a single moderately sized spring basin. One drainage contains six caves, while the second contains two caves. All the streams and caves appear to eventually emerge aboveground over 1 mile east and 200 feet (61 meters) lower than the Rye Cove valley floor at a spring.

The Rye Cove cave isopod is an eyeless, unpigmented troglobitic species of isopod and is a crustacean with a rigid, segmented exoskeleton. Isopods also have two pairs of antennae, seven pairs of jointed limbs on the thorax, and five pairs of branching appendages (pleopods) on the abdomen that are used in swimming and for respiration. Rye Cove cave isopods require suitable substrate within the cave streams where clean water with adequate depth flows through riffles that help oxygenate the water. Streams must carry organic detritus on which the isopod can feed. However, excess nutrients allow surface organisms without troglomorphic (cave-adapted) characteristics to regularly survive in the cave environment. Thus, nutrient inputs should not be so high that surface-adapted organisms regularly occur and potentially outcompete the Rye Cove cave isopod, or that degrade water quality and the overall habitat conditions. The range of temperatures in which the isopod will thrive/survive is likely dependent on the average stream temperature in the cave and seasonal fluctuations.

We have carefully assessed the best scientific and commercial information available regarding the past, present, and future threats to the Rye Cove cave isopod, and we evaluated all relevant factors under the five listing factors, including any regulatory mechanisms and conservation measures addressing these stressors. The Rye Cove cave isopod inherently has low redundancy and representation due to its being a narrow-ranging endemic. Survey data indicate that the species resiliency has remained unchanged over the years. The primary threats with the potential to affect the Rye Cove cave isopod's biological status include the effects of climate change (Factor E), land use and management (Factor A), and the risk of catastrophic events (Factor E). Based on the best available information, we conclude that major impacts from climate change in the foreseeable future (2040 to 2070) are unlikely. While little is known about the ecology of the genus *Lirceus,* the Rye Cove cave isopod has existed through climate variations, including both temperature and water quantity (drought conditions, flood conditions), given molecular evidence that points to a timeframe of millions of years since the Rye Cove cave isopod diverged from its closest relative.

The effects of land use and management have likely begun to occur in the current range of the Rye Cove cave isopod and may have contributed to some habitat degradation. However, these threats appear to have low imminence and magnitude such that they are not affecting the species' ability to maintain populations within its range. The Rye Cove cave isopod has the best viability into the future with zero to low land use changes. Intense future land uses (animal feeding operations, dairy farms, suburban neighborhoods) in Rye Cove are unlikely; trends and models do not predict major land use changes, and the terrain and access in Rye Cove may hinder this sort of development.

While the risk of a catastrophic event occurring increases with an increase in the risk factors, all of these risk factors are projected to remain low or decrease based on the geographic location, census, and modeling of human population growth and development in Rye Cove. And, while the Rye Cove cave isopod is at particular risk of catastrophic impacts due to its linear habitat, limited dispersal capabilities, and assumed sensitivity to contaminants, the cave streams likely also contain unmapped blind tributaries and refugia, as well as stream habitat connectivity to provide protection and re-population opportunities if a catastrophic event occurred. Finally, in considering the significant portion of its range, we found no biologically meaningful portion of the Rye Cove cave isopod range where threats are impacting individuals differently from how they are affecting the species elsewhere in its range, or where the condition of the species differs from its condition elsewhere in its range such that the status of the species in that portion differs from any other portion of the species' range.

After assessing the best available information, we concluded that the Rye Cove cave isopod is not in danger of extinction or likely to become in danger of extinction throughout all of its range or in any significant portion of its range. Therefore, we find that listing the Rye Cove cave isopod as an endangered species or threatened species under the Act is not warranted. A detailed discussion of the basis for this finding can be found in the Rye Cove cave isopod species assessment form and other supporting documents (see **ADDRESSES**, above).

References Cited

A list of the references cited in this petition finding is available in the relevant species assessment form, which is available on the internet at *https://www.regulations.gov* in the appropriate docket (see **ADDRESSES**, above) and upon request from the appropriate person (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, above).

Authors

The primary authors of this document are the staff members of the Species Assessment Team, Ecological Services Program.

Authority

The authority for this action is section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Martha Williams,

Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 2022–28233 Filed 12–28–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4333–15–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 220216–0049; RTID 0648–XC623]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2023 Gulf of Alaska Pollock and Pacific Cod Total Allowable Catch Amounts

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

ACTION: Temporary rule; inseason adjustment; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS is adjusting the 2023 total allowable catch (TAC) amounts for the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) pollock and Pacific cod fisheries. This action is necessary because NMFS has determined these TACs are incorrectly specified, and will ensure the GOA pollock and Pacific cod TACs are the appropriate amount based on the best available scientific information for pollock and Pacific cod in the GOA. This action is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska.

DATES: Effective 0001 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), January 1, 2023, until the effective date of the final 2023 and 2024 harvest specifications for GOA groundfish, unless otherwise modified or superseded through publication of a notification in the **Federal Register**.

Comments must be received at the following address no later than 4:30 p.m., A.l.t., January 13, 2023.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this document, identified by docket number NOAA–NMFS–2022–0094, by any of the following methods:

Electronic Submission: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and enter NOAA–NMFS–2022–0094 in the Search box. Click on the ''Comment'' icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

Mail: Submit written comments to Gretchen Harrington, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region NMFS. Mail comments to P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802–1668.

Instructions: Comments sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the end of the comment period, may not be considered by NMFS. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on *www.regulations.gov* without change. All personal identifying information (*e.g.,* name, address, *etc.*), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender will be publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter ''N/A'' in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Krista Milani, 907–581–2062.

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 (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 final 2022 and 2023 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (87 FR 11599, March 2, 2022) set the 2023 pollock TAC at 139,977 metric tons (mt) in the GOA. In December 2022, the Council recommended a 2023 pollock TAC of 156,578 mt for the GOA, which is greater than the 139,977 mt established by the final 2022 and 2023 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA. The Council's recommended 2023 TAC, and the area and seasonal apportionments, is based on the Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation report (SAFE), dated November 2022.

The final 2022 and 2023 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (87 FR 11599, March 2, 2022) set the 2023 Pacific cod TAC at 21,096 mt in the GOA. In December 2022, the Council recommended a 2023 Pacific cod TAC of 18,103 mt for the GOA, which is less than the 21,096 mt established by the final 2022 and 2023 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA. The Council's recommended 2023 TAC, and the area and seasonal apportionments, is based on the SAFE, dated November 2022.

Steller sea lions occur in the same location as the pollock and Pacific cod fisheries and are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Pollock and Pacific cod are principal prey species for Steller sea lions in the GOA. The seasonal apportionment of pollock and Pacific cod harvests are necessary to ensure the groundfish fisheries are not likely to cause jeopardy of extinction or adverse modification of critical habitat for Steller sea lions. The regulations at § 679.20(a)(5)(iv) specify how the pollock TAC will be apportioned and the regulations at § 679.20(a)(6)(ii) and (a)(12)(i) specify how the Pacific cod TAC will be apportioned.

In accordance with § 679.25(a)(1)(iii), (a)(2)(i)(B), and (a)(2)(iv) the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), has determined that, based on the best available scientific information for this fishery, the current GOA pollock and Pacific cod TACs are incorrectly specified. Consequently, pursuant to § 679.25(a)(1)(iii), the Regional Administrator is adjusting the 2023 GOA pollock TAC to 156,578 mt and the 2023 Pacific cod TAC to 18,103 mt. Therefore, Tables 4 and 6 of the final 2022 and 2023 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (87 FR 11599, March 2, 2022) are revised consistent with this adjustment.

Pursuant to § 679.20(a)(5)(iv), Table 4 of the final 2022 and 2023 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (87 FR 11599, March 2, 2022) is revised for the 2023 TACs of pollock in the Central and Western Regulatory Area of the GOA.

TABLE 4—FINAL 2023 DISTRIBUTION OF POLLOCK IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL REGULATORY AREAS OF THE GULF OF ALASKA; AREA APPORTIONMENTS[1]; AND SEASONAL ALLOWANCES OF ANNUAL TAC

[Values are rounded to the nearest metric ton]

Season[2]	Shumigan (Area 610)	Chirikof (Area 620)	Kodiak (Area 630)	Total[3]
A (January 20-May 31)	1,685	58,039	9,121	68,846
B (September 1-November 1)	25,272	18,965	24,608	24,608
Annual Total	26,958	77,005	33,729	137,691

[1] Area apportionments and seasonal allowances may not total precisely due to rounding.

[2] As established by § 679.23(d)(2)(i) through (ii), the A and B season allowances are available from January 20 through May 31 and September 1 through November 1, respectively. The amounts of pollock for processing by the inshore and offshore components are not shown in this table.

[3] The West Yakutat and Southeast Outside District pollock TACs are not allocated by season and are not included in the total pollock TACs shown in this table.

Pursuant to § 679.20(a)(6)(ii) and (a)(12)(i), Table 6 of the final 2022 and 2023 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (87 FR 11599, March 2, 2022) is revised for the 2023 TACs of Pacific cod in the GOA.

TABLE 6—FINAL 2023 SEASONAL APPORTIONMENTS AND ALLOCATION OF PACIFIC COD TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH (TAC) AMOUNTS IN THE GOA; ALLOCATIONS IN THE WESTERN GOA AND CENTRAL GOA SECTORS, AND THE EASTERN GOA INSHORE AND OFFSHORE PROCESSING COMPONENTS

[Values are rounded to the nearest metric ton]

Regulatory area and sector	Annual allocation (mt)	A Season		B Season	
		Sector percentage of annual non-jig TAC	Seasonal allowances (mt)	Sector percentage of annual non-jig TAC	Seasonal allowances (mt)
Western GOA:					
Jig (3.5% of TAC)	183	N/A	110	N/A	73
Hook-and-line CV	71	0.70	35	0.70	35
Hook-and-line CP	998	10.90	550	8.90	449
Trawl CV	1,936	31.54	1,397	10.70	540
Trawl CP	121	0.90	45	1.50	76
All Pot CV and Pot CP	1,916	19.80	998	18.20	918
Total	5,225	63.84	3,135	36.16	2,090
Central GOA:					
Jig (1.0% of TAC)	111	N/A	67	N/A	44
Hook-and-line < 50 CV	1,608	9.32	1,026	5.29	582
Hook-and-line ≥ 50 CV	739	5.61	618	1.10	121
Hook-and-line CP	562	4.11	452	1.00	110
Trawl CV[1]	4,579	21.14	2,327	20.45	2,252
Trawl CP	462	2.00	221	2.19	242
All Pot CV and Pot CP	3,062	17.83	1,963	9.97	1,098
Total	11,123	64.16	6,674	35.84	4,449
Eastern GOA:	1,755	Inshore (90% of Annual TAC) 1,580		Offshore (10% of Annual TAC) 176	

[1] Trawl catcher vessels participating in Rockfish Program cooperatives receive 3.81 percent, or 424 mt, of the annual Central GOA TAC (see Table 28c to 50 CFR part 679), which is deducted from the Trawl CV B season allowance (see Table 13. Final 2023 Apportionments of Rockfish Secondary Species in the Central GOA and Table 28c to 50 CFR part 679).

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 allow for harvests that exceed the appropriate allocation for pollock and Pacific cod based on the best scientific information available. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data only became available as of December 21, 2022.

Without this inseason adjustment, NMFS could not allow the fishery for pollock and Pacific cod in the GOA to be harvested in an expedient manner and in accordance with the regulatory schedule. Under § 679.25(c)(2), interested persons are invited to submit written comments on this action to the above address until January 13, 2023.

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

Dated: December 23, 2022.

Jennifer M. Wallace,

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

[FR Doc. 2022–28349 Filed 12–23–22; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 220223–0054; RTID 0648–XC635]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2023 Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Pollock, Atka Mackerel, and Pacific Cod Total Allowable Catch Amounts

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

ACTION: Temporary rule; inseason adjustment; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS is adjusting the 2023 total allowable catch (TAC) amounts for the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) pollock, Atka mackerel, and Pacific cod fisheries. This action is necessary because NMFS has determined these TACs are incorrectly specified, and will ensure the BSAI pollock, Atka mackerel, and Pacific cod TACs are the appropriate amounts based on the best available scientific information. This action is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area.

DATES: Effective 0001 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), January 1, 2023, until the effective date of the final 2023 and 2024 harvest specifications for BSAI groundfish, unless otherwise modified or superseded through publication of a notification in the **Federal Register**.

Comments must be received at the following address no later than 4:30 p.m., A.l.t., January 13, 2023.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this document, identified by docket number NOAA–NMFS–2022–0076, by any of the following methods:

Electronic Submission: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to *https://www.regulations.gov* and enter NOAA–NMFS–2022–0076 in the Search