

reduce regulatory complexity for the angling public.

The Council moved, and NMFS is implementing, a sub-bag limit for canary rockfish of 2 in the recreational fishery in federal waters off California, as recommended by CDFW.

Classification

This final rule makes routine inseason adjustments to groundfish fishery management measures, based on the best scientific information available, consistent with the PCGFMP and its implementing regulations.

This action is taken under the authority of 50 CFR 660.60(c) and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

The aggregate data upon which these actions are based are available for public inspection by contacting Christopher Biegel in NMFS West Coast Region (see

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT
section above), or view at the NMFS West Coast Groundfish website: <https://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/groundfish/index.html>.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b), NMFS finds good cause to waive prior public notice and an opportunity for public comment on this action, as notice and comment would be impracticable and contrary to the public interest. The adjustments to management measures in this document are designed to keep catch within allocations established by the 2025–2026 harvest specifications. No aspect of this action is controversial, and changes of this nature were anticipated in the final rule for the 2025–2026 harvest specifications and management measures, which published on December 16, 2024 (89 FR 101514).

The Council recommended, and NMFS is implementing, a sub-bag limit for canary rockfish off the coast of California of 2 fish to be consistent with the CDFW bag limit. This inseason change is in response to new information about the fishery and to conservation issues that need to be addressed for the 2025 and 2026 fishing years. Delaying implementation to allow for public comment would impact NMFS's ability to keep the fishery within catch targets set for sustainable fishing. For these same reasons, NMFS finds reason to waive the 30-day delay in effectiveness pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(1) so that this final rule may become effective upon publication in the **Federal Register**. These adjustments were requested by the Council's advisory bodies, as well as members of industry during the Council's September 2025 meeting, and recommended by the Council. No aspect

of this action is controversial, and changes of this nature were anticipated in the biennial harvest specifications and management measures for 2025–2026 (89 FR 101514), which were established through a notice and comment rulemaking.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 660

Fisheries, Fishing, Indian Fisheries.

Dated: December 11, 2025.

Kelly Denit,

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

For the reasons set out in the preamble, NMFS amends 50 CFR part 660 as follows:

PART 660—FISHERIES OFF WEST COAST STATES

- 1. The authority citation for part 660 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*, 16 U.S.C. 773 *et seq.*, and 16 U.S.C. 7001 *et seq.*

- 2. In § 660.360, revise paragraph (c)(3)(ii)(B) to read as follows:

§ 660.360 Recreational fishery—management measures.

* * * * *

(c) * * *

(3) * * *

(ii) * * *

(B) *Bag limits, hook limits.* In times and areas when the recreational season for the RCG Complex is open, there is a limit of two hooks and one line when fishing for the RCG complex. The bag limit is 10 RCG Complex fish per day coastwide, with the following sub bag limits: 4 fish for vermillion/sunset rockfish between 42° N lat. and 40°10' N lat., 2 fish for vermillion/sunset rockfish south of 40°10' N lat., 2 fish for canary rockfish, and 1 fish for copper rockfish. These sub-bag limits count towards the bag limit for the RCG Complex and are not in addition to that limit. Retention of yelloweye rockfish, bronzespotted rockfish, quillback rockfish, and cowcod is prohibited. Multi-day limits are authorized by a valid permit issued by California and must not exceed the daily limit multiplied by the value of days in the fishing trip.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 250312-0037; RTID 0648-XF345]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod 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; reallocation.

SUMMARY: NMFS is reallocating the projected unused amount of Pacific cod from catcher vessels using trawl gear to catcher/processors using trawl gear and vessels using pot gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to allow the 2025 total allowable catch (TAC) of Pacific cod to be harvested.

DATES: Effective December 15, 2025, through 2400 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), December 31, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Adam Zaleski, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the GOA according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (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 Pacific cod TAC specified for catcher vessels using trawl gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA is 5,617 metric tons (mt), as established by the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (90 FR 12468, March 18, 2025).

The 2025 Pacific cod TAC specified for vessels using pot gear is 4,148 mt, as established by the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (90 FR 12468, March 18, 2025).

The 2025 Pacific cod TAC specified for catcher/processors using trawl gear is 626 mt, as established by the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (90 FR 12468, March 18, 2025). The final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications also establish a directed fishing closure for

Pacific cod for catcher/processors using trawl gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA.

The Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (the Administrator) has determined that catcher vessels using trawl gear will not be able to harvest 440 mt of the 2025 Pacific cod TAC allocated to those vessels under § 679.20(a)(12)(i)(B)(4). The Administrator has also determined that catcher/processors using trawl gear and vessels using pot gear have the capability to harvest additional Pacific cod TAC.

Therefore, in accordance with § 679.20(a)(12)(ii)(B), NMFS apportions 420 mt of Pacific cod from catcher vessels using trawl gear to the annual amount specified for catcher/processors using trawl gear and 20 mt of Pacific cod from catcher vessels using trawl gear to the annual amount specified for vessels using pot gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA.

The harvest specifications for 2025 Pacific cod TAC allocated to vessels in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA included in the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (90 FR 12468, March 18, 2025) is revised as follows: 5,177 mt to catcher vessels using trawl gear, 1,046 mt to catcher/processors using trawl gear, and 4,168 mt to vessels using pot gear.

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. This requirement is 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 the full harvest of the Pacific cod TACs by the sectors with harvesting capability. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data on the harvest of Pacific cod by sectors operating in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA and the capability of certain sectors to harvest additional TAC only became available as of December 11, 2025.

There is also good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) to make this action effective immediately upon filing with the Office of the Federal Register. 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: December 12, 2025.

Kelly Denit,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 250312-0037; RTID 0648-XF346]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska

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

ACTION: Temporary rule; reallocation.

SUMMARY: NMFS is reallocating the projected unused amounts of Pacific cod from catcher vessels using trawl gear to catcher vessels using hook-and-line gear and vessels using pot gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to allow the 2025 total allowable catch (TAC) of Pacific cod to be harvested.

DATES: Effective December 15, 2025, through 2400 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), December 31, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Adam Zaleski, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the GOA according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (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 Pacific cod TAC allocated to catcher vessels using trawl gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA is 2,260 metric tons (mt), as established by the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (90 FR 12468, March 18, 2025).

The 2025 Pacific cod TAC allocated to catcher vessels using hook-and-line gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA is 82 mt, as established by the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (90 FR 12468, March 18, 2025).

The 2025 Pacific cod TAC allocated to vessels using pot gear in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA is 2,236 mt, as established by the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (90 FR 12468, March 18, 2025).

The Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (the Administrator) has determined that catcher vessels using trawl gear will not be able to harvest 220 mt of the 2025 Pacific cod TAC allocated to those vessels under § 679.20(a)(12)(i)(A)(3). The Administrator, has also determined that catcher vessels using hook-and-line gear and vessels using pot gear have the capability to harvest additional Pacific cod TAC.

Therefore, in accordance with § 679.20(a)(12)(ii)(B), NMFS apportions 70 mt of Pacific cod from catcher vessels using trawl gear to the annual amount specified for catcher vessels using hook-and-line gear and 150 mt of Pacific cod from catcher vessels using trawl gear to the annual amount specified for vessels using pot gear.

The harvest specifications for 2025 Pacific cod TAC allocated to vessels in the Western Regulatory Area of the GOA included in the final 2025 and 2026 harvest specifications for groundfish in the GOA (90 FR 12468, March 18, 2025) is revised as follows: 2,040 mt to catcher vessels using trawl gear, 152 mt to catcher vessels using hook-and-line gear, and 2,386 mt to vessels using pot gear.

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 the full harvest of the Pacific cod TACs by the sectors with harvesting capability. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data on the harvest