

to § 600.1514, or the type-approval holder chooses or agrees to forfeit their type-approval. Due to the removal of the type-approval renewal process in § 600.1513, NMFS is removing the reference to that section in § 600.1510 (Notification of type-approval). NMFS is also re-designating §§ 600.1514 through 600.1518 as §§ 600.1512 through 600.1516, in light of the removal of the former §§ 600.1512 and 600.1513.

NMFS issued a proposed rule on December 5, 2017, to remove the VMS type-approval renewal requirement discussed above. See 82 FR 57419 (December 5, 2017). NMFS received no comments during the initial 30-day comment period on the rule and re-opened the comment period for an additional 30 days in February 2018. See 83 FR 8416 (Feb. 27, 2018).

Changes From the Proposed Rule

There are no changes from the proposed rule.

Responses to Public Comments

NMFS received six public comments on the proposed rule. Two individuals provided comments in support of the rule. NMFS received four comments that compared U.S. air quality to that of other countries and expressed the view that U.S. environmental regulations hinder business growth. These comments are not directly relevant to this rulemaking, so we did not prepare a response.

Classification

The NMFS Assistant Administrator has determined that this rule is consistent with the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and other applicable law.

This rule has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866. This rule is an Executive Order 13771 deregulatory action.

Because this rule relieves a restriction by removing the requirement that VMS type-approval holders renew their type approval every three years, it falls within an exception to the 30-day delay in the date of effectiveness provision of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553(d)(1)). As noted in the Background section above, this final rule removes two sections of 50 CFR part 600, subpart Q that require VMS type approval holders to periodically renew their type approval. This final rule eliminates the requirement for type-approval holders to submit to NMFS a written renewal request and supporting documentation demonstrating their compliance with the detailed VMS type-

approval requirements over the preceding three years.

The Chief Counsel for Regulation of the Department of Commerce certified to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration (SBA) during the proposed rule stage that this rule would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The factual basis for the certification was published in the proposed rule and is not repeated here. No comments were received regarding this certification. As a result, a regulatory flexibility analysis was not required and none was prepared.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 600

Administrative practice and procedure, Fisheries, Fishing, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: April 9, 2019.

Samuel D. Rauch III,

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

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 600 is amended as follows:

PART 600—MAGNUSON—STEVENS ACT PROVISIONS

- 1. The authority citation for part 600 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 561 and 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

- 2. In § 600.1510, revise paragraph (a) to read as follows:

§ 600.1510 Notification of type-approval.

(a) If a request made pursuant to § 600.1501 (type-approval) is approved or partially approved, NMFS will issue a type approval letter and publish a notice in the **Federal Register** to indicate the specific EMTU model, MCSP or bundle that is approved for use, the MCS or class of MCSs permitted for use with the type-approved EMTU, and the regions or fisheries in which the EMTU, MCSP, or bundle is approved for use.

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§§ 600.1512 and 600.1513 [Removed]

- 3. Remove §§ 600.1512 and 600.1513.

§§ 600.1514 through 600.1518 [Redesignated as §§ 600.1512 through 600.1516]

- 4. Redesignate §§ 600.1514 through 600.1518 as §§ 600.1512 through 600.1516, respectively.

[FR Doc. 2019-07304 Filed 4-11-19; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 180831813-9332-03]

RIN 0648-XG471

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Gulf of Alaska; Final 2019 and 2020 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish; Correction

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

ACTION: Final rule; correction.

SUMMARY: The National Marine Fisheries Service is correcting a final rule that published on March 14, 2019, implementing the final 2019 and 2020 harvest specifications and prohibited species catch allowances for the groundfish fishery of the Gulf of Alaska. One table in the document contains errors associated with flathead sole. These corrections are necessary to provide the correction information about the amount of flathead sole available for commercial harvest in 2019, thus allowing commercial fishermen to maximize their economic opportunities in this fishery. This correction also is necessary to comport with the requirements of the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska.

DATES: Effective April 12, 2019.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Obren Davis, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Need for Correction

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) published the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) final 2019 and 2020 harvest specifications in the **Federal Register** on March 14, 2019 (84 FR 9416). The harvest specifications were effective March 14, 2019. A table (Table 1) providing information about the 2019 overfishing levels, acceptable biological catch (ABC), and total allowable catch (TAC) for groundfish of the GOA contains errors associated with the flathead sole ABC for the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA, as well as the flathead sole ABCs and TACs in the West Yakutat (WYK) and Southeast Outside (SEO) Districts of the Eastern Regulatory Area of the GOA. In Table 1 on page 9420 of the harvest specifications published in the **Federal Register**, NMFS inadvertently used incorrect values for the flathead sole

ABCs and TACs for these management areas. The correct 2019 flathead sole ABC for the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA is 21,109 metric tons (mt). The correct 2019 flathead sole ABCs for the WYK and SEO Districts of the Eastern Regulatory Area of the GOA are 2,016 mt and 423 mt, respectively. The correct 2019 flathead sole TACs for the WYK and SEO Districts of the Eastern Regulatory Area of the GOA are 2,016 mt and 423 mt, respectively. These corrections also require the corresponding grand total of the 2019 flathead sole ABCs and TACs to be revised to 36,782 mt and 26,489 mt, respectively.

Classification

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 unnecessary and

contrary to the public interest. This correcting amendment makes changes to correct mis-specified 2019 flathead sole ABCs and TACs in Table 1, as described above, and does not change operating practices in the fisheries. This correcting action is consistent with the harvest specifications recommended by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council in December 2018, and ensures that the flathead sole TACs that the fishing industry expected to be available in 2019 are correct. If this correction is delayed to allow for notice and comment, it would result in confusion for participants in the fisheries, given that the final rule implementing the 2019 and 2020 harvest specifications already is effective. Therefore, in order to avoid any negative consequences that could result from this correction, the AA finds good cause to waive the requirement to provide prior notice and opportunity for public comment. The correct 2019 flathead sole TACs for the

WYK and SEO Districts of the Eastern Regulatory Area of the GOA are slightly more than the incorrectly specified TACs for these two management areas. Without this correction, commercial fishermen may believe that there is less flathead sole available for harvest in 2019 than is actually available, to their economic detriment.

For the reasons above, the AA also finds good cause under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) to waive the 30-day delay in effective date and make this rule effective immediately upon publication.

Correction

In the final rule, published on March 14, 2019 (84 FR 9416), the following corrections are made to Table 1:

On page 9420, in Table 1, columns 4 and 5 are corrected to incorporate the correct amounts for the 2019 flathead sole ABCs and TACs.

Table 1 is corrected and reprinted in its entirety to read as follows:

TABLE 1—FINAL 2019 OFLS, ABCs, AND TACs OF GROUND FISH FOR THE WESTERN/CENTRAL/WEST YAKUTAT, WESTERN, CENTRAL, EASTERN REGULATORY AREAS, THE WEST YAKUTAT AND SOUTHEAST OUTSIDE DISTRICTS OF THE EASTERN REGULATORY AREA, AND GULFWIDE DISTRICTS OF THE GULF OF ALASKA

[Values are rounded to the nearest metric ton]

| Species | Area ¹ | OFL | ABC | TAC |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|----------------|----------------|
| Pollock ² | Shumagin (610) | n/a | 24,875 | 24,875 |
| | Chirikof (620) | n/a | 67,388 | 67,388 |
| | Kodiak (630) | n/a | 34,443 | 34,443 |
| | WYK (640) | n/a | 5,748 | 5,748 |
| | W/C/WYK (subtotal) ² | 194,230 | 135,850 | 132,454 |
| | SEO (650) | 11,697 | 8,773 | 8,773 |
| | Total | | 205,927 | 144,623 |
| Pacific cod ³ | W | n/a | 7,633 | 5,343 |
| | C | n/a | 7,667 | 5,750 |
| | E | n/a | 1,700 | 1,275 |
| | Total | | 23,669 | 17,000 |
| Sablefish ⁴ | W | n/a | 1,581 | 1,581 |
| | C | n/a | 5,178 | 5,178 |
| | WYK | n/a | 1,828 | 1,828 |
| | SEO | n/a | 2,984 | 2,984 |
| | E (WYK and SEO) (subtotal) | n/a | 4,812 | 4,812 |
| | Total | | 25,227 | 11,571 |
| Shallow-water flatfish ⁵ | W | n/a | 25,620 | 13,250 |
| | C | n/a | 25,731 | 25,731 |
| | WYK | n/a | 2,279 | 2,279 |
| | SEO | n/a | 1,957 | 1,957 |
| | Total | | 68,309 | 55,587 |
| Deep-water flatfish ⁶ | W | n/a | 416 | 416 |
| | C | n/a | 3,443 | 3,443 |
| | WYK | n/a | 3,280 | 3,280 |
| | SEO | n/a | 2,362 | 2,362 |
| | Total | | 11,434 | 9,501 |
| Rex sole | W | n/a | 2,951 | 2,951 |
| | C | n/a | 8,357 | 8,357 |
| | WYK | n/a | 1,657 | 1,657 |
| | SEO | n/a | 1,727 | 1,727 |
| | Total | | 17,889 | 14,692 |
| Arrowtooth flounder | W | n/a | 35,994 | 14,500 |

TABLE 1—FINAL 2019 OFLs, ABCs, AND TACs OF GROUND FISH FOR THE WESTERN/CENTRAL/WEST YAKUTAT, WESTERN, CENTRAL, EASTERN REGULATORY AREAS, THE WEST YAKUTAT AND SOUTHEAST OUTSIDE DISTRICTS OF THE EASTERN REGULATORY AREA, AND GULFWIDE DISTRICTS OF THE GULF OF ALASKA—Continued

[Values are rounded to the nearest metric ton]

| Species | Area ¹ | OFL | ABC | TAC |
|--|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | C | n/a | 70,995 | 70,995 |
| | WYK | n/a | 15,911 | 6,900 |
| | SEO | | 22,941 | 6,900 |
| | Total | 174,598 | 145,841 | 99,295 |
| Flathead sole | W | n/a | 13,234 | 8,650 |
| | C | n/a | 21,109 | 15,400 |
| | WYK | n/a | 2,016 | 2,016 |
| | SEO | n/a | 423 | 423 |
| | Total | 44,865 | 36,782 | 26,489 |
| Pacific ocean perch ⁷ | W | n/a | 3,227 | 3,227 |
| | C | n/a | 19,646 | 19,646 |
| | WYK | n/a | 3,296 | 3,296 |
| | W/C/WYK subtotal | 31,113 | 26,169 | 26,169 |
| | SEO | 2,838 | 2,386 | 2,386 |
| | Total | 33,951 | 28,555 | 28,555 |
| Northern rockfish ⁸ | W | n/a | 1,190 | 1,190 |
| | C | n/a | 3,338 | 3,338 |
| | E | n/a | 1 | |
| | Total | 5,402 | 4,529 | 4,528 |
| Shortraker rockfish ⁹ | W | n/a | 44 | 44 |
| | C | n/a | 305 | 305 |
| | E | n/a | 514 | 514 |
| | Total | 1,151 | 863 | 863 |
| Dusky rockfish ¹⁰ | W | n/a | 781 | 781 |
| | C | n/a | 2,764 | 2,764 |
| | WYK | n/a | 95 | 95 |
| | SEO | n/a | 60 | 60 |
| | Total | 4,521 | 3,700 | 3,700 |
| Rougheye and Blackspotted rockfish ¹¹ | W | n/a | 174 | 174 |
| | C | n/a | 550 | 550 |
| | E | n/a | 704 | 704 |
| | Total | 1,715 | 1,428 | 1,428 |
| Demersal shelf rockfish ¹² | SEO | 411 | 261 | 261 |
| Thornyhead rockfish | W | n/a | 326 | 326 |
| | C | n/a | 911 | 911 |
| | E | n/a | 779 | 779 |
| | Total | 2,688 | 2,016 | 2,016 |
| Other rockfish ^{13 14} | W and C | n/a | 1,737 | 1,737 |
| | WYK | n/a | 368 | 368 |
| | SEO | n/a | 3,489 | 3,489 |
| | Total | 7,356 | 5,594 | 5,594 |
| Atka mackerel | GW | 6,200 | 4,700 | 3,000 |
| Big skate ¹⁵ | W | n/a | 504 | 504 |
| | C | n/a | 1,774 | 1,774 |
| | E | n/a | 570 | 570 |
| | Total | 3,797 | 2,848 | 2,848 |
| Longnose skate ¹⁶ | W | n/a | 149 | 149 |
| | C | n/a | 2,804 | 2,804 |
| | E | n/a | 619 | 619 |
| | Total | 4,763 | 3,572 | 3,572 |
| Other skates ¹⁷ | GW | 1,845 | 1,384 | 1,384 |
| Sculpins | GW | 6,958 | 5,301 | 5,301 |
| Sharks | GW | 10,913 | 8,184 | 8,184 |
| Octopus | GW | 1,300 | 975 | 975 |
| Total | | 664,889 | 509,507 | 430,569 |

¹ Regulatory areas and districts are defined at § 679.2. (W = Western Gulf of Alaska; C = Central Gulf of Alaska; E = Eastern Gulf of Alaska; WYK = West Yakutat District; SEO = Southeast Outside District; GW = Gulf-wide).

²The total for the W/C/WYK Regulatory Areas pollock ABC is 135,850 mt. After deducting 2.5 percent (3,396 mt) of that ABC for the State's pollock GHL fishery, the remaining pollock ABC of 132,454 mt (for the W/C/WYK Regulatory Areas) is apportioned among four statistical areas (Areas 610, 620, 630, and 640). These apportionments are considered subarea ACLs, rather than ABCs, for specification and reapportionment purposes. The ACLs in Areas 610, 620, and 630 are further divided by season, as detailed in Table 3 (final 2019 seasonal biomass distribution of pollock in the Western and Central Regulatory Areas, area apportionments, and seasonal allowances). In the West Yakutat (Area 640) and Southeast Outside (Area 650) Districts of the Eastern Regulatory Area, pollock is not divided into seasonal allowances.

³The annual Pacific cod TAC is apportioned 60 percent to the A season and 40 percent to the B season in the Western and Central Regulatory Areas of the GOA. Pacific cod TAC in the Eastern Regulatory Area of the GOA is allocated 90 percent to vessels harvesting Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component and 10 percent to vessels harvesting Pacific cod for processing by the offshore component. Table 5 lists the final 2019 Pacific cod seasonal apportionments.

⁴Sablefish is allocated to trawl and fixed gear in 2019 and trawl gear in 2020. Table 7 lists the final 2019 allocations of sablefish TACs.

⁵"Shallow-water flatfish" means flatfish not including "deep-water flatfish," flathead sole, rex sole, or arrowtooth flounder.

⁶"Deep-water flatfish" means Dover sole, Greenland turbot, Kamchatka flounder, and deepsea sole.

⁷"Pacific ocean perch" means *Sebastes alutus*.

⁸"Northern rockfish" means *Sebastes polyspinis*. For management purposes, the 1 mt apportionment of ABC to the WYK District of the Eastern Gulf of Alaska has been included in the "other rockfish" species group.

⁹"Shortraker rockfish" means *Sebastes borealis*.

¹⁰"Dusky rockfish" means *Sebastes variabilis*.

¹¹"Rougheye and blackspotted rockfish" means *Sebastes aleutianus* (rougheye) and *Sebastes melanostictus* (blackspotted).

¹²"Demersal shelf rockfish" means *Sebastes pinniger* (canary), *S. nebulosus* (china), *S. caurinus* (copper), *S. maliger* (quillback), *S. helvomaculatus* (rosethorn), *S. nigrocinctus* (tiger), and *S. ruberrimus* (yelloweye).

¹³"Other rockfish" means *Sebastes aurora* (aurora), *S. melanostomus* (blackgill), *S. paucispinis* (bocaccio), *S. goodei* (chilipepper), *S. crameri* (darkblotch), *S. elongatus* (greenstriped), *S. variegatus* (harlequin), *S. wilsoni* (pygmy), *S. babcocki* (redbanded), *S. proriger* (redstripe), *S. zacentrus* (sharpchin), *S. jordani* (shortbelly), *S. brevispinis* (silvergry), *S. diploproa* (splitnose), *S. saxicola* (stripetail), *S. miniatus* (vermillion), *S. reedi* (yellowmouth), *S. entomelas* (widow), and *S. flavidus* (yellowtail). In the Eastern GOA only, other rockfish also includes northern rockfish, *S. polyspinis*.

¹⁴"Other rockfish" in the Western and Central Regulatory Areas and in the West Yakutat District means other rockfish and demersal shelf rockfish. The "other rockfish" species group in the SEO District only includes other rockfish.

¹⁵"Big skate" means *Raja binoculata*.

¹⁶"Longnose skate" means *Raja rhina*.

¹⁷"Other skates" means *Bathyraja* and *Raja* spp.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 773 *et seq.*; 16 U.S.C. 106–554; Pub. L. 108–199; Pub. L. 108–447; 1540 (f), 1801 *et seq.*; 16 U.S.C. 3631 *et seq.*; Pub. L. 109–241; Pub. L. 109–479; Pub. L. 105–277; Pub. L. 106–31; Pub. L.

Dated: April 8, 2019.

Samuel D. Rauch III,
Deputy Assistant Administrator for
Regulatory Programs, National Marine
Fisheries Service.

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