mt) as established by the final 2021 and 2022 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (86 FR 10184, February 19, 2021).

In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(i), the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), has determined that the 2021 TAC of pollock in the West Yakutat District of the GOA will soon be reached. Therefore, the Regional Administrator is establishing a directed fishing allowance of 5,212 mt, and is setting aside the remaining 200 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 has been reached. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in the West Yakutat District of the GOA.

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

Classification

NMFS issues this action pursuant to section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. This action is required by 50 CFR part 679, which was issued pursuant to section 304(b), and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866. Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), there is good cause to waive prior notice and an opportunity for public comment on this action, as notice and comment would be 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 pollock in Statistical Area 640 in the GOA.