

§ 165.1419 [Amended]

- 11. In § 165.1419:
 - a. In paragraph (a), remove the words “Captain of the Port Guam” and add, in their place, the words “Captain of the Port U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia/Sector Guam”; and
 - b. In paragraph (b), remove the words “Sector Guam” and add, in their place, the words “U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia/Sector Guam”.

Dated: August 3, 2022.

Michael T. Cunningham,

Chief, Office of Regulations and Administrative Law.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 300

[Docket No. 220801–0167]

RIN 0648–BK82

International Fisheries; Pacific Tuna Fisheries; 2022–2024 Commercial Fishing Restrictions for Pacific Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean

Correction

In rule document 2022–16824, appearing on pages 47939 through 47944 in the issue of Friday, August 5, 2022, make the following correction:

§ 300.25 Fisheries management. [Corrected]

- On page 47943, in the second table, on the second line, “(ii) January through June” should read “(i) January through June”.

[FR Doc. C1–2022–16824 Filed 8–8–22; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 220803–0169]

RIN 0648–BL57

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Illex Squid Fishery; Revised 2022 Specifications

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

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: NMFS is increasing the specifications for the 2022 *Illex* squid fishery. This rule is required to ensure that the 2022 specifications are based on the best scientific information available. This rule is also intended to inform the public of the changes to the specifications for the remainder of the 2022 fishing year.

DATES: Effective August 9, 2022, through December 31, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the revised specifications, including the Supplemental Information Report, and other supporting documents for the action, are available upon request from Dr. Christopher M. Moore, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Suite 201, 800 N State Street, Dover, DE 19901. These documents are also accessible via the internet at <http://www.mafmc.org>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carly Bari, Fishery Policy Analyst, (978) 281–9150.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council manages the *Illex* squid fishery under the Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish (MSB) Fishery Management Plan (FMP). Section 302(g)(1)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) states that the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) for each regional fishery management council shall provide its Council ongoing scientific advice for fishery management decisions, including recommendations for acceptable biological catch (ABC), preventing overfishing, ensuring maximum sustainable yield, and achieving rebuilding targets. The ABC is a level of catch that accounts for the scientific uncertainty in the estimate of the stock’s defined overfishing level (OFL). The regulations implementing the MSB FMP require the Council’s MSB Monitoring Committee to develop specification recommendations for each species based upon the ABC advice of the Council’s SSC. The regulations at 50 CFR 648.22(e) allow the Regional Administrator, in consultation with the Council, to adjust specifications during the fishing year.

At its March 2022 meeting, the Council’s SSC reviewed preliminary work by its *Illex* Squid Working Group and concluded that the species continues to be lightly exploited and the fishery footprint is small relative to the entire management unit. The SSC

recommended increasing the 2022 ABC from 33,000 mt to 40,000 mt. The Council recommended this specification adjustment at its April 2022 meeting and requested that NMFS use its in-season authority to increase the 2022 ABC and also adjust the closure threshold from 94 percent to 96 percent. The Council recommended a 96-percent closure threshold given improved reporting appears to have enabled NMFS to more effectively monitor the fishery in recent years and take action to close the fishery when necessary without overages, and it is expected that the smaller closure threshold should still avoid exceeding the ABC.

On May 10, 2022, we published *Illex* squid specifications for 2022 (87 FR 27952), and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for that rule considered a range of ABCs from 18,000–40,000 mt. The final rule adopted an ABC of 33,000 mt for 2022. The revised specifications implemented by this final rule increase the 2022 *Illex* squid ABC to 40,000 mt, which was included and analyzed during the development of the original 2022 specifications.

Revised Specifications

We are implementing the revised 2022 specifications recommended by the Council and its SSC. The Council recommended that the status quo discard rate of 4.61 percent be reduced from the ABC, which results in a DAH amount of 38,156 mt for 2022 that would be maintained for the 2022 fishing year. These revised specifications will increase the 2022 commercial quota by implementing a 38,156-mt domestic annual harvest (DAH), an increase of 21 percent. Table 1 summarizes the recommended changes to the revised 2022 *Illex* squid specifications. Additionally, the *Illex* fishery closure threshold will change from 94 percent to 96 percent.

TABLE 1—2022 ILLEX SQUID SPECIFICATIONS IN METRIC TONS [mt]

	Current	Modified
OFL	Unknown ..	Unknown.
ABC	33,000	40,000.
Initial Optimum Yield	31,478	38,156.
DAH	31,478	38,156.

Regulatory Clarifications

This action also includes corrections to existing regulations to correct the title of the Regional Administrator in the Tier 1 longfin squid vessel permit regulations, and to remove an outdated requirement for chub mackerel that expired on December 31, 2020, from the