Phase II support awarded in partnership with New York's New NY Broadband Program as adopted in FCC 17–2, paragraphs 69–70. If you have any comments on the burden estimates listed below, or how the Commission can improve the collections and reduce any burdens caused thereby, please contact Nicole Ongele, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1–A620, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. Please include the OMB Control Number, 3060–1228, in your correspondence. The Commission will also accept your comments via email please send them to *PRA@fcc.gov.* To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an email to *fcc504@fcc.gov* or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418–0530 (voice), (202) 418–0432 (TTY).

Synopsis

As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), the FCC is notifying the public that it received OMB approval on February 1, 2018, for the rules 54.316(a)(1), 54.316(a)(5) and (6), 54.316(b)(6), 54.320(d), 54.321 published at 81 FR 24282, April 25, 2016, 81 FR 44414, July 7, 2016, and 81 FR 83706, November 22, 2016, 81 FR 69696, October 7, 2016, and the reporting requirements for recipients of Phase II support awarded in partnership with New York's New NY Broadband Program as adopted in FCC 17–2, paragraphs 69–70. Under 5 CFR 1320, an agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a current, valid OMB Control Number.

No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act that does not display a current, valid OMB Control Number. The OMB Control Number is 3060–1228.

The foregoing notice is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13, October 1, 1995, and 44 U.S.C. 3507.

The total annual reporting burdens and costs for the respondents are as follows:

OMB Control Number: 3060–1228.

OMB Approval Date: February 1, 2018.

OMB Expiration Date: February 28, 2021.

Title: Connect America Fund—High Cost Portal Filing.

Form No.: N/A.

Respondents: Business or other for-profit, not-for-profit institutions.

Number of Respondents and Responses: 1,599 unique respondents; 3,731 responses.

Estimated Time per Response: 8–60 hours.

Frequency of Response: On occasion, quarterly reporting requirements, annual reporting requirements, one-time reporting requirement and recordkeeping requirement.

Obligation to Respond: Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for this information collection is contained in 47 U.S.C. 151–154, 155, 201–206, 214, 218–220, 251, 252, 254, 256, 303(r), 332, 403, 405, 410, and 1302.

Total Annual Burden: 68,607 hours.

Total Annual Cost: No Cost.

Nature and Extent of Confidentiality: We note that USAC must preserve the confidentiality of certain data obtained from respondents; must not use the data except for purposes of administering the universal service programs or other purposes specified by the Commission; and must not disclose data in company-specific form unless directed to do so by the Commission. Respondents may request materials or information submitted to the Commission or the Administrator believed confidential to be withheld from public inspection under 47 CFR 0.459 of the FCC's rules.

Needs and Uses: This information collection addresses the requirement that certain carriers with high cost reporting obligations must file information about their locations which meet their broadband deployment public interest obligations via an electronic portal (''portal''). *The Rate-of-Return Order* required that the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) establish the portal so that carriers could file their location data with the portal starting in 2017. The *Rate-of-Return Order* also required all recipients of Phase II model-based support and rate-of-return carriers to submit geocoded location data and related certifications to the portal. Recipients of Phase II model-based support had been required to file such information in their annual reports due by July 1, 2017. The *Phase II Auction Order* requires auction winners to build-out networks capable of meeting their public interest obligations and report, to an online portal, locations to which auction winners had deployed such networks. This information collection also addresses the new portal reporting requirements for carriers receiving Alaska Plan support, including their submission of fiber/microwave middle-mile network maps, and recipients of Phase II support that is awarded in partnership with New York's New NY Broadband Program.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene H. Dortch,

Secretary, Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018–02996 Filed 2–14–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No.: 171213999–8128–01]

RIN 0648–XF898

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Herring Fishery; Adjustments to 2018 Management Area Annual Catch Limits

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

ACTION: Temporary final rule; adjustment of specifications.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the regulations implementing the Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan, this action adjusts the 2018 catch limits in the four herring management areas (Areas 1A, 1B, 2, and 3) to account for underages and overages in those areas during 2016. In order to ensure that the carryover of underages do not cause overfishing of the herring resource, management area-specific carryover does not increase the stock-wide annual catch limit. This action is necessary to ensure that NMFS accounts for herring catch consistent with the requirements of the Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan.

DATES: Effective February 15, 2018, through December 31, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Copies of supporting documents, including the 2013–2015 Specifications/Framework 2 and the 2016–2018 Specifications to the Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan (FMP), are available from the Sustainable Fisheries Division, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930, telephone (978) 281–9315, or online at: *https://www.nefmc.org/library/framework-2-2, http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/species/atlherring/index.html.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alyson Pitts, Fishery Management Specialist, 978–281–9352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Atlantic herring harvest in the United States is managed under the Atlantic Herring Fishery Management Plan (FMP) developed by the New England Fishery Management Council. The FMP divides the stock-wide herring annual catch limit (ACL) among three management areas, one of which has two sub-areas. It divides Area 1 (located in the Gulf of Maine (GOM)) into an inshore section (Area 1A) and an offshore section (Area 1B). Area 2 is located in the coastal waters between Massachusetts and North Carolina, and Area 3 is on Georges Bank (GB). The FMP considers the herring stock complex to be a single stock, but there are inshore (GOM) and offshore (GB) stock components. The GOM and GB stock components segregate during spawning and mix during feeding and migration. Each management area has its own sub-ACL to allow greater control of the fishing mortality on each stock component.

NMFS issued a final rule that implemented Amendment 4 to the FMP (76 FR 11373, March 2, 2011) to address ACL and accountability measure (AM) requirements. As a way to account for ACL/sub-ACL overages in the herring fishery, Amendment 4 established an AM that requires NMFS to deduct any ACL/sub-ACL overages from the corresponding ACL/sub-ACL in the year following the catch overage determination. Amendment 4 also specified that NMFS will announce overage deductions in the **Federal Register** prior to the start of the fishing year, if possible.

NMFS also published a final rule implementing Framework 2 to the FMP and the 2013–2015 specifications for the herring fishery on October 4, 2013 (78 FR 61828). Among other measures, Framework 2 allowed for the carryover of unharvested allocations (underages) in the year immediately following the catch determination. Provided that annual total catch does not exceed the stock-wide ACL, up to 10 percent of each sub-ACL may be carried over and added to the following year's sub-ACL. The carryover provision allows a sub-ACL increase for a management area, but it does not allow a corresponding increase to the stock-wide ACL.

NMFS published the 2016–2018 specifications for the herring fishery on November 1, 2016 (81 FR 75731). Table 1 outlines the 2018 herring sub-ACLs, minus deductions for research set-aside catch (RSA) that were effective on January 1, 2018. RSA equal to 3 percent of each sub-ACL has been awarded to two research projects.

TABLE 1—2018 HERRING SUB-ACLS

[mt]

	2018 sub-ACLs	Research set-aside (3 percent of sub-ACLs)	2018 sub-ACLs (minus RSA)
Area 1A	30,300	909	29,391
Area 1B	4,500	135	4,365
Area 2	29,100	873	28,227
Area 3	40,900	1,227	39,673
Stock-wide	104,800	3,144	101,656

Provisions Implemented Through This Final Rule

NMFS completed the 2016 catch determination in December 2017 and determined that the herring fishery caught more than its allocated catch in 2016 in Area 1B. To account for the overage, this action deducts the catch overage in Area 1B from the 2018 Area 1B sub-ACL. NMFS also determined that the herring fishery caught less than its total allocated catch in 2016 and was under the allocated catch in the three remaining herring management areas (Areas 1A, 2, and 3). As a result, this action carries over unharvested 2016 catch to the 2018 herring sub-ACL in Areas 1A, 2, and 3. This carryover equals the amount of each area's underages, or up to 10 percent of the allocated 2016 sub-ACL, whichever is less. Table 2 provides catch details for 2016 and corresponding adjustments for 2018 sub-ACLs.

TABLE 2—HERRING SUB-ACLS, CATCH, AND CARRYOVER

[mt]

	Adjusted 2016 sub-ACLs	2016 catch	2016 underages/ overages	Carryover * (up to 10 percent)	2018 sub-ACLs (minus RSA)	Adjusted 2018 sub-ACLs
Area 1A	30,397	27,826	2,571	2,571	29,391	31,962
Area 1B	2,941	3,657	−716	NA	4,365	3,649
Area 2	32,100	13,456	18,644	2,910	28,227	31,137
Area 3	43,832	18,580	25,252	4,090	39,673	43,853
Stock-wide	** 101,656	63,519	45,751	NA	101,656	** 100,969

* Maximum carryover is based on 10 percent of the 2016 sub-ACLs: Area 1A = 30,300 mt; Area 1B = 4,500 mt; Area 2 = 29,100 mt; and Area 3 = 40,900 mt.

** The stock-wide ACL cannot be increased by carryover. The 2018 adjusted stock-wide ACL is decreased by the Area 1B overage.

NMFS calculated the amount of herring landings in 2016 based on dealer reports (Federal and state) of herring purchases, supplemented by vessel trip reports (VTRs) and vessel monitoring system (VMS) reports (Federal and states of Maine and Massachusetts) of herring landings. NMFS generally uses dealer reports to estimate herring landings; however, if the amount of herring reported via VTR exceeded the amount of herring

reported by the dealer by 10 percent or more, NMFS assumes the dealer report for that trip was in error and uses the VTR report instead. NMFS assigns herring landings to individual herring management areas using VMS reports or latitude and longitude coordinates from VTR reports when a VMS report is not available. NMFS uses recent fishing activity to assign landings to a management area if dealer reports do not have a corresponding VTR or VMS catch report.

NMFS estimates herring discards by extrapolating discards from herring trips observed by the Northeast Fisheries Observer Program to all herring trips (observed and unobserved) according to gear and herring management area. Because RSA is removed from management area sub-ACLs at the beginning of the fishery year, NMFS tracks RSA catch but does not count it towards the herring sub-ACLs.

Classification

Pursuant to section 304(b)(1)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), the NMFS Assistant Administrator has determined that this final rule is consistent with the FMP, other provisions of the MSA, and other applicable law.

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. Notice and comment are impracticable and contrary to the public interest because a delay would potentially impair achievement of the management plan's objectives of preventing overfishing and achieving optimum yield due by impairing a vessel's ability to harvest available catch allocations. Allowing for prior notice and public comment on this adjustment is also impracticable because regulations require notification of adjustments as close as possible to the start of the herring fishing year on January 1, 2018. We only recently received sufficient information to determine 2016 catch amount. Further, this is a nondiscretionary action required by provisions of Amendment 4 and Framework 2, which were previously subject to public notice and comment. The adjustments required by these regulations are formulaic; this action simply effectuates these mandatory calculations. The proposed and final rules for Framework 2 and Amendment 4 explained the need and likelihood for adjustments to the sub-ACLs based on final catch amounts. Framework 2, specifically, provided prior notice of the need to distribute carryover catch. These actions provided a full opportunity for the public to comment on the substance and process of this action.

For the same reasons as noted above, there is good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) to waive the 30-day delay in effective date and make the rule effective upon publication in the **Federal Register**. To prevent confusion and potential overharvests, it will be in the best interest of the fleet and the herring resource to set the adjusted sub-ACLs as soon as possible. The adjustments in this notice increase the amount of catch available to fishermen, with the exception of Area 1B due to overharvest in 2016. Putting in place the adjusted sub-ACLs as soon as possible will provide the fleet with an opportunity to develop their business plans in sufficient time to facilitate their full harvest of available catch in the open areas.

This action is required by 50 CFR part 648, subpart K and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

This final rule does not contain a collection-of-information requirement for purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Because prior notice and opportunity for public comment are not required for this rule by 5 U.S.C. 553, or any other law, the analytical requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.,* are inapplicable.

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

Dated: February 12, 2018.

Samuel D. Rauch, III,

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

[FR Doc. 2018–03157 Filed 2–14–18; 8:45 am]

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