

PART 552—SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES

- 3. Amend section 552–270–1 by—
- a. Revising the date of the provision; and
- b. Removing paragraph (f).
The revision reads as follows:
552.270–1 Instructions to Offerors—Acquisition of Leasehold Interests in Real Property.

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Instructions to Offerors—Acquisition of Leasehold Interests in Real Property (JAN 2025)

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[FR Doc. 2024–30670 Filed 12–26–24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 217

[Docket No. 241003–0261]

RIN 0648–BM74

Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to U.S. Navy Repair and Replacement of the Q8 Bulkhead at Naval Station Norfolk

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

ACTION: Final rule; delay of effective and expiration dates; correction.

SUMMARY: NMFS published a final rule on October 9, 2024, for the taking of marine mammals incidental to the Q8 bulkhead repair and replacement project at Naval Station (NAVSTA) Norfolk in Norfolk, Virginia over the course of 5 years (*i.e.*, 2025–2029). The Navy has requested the effective date of the rule be modified from January 1, 2025, to August 4, 2025, and modify the expiration date from December 31, 2029 to August 3, 2030.

DATES: The effective date of the regulations published at 89 FR 81848, October 9, 2024, is delayed until August 4, 2025, and the expiration date is revised to August 3, 2030. This correction is effective August 4, 2025, and expires August 3, 2030.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the Navy's application and any supporting documents, as well as a list of the references cited in this document, may be obtained online at: <https://>

www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/incidental-take-authorization-us-navys-construction-activities-q8-bulkhead-naval-station. In case of problems accessing these documents, please call the contact listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Craig Cockrell, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, (301) 427–8401.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Sections 101(a)(5)(A) and (D) of the MMPA (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) direct the Secretary of Commerce (as delegated to NMFS) to allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals by U.S. citizens who engage in a specified activity (other than commercial fishing) within a specified geographical region if certain findings are made and either regulations are issued or, if the taking is limited to harassment, a notice of a proposed authorization is provided to the public for review.

On July 3, 2024 NMFS published the proposed rule to authorize the taking of marine mammals incidental to the Q8 bulkhead repair and replacement project at NAVSTA Norfolk. During the 30-day comment period of the proposed rule NMFS received two comments. NMFS responded to the two comments in the original final rule (89 FR 81848, October 9, 2024).

NMFS published the final rule on October 9, 2024 (89 FR 81848), which allows for authorization of the take of small numbers of four marine mammal species incidental to the Q8 bulkhead repair and replacement project. This project involves work on the bulkhead from Piers 12 and 14 to restore function of this Navy dock system. Vibratory and impact hammers will be used for pile removal and installation. Sounds produced from these pile removal and installation activities may result in the incidental take of marine mammals, by Level B harassment only. Approximately 378 piles will be removed and 836 piles will be installed. Work will be conducted in 3 phases over 212 non-consecutive days to complete the pile removal and installation activities.

The original effective dates finalized in the rule (89 FR 81848, October 9, 2024) were January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2029. Recently, the Navy's construction schedule has been delayed, and as such, the Navy has requested NMFS delay and modify the effective dates. This final rule will delay the effective date from January 1, 2025 to August 4, 2025 and modify the expiration date from December 31, 2029

to August 3, 2030. This delay and modification of effective dates do not change the duration of the incidental take regulations or change any of the findings and take estimates or the requirements for mitigation, monitoring, and reporting, in the original final rule.

Administrative Procedures Act

The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries (AA) finds that there is good cause to waive the requirements to provide prior notice and opportunity for public comment pursuant to the authority set forth in 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), because prior notice and opportunity for public comment on this temporary delay is unnecessary and contrary to the public interest. Such procedures are unnecessary because the final rule that published on October 9, 2024 (89 FR 81848), has already been subject to notice and comment, and all that remains is to notify the public of this delay and modification to the effective dates of the previously noticed regulations. Providing additional prior notice and opportunity for public comment is contrary to the public interest because there is a need to immediately implement this action to delay the original January 1, 2025 effective date and modify the expiration date of the regulations contained in 50 CFR 217.231. Failure to modify the effective dates risks a potential lapse in coverage for the Navy's construction activities for the Q8 bulkhead repair and replacement project at NAVSTA Norfolk.

Dated: December 19, 2024.

Samuel D. Rauch, III,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service.

For reasons set forth in the preamble, NMFS amends 50 CFR part 217 as follows:

PART 217—REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE TAKING AND IMPORTING OF MARINE MAMMALS

- 1. The authority citation for part 217 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart X—Taking and Importing Marine Mammals Incidental to Navy Construction of the Q8 Bulkhead Repair and Replacement Project at Naval Station Norfolk at Norfolk, Virginia

- 2. Revise § 217.231 to read as follows:

§ 217.231 Effective dates.

Regulations under this subpart are effective from August 4, 2025, through August 3, 2030.

[FR Doc. 2024-30823 Filed 12-26-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration****50 CFR Part 679**

[Docket No. 240304-0068; RTID 0648-XE549]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2025 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 2025 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 scientific information available. This action is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the BSAI (FMP).

DATES: Effective 0001 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), January 1, 2025, until the effective date of the final 2025 and 2026 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, 2025.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments on this document, identified by NOAA-NMFS-2023-0124, by any of the following methods:

- **Electronic Submission:** Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Visit <https://www.regulations.gov> and type NOAA-NMFS-2023-0124 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, Attn: Records Office. Mail comments to P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668.
- **Fax:** (907) 586-7465; Attn: Gretchen Harrington.

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 <https://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: Steve Whitney, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the BSAI exclusive economic zone according to the FMP prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act). Regulations governing fishing by U.S. vessels in accordance with the FMP appear at subpart H of both 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The final 2024 and 2025 harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI (89 FR 17287, March 11, 2024) set the 2025 Bering Sea (BS) pollock TAC at 1,325,000 metric tons (mt), the 2025 BSAI Atka mackerel TAC at 66,165 mt, the 2025 BS Pacific cod TAC at 132,726 mt, and the 2024 Aleutian Islands (AI) Pacific cod TAC at 8,080 mt. In December 2024, the Council recommended a 2025 BS pollock TAC of 1,375,000 mt, which is more than the 1,325,000 mt TAC established by the final 2024 and 2025 harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI. The Council also recommended a 2025 BSAI Atka mackerel TAC of 82,000 mt, which is more than the 66,165 mt TAC established by the final 2024 and 2025 harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI. Furthermore, the Council recommended a 2025 BS Pacific cod TAC of 133,602 mt, and an AI Pacific cod TAC of 8,694 mt, which is more than the BS Pacific cod TAC of 132,726 mt, and more than the AI Pacific cod TAC of 8,080 mt established by the final 2024 and 2025 harvest

specifications for groundfish in the BSAI. The Council's recommended 2025 TACs, and the area and seasonal apportionments, are based on the Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation report (SAFE), dated November 2024, which NMFS has determined is the best scientific information available for these fisheries.

Steller sea lions occur in the same location as the pollock, Atka mackerel, and Pacific cod fisheries and are listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Pollock, Atka mackerel, and Pacific cod are a principal prey species for Steller sea lions in the BSAI. The seasonal apportionment of pollock, Atka mackerel, and Pacific cod harvest is necessary to ensure the groundfish fisheries are not likely to cause jeopardy of extinction or adverse modification of critical habitat for Steller sea lions. NMFS published regulations and the revised harvest limit amounts for pollock, Atka mackerel, and Pacific cod fisheries to implement Steller sea lion protection measures to insure that groundfish fisheries of the BSAI are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the western distinct population segment of Steller sea lions or destroy or adversely modify their designated critical habitat (79 FR 70286, November 25, 2014).

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 November 2024 SAFE report for these fisheries, the current BSAI pollock, Atka mackerel, and Pacific cod TACs are incorrectly specified. Pursuant to § 679.25(a)(1)(iii), the Regional Administrator is adjusting the 2025 BS pollock TAC to 1,375,000 mt, the 2025 BSAI Atka mackerel TAC to 82,000 mt, the 2025 BS Pacific cod TAC to 133,602 mt, and the 2025 AI Pacific cod TAC to 8,694 mt. Therefore, table 2 of the final 2024 and 2025 harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI (89 FR 17287, March 11, 2024) is revised consistent with this adjustment.

Pursuant to § 679.20(a)(5)(i) and (iii), table 5 of the final 2024 and 2025 harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI (89 FR 17287, March 11, 2024) is revised for the 2025 BS and AI allocations of pollock TAC to the directed pollock fisheries, the Community Development Quota (CDQ) directed fishing allowances (DFA), and the incidental catch allowance (ICA) consistent with this adjustment.