

electric trolling motors during hunting season.

(xiii) You may access hunt areas by foot, nonmotorized watercraft, outboard motorboat, or airboat. Airboats may not exceed 10 horsepower with direct drive with a propeller length of 48 inches (120 centimeters) or less.

(xiv) On inland waters of refuge hunt areas open to motorized boats, we restrict the operation of motorized boats to lakes, ponds, ditches, and other waterways when hunting. We prohibit the operation of motorized boats on or through emergent wetland vegetation.

(xv) On inland waters of the refuge hunt areas open to motorized boats, we restrict the use of boats powered by air-cooled or radiator-cooled engines to those powered by a single engine of 25 horsepower or less and utilizing a propeller 9 inches (22.5 centimeters) in diameter or less during the hunting season.

(xvi) We allow portable blinds or temporary natural vegetation blinds. You must remove all blinds, decoys, boats, spent shells, marsh chairs, and other equipment from the refuge at the end of each day's hunt (see §§ 27.93 and 27.94 of this chapter).

(xvii) We require a minimum distance between hunt parties of 200 yards (180 m).

(xviii) We allow the use of dogs when hunting.

(2)–(3) [Reserved]

(4) *Sport fishing.* We allow fishing and crabbing on designated areas of the refuge subject to the following conditions:

(i) We allow fishing and crabbing only with pole and line, rod and reel, or handheld line. We prohibit the use any method not expressly allowed, including trotlines, setlines, jug lines, limb lines, bows and arrows, gigs, spears, or crab traps.

(ii) We allow cast netting for bait for personal use along waterways in areas open to the public and along public roads.

(iii) The conditions set forth at paragraphs (a)(1)(xiii) and (xv) of this section apply.

(iv) We prohibit mooring to water control structures.

(i) *Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge—(1) Migratory game bird hunting.* The refuge is closed to migratory bird hunting, including shoreline hunting, but retrieval of birds downed by hunters hunting on nearby navigable waters under State regulations is authorized subject to the following conditions:

(i) Hunters may not discharge firearms while retrieving waterfowl on the refuge.

(ii) Access for waterfowl retrieval will be allowed only during State specified hunting seasons. We only allow hunters to enter the Laguna Atascosa Unit by boat, and hunters may only enter subunits 3, 4, 5, 7, and 10, for retrieval of downed waterfowl.

(2) [Reserved]

(3) *Big game hunting.* We allow hunting of white-tailed deer, feral hog, nilgai antelope, other exotic ungulates, and American alligator on designated areas of the refuge subject to the following conditions:

(i) We allow the incidental take of nilgai antelope, feral hog, and other rarely observed exotic ungulates (such as fallow deer, axis deer, sika deer, Barbary sheep, and black buck) during all refuge hunts, with the exception of American alligator hunts.

(ii) We require hunters to review the refuge hunter orientation email prior to any refuge hunt activity.

(iii) Bag limits for species hunted on the refuge are provided in the refuge hunt brochure annually.

(iv) We allow a scouting period prior to the commencement of each refuge hunt period. A permitted hunter and a limit of two non-permitted individuals may enter the hunt units during the scouting period, which begins after hunter orientation and ends at legal sunset. Each hunter must clearly display a Vehicle Validation Tag (FWS Form 3-2405) face up on the vehicle dashboard when scouting and hunting.

(v) We allow hunters to enter the refuge 1½ hours before legal sunrise during their permitted hunt periods. Hunters must leave the hunt units no later than 1 hour after State legal shooting hours.

(vi) Hunters may access hunt units only by foot or bicycle, including electric bicycles. You may only use a bicycle on designated routes; we prohibit off-road use of a bicycle.

(vii) We allow hunting from portable stands or by stalking and still hunting. There is a limit of one blind or stand per permitted hunter. Hunters must attach hunter identification (permit number or State license number) to the blind or stand. Hunters must remove all blinds and stands at the end of the permitted hunt period (see § 27.93 of this chapter).

(viii) During American alligator hunts, we allow hunters to leave hooks set over only one night period at a time; set lines must be checked daily.

(ix) Hunters must field dress all harvested big game in the field and check the game at the hunt check station before removal from the refuge. Hunters may use a nonmotorized cart to assist with the transportation of harvested game animals.

(x) We prohibit the killing or wounding of a game animal and then intentionally or knowingly failing to make a reasonable effort to retrieve and include it in the hunter's bag limit.

(4) *Sport fishing.* We allow fishing and crabbing on designated areas of the refuge subject to the following conditions:

(i) We allow only pole and line, rod and reel, hand line, dip net, and cast net for fishing. We prohibit the use of crab traps or pots for crabbing.

(ii) Anglers must attend all fishing lines, crabbing equipment, and other fishing devices at all times.

(iii) Inside the refuge boundary on San Martin Lake, we allow bank and wade fishing within a designated area, which may be accessed only on foot.

* * * * *

PART 71—HUNTING AND SPORT FISHING ON NATIONAL FISH HATCHERIES

■ 16. The authority citation for part 71 continues to read as follows:

Authority: Sec. 4, Pub. L. 73–121, 48 Stat. 402, as amended; sec. 4, Pub. L. 87–714, 76 Stat. 654; 5 U.S.C. 301; 16 U.S.C. 460k, 664, 668dd, 1534.

■ 17. Amend § 71.12 by:

■ a. Redesignating paragraphs (o) through (s) as paragraphs (p) through (t), respectively; and

■ b. Adding new paragraph (o).

The addition reads as follows:

§ 71.12 National fish hatcheries open for sport fishing.

* * * * *

(o) *North Attleboro National Fish Hatchery.* We allow sport fishing on designated areas of the hatchery.

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Kevin Lilly,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 250312-0036; RTID 0648-XF144]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Exchange of Flatfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Temporary rule; reallocation.

SUMMARY: NMFS is exchanging allocations of Amendment 80 cooperative quota (CQ) for Amendment 80 acceptable biological catch (ABC) reserves. This action is necessary to allow the 2025 total allowable catch (TAC) of yellowfin sole in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI) to be harvested.

DATES: Effective August 26, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Whitney, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the BSAI according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (FMP) prepared and recommended by the North Pacific Fishery Management 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 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The 2025 flathead sole, rock sole, and yellowfin sole Amendment 80 allocations of the TAC specified in the BSAI are 30,148 metric tons (mt), 63,975 mt, and 105,837 mt, respectively, as established by the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI (90 FR 12640, March 18, 2025). The 2025 flathead sole, rock sole, and yellowfin sole Amendment 80 ABC reserves are 42,692 mt, 73,661 mt, and 113,908 mt, respectively, as established by the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI (90 FR 12640, March 18, 2025).

The Alaska Seafood Cooperative has requested that NMFS exchange 9,000 mt of flathead sole TAC allocated to the Amendment 80 sector and 8,000 mt of rock sole TAC allocated to the Amendment 80 sector for 17,000 mt of yellowfin sole Amendment 80 ABC reserves pursuant to §§ 679.91(i)(3) and 679.4(p). NMFS approves the completed

Flatfish Exchange Application submitted by the Alaska Seafood Cooperative, which meets all the criteria specified at § 679.4(p)(3). Specifically, the Alaska Seafood Cooperative has sufficient ABC reserves of yellowfin sole, is exchanging an equal amount of unused flathead sole and rock sole, approval will not cause harvest to exceed an ABC or ABC reserve for any of these species, and NMFS can approve the exchange before the end of the calendar year in which it would be effective. Therefore, NMFS exchanges 9,000 mt of flathead sole TAC allocated to the Amendment 80 sector and 8,000 mt of rock sole TAC allocated to the Amendment 80 sector for 17,000 mt of yellowfin sole Amendment 80 ABC reserves in the BSAI. This action also decreases and increases the TACs and Amendment 80 ABC reserves by the corresponding amounts. Tables 13 and 15 of the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI (90 FR 12640, March 18, 2025) are revised as follows:

TABLE 13—FINAL 2025 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUOTA (CDQ) RESERVES, INCIDENTAL CATCH AMOUNTS (ICAs), AND AMENDMENT 80 ALLOCATIONS OF THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS PACIFIC OCEAN PERCH AND BSAI FLATHEAD SOLE, ROCK SOLE, AND YELLOWFIN SOLE TACs

[Amounts are in metric tons]

Sector	Pacific ocean perch			Flathead sole BSAI	Rock sole BSAI	Yellowfin sole BSAI
	Eastern Aleutian district	Central Aleutian district	Western Aleutian district			
TAC	6,278	5,559	11,500	27,000	67,000	152,000
CDQ	672	595	1,231	3,852	8,025	14,445
ICA	100	60	10	2,000	3,000	2,000
BSAI trawl limited access	551	490	205	12,718
Amendment 80	4,956	4,414	10,054	21,148	55,975	122,837

Note: Sector apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.

TABLE 15—FINAL 2025 AND 2026 ABC SURPLUS, ABC RESERVES, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUOTA (CDQ) ABC RESERVES, AND AMENDMENT 80 ABC RESERVES IN THE BSAI FOR FLATHEAD SOLE, ROCK SOLE, AND YELLOWFIN SOLE

[Amounts are in metric tons]

Sector	2025 Flathead sole	2025 Rock sole	2025 Yellowfin sole	2026 ¹ Flathead sole	2026 ¹ Rock sole	2026 ¹ Yellowfin sole
ABC	83,807	157,487	262,557	87,700	158,225	267,639
TAC	27,000	67,000	152,000	36,000	75,000	145,000
ABC surplus	56,807	90,487	144,557	51,700	83,225	122,639
ABC reserve	56,807	90,487	144,557	51,700	83,225	122,639
CDQ ABC reserve	5,115	8,826	13,649	5,532	8,905	13,122
Amendment 80 ABC reserve	51,692	81,661	96,908	46,168	74,320	109,517

¹ The 2026 allocations for Amendment 80 species between Amendment 80 cooperatives and the Amendment 80 limited access sector will not be known until eligible participants apply for participation in the program by November 1, 2025.

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) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, 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 not allow for full harvest of yellowfin sole in the BSAI by the Amendment 80 sector. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data on flathead sole, rock sole, and yellowfin sole only

became available as of August 25, 2025. Without this inseason adjustment, NMFS could not allow the fishery for yellowfin sole in the BSAI to be harvested in an expedient manner.

The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA also finds good cause to waive the 30-day delay in the effective date of this action under 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.

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

Dated: August 26, 2025.

Kelly Denit,

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

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