

Dated: September 12, 2018.

Consuela Benjamin,

Regulations Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy & Management, Office of the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.

■ For the reasons set out in the preamble, VA amends 48 CFR by adding parts 844 and 845 to read as follows:

PART 844—SUBCONTRACTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Sec.

Subpart 844.2—Consent to Subcontracts
844.202–2 Considerations.

Subpart 844.3—Contractors' Purchasing Systems Reviews

844.303 Extent of review.

Subpart 844.4—Subcontracts for Commercial Items and Commercial Components

844.402 Policy requirements.

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 121(c); 41 U.S.C. 1702 and 48 CFR 1.301–1.304.

Subpart 844.2—Consent to Subcontracts

844.202–2 Considerations.

(a)(14) Where other than lowest price is the basis for subcontractor selection, has the contractor adequately substantiated the selection as being fair, reasonable, and representing the best value to the Government?

Subpart 844.3—Contractors' Purchasing Systems Reviews

844.303 Extent of review.

(f) Policies and procedures pertaining to the use of VA-verified Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSBs) and Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (VOSBs) and utilization in accordance with subpart 819.70 and the Veterans First Contracting Program;

(l) Documentation of commercial item determinations to ensure compliance with the definition of “commercial item” in FAR 2.101; and

(m) For acquisitions involving electronic parts, that the contractor has implemented a counterfeit electronic part detection and avoidance system to ensure that counterfeit electronic parts do not enter the supply chain.

Subpart 844.4—Subcontracts for Commercial Items and Commercial Components

844.402 Policy requirements.

(a)(3) Determine whether a particular subcontract item meets the definition of a commercial item. This requirement

does not affect the contracting officer's responsibilities or determinations made under FAR 15.403–1(c)(3).

PART 845—GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

Sec.

Subpart 845.4—Title to Government Property

845.402 Title to contractor-acquired property.
845.402–70 Policy.

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 121(c); 41 U.S.C. 1702 and 48 CFR 1.301–1.304.

Subpart 845.4—Title to Government Property

845.402 Title to contractor-acquired property.

845.402–70 Policy.

(a) For other than firm-fixed-price contracts, contractor-acquired property items not anticipated at time of contract award, or not otherwise specified for delivery on an existing line item, shall, by means of a contract modification, be specified for delivery to the Government on an added contract line item. The value of such contractor-acquired property item shall be recorded at the original purchase cost. Unless otherwise noted by the contractor at the time of delivery to the Government, the placed-in-service date shall be the date of acquisition or completed manufacture, if fabricated.

(b) Following delivery and acceptance by the Government of contractor-acquired property items, if these items are to be retained by the contractor for continued use under a successor contract, these items become Government-furnished property (GFP). The items shall be added to the successor contract as GFP by contract modification.

(c) Individual contractor-acquired property items should be recorded in the contractor's property management system at the contractor's original purchase cost.

(d) All other contractor inventory that is excess to the needs of the contract shall be disposed of in accordance with FAR subpart 45.6.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 170817779–8161–02]

RIN 0648–XG491

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; “Other 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; closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is prohibiting retention of “other flatfish” in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI). This action is necessary because the 2018 “other flatfish” initial total allowable catch (ITAC) in the BSAI has been reached.

DATES: Effective 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), September 13, 2018, through 2400 hrs, A.l.t., December 31, 2018.

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 by the North Pacific Fishery Management 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 2018 “other flatfish” ITAC in the BSAI is 3,400 metric tons (mt) as established by the final 2018 and 2019 harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI (83 FR 8365, February 27, 2018). In accordance with § 679.20(d)(2), the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), has determined that the 2018 “other flatfish” ITAC in the Bering Sea subarea of the BSAI has been reached. Therefore, NMFS is requiring that “other flatfish” in the BSAI be treated as prohibited species in accordance with § 679.21(b).

Classification

This action responds to the best available information recently obtained from the fishery. The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA

(AA), finds good cause to waive the requirement to provide prior notice and opportunity for public comment pursuant to the authority set forth at 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) as such requirement is 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 delay prohibiting retention of “other

flatfish” in the BSAI. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data only became available as September 12, 2018.

The AA 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.

This action is required by § 679.20 and § 679.21 and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

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

Dated: September 13, 2018.

Margo B. Schulze-Haugen,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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