

the acceptance and payment process and should offset any delays due to reductions in source inspections. Many DoD locations are already registered in Wide Area WorkFlow-Receipt and Acceptance, and more are being continually added. Since Wide Area WorkFlow-Receipt and Acceptance is well on the way toward full implementation, DoD believes that any economic impact on small entities will be minimal.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the rule does not impose any information collection requirements that require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 246

Government procurement.

Michele P. Peterson,

Editor, Defense Acquisition Regulations System.

■ Therefore, 48 CFR Part 246 is amended as follows:

■ 1. The authority citation for 48 CFR Part 246 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 41 U.S.C. 421 and 48 CFR Chapter 1.

PART 246—QUALITY ASSURANCE

■ 2. Section 246.402 is added to read as follows:

246.402 Government contract quality assurance at source.

Do not require Government contract quality assurance at source for contracts or delivery orders valued below \$250,000, unless—

- (1) Mandated by DoD regulation;
- (2) Required by a memorandum of agreement between the acquiring department or agency and the contract administration agency; or
- (3) The contracting officer determines that—

(i) Contract technical requirements are significant (*e.g.*, the technical requirements include drawings, test procedures, or performance requirements);

- (ii) The product being acquired—
 - (A) Has critical characteristics;
 - (B) Has specific features identified that make Government contract quality assurance at source necessary; or
 - (C) Has specific acquisition concerns identified that make Government contract quality assurance at source necessary; and

(iii) The contract is being awarded to—

- (A) A manufacturer or producer; or
- (B) A non-manufacturer or non-producer and specific Government verifications have been identified as necessary and feasible to perform.

■ 3. Section 246.404 is added to read as follows:

246.404 Government contract quality assurance for acquisitions at or below the simplified acquisition threshold.

Do not require Government contract quality assurance at source for contracts or delivery orders valued at or below the simplified acquisition threshold unless the criteria at 246.402 have been met.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 041221358-4358-01; I.D. 021405B]

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Closure of the Quarter I Fishery for Loligo Squid

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

ACTION: Closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces that the directed fishery for *Loligo* squid in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) will be closed effective 0001 hours, February 20, 2005. Vessels issued a Federal

permit to harvest *Loligo* squid may not retain or land more than 2,500 lb (1,134 kg) of *Loligo* squid per trip for the remainder of the quarter (through March 31, 2005). This action is necessary to prevent the fishery from exceeding its Quarter I quota and to allow for effective management of this stock.

DATES: Effective 0001 hours, February 20, 2005, through 2400 hours, March 31, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jason Blackburn, Fishery Management Specialist, 978-281-9326, Fax 978-281-9135.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Regulations governing the *Loligo* squid fishery are found at 50 CFR part 648. The regulations require specifications for maximum sustainable yield, initial optimum yield, allowable biological catch, domestic annual harvest (DAH), domestic annual processing, joint venture processing, and total allowable levels of foreign fishing for the species managed under the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fishery Management Plan. The procedures for setting the annual initial specifications are described in § 648.21.

The regulations at § 648.21(d)(1) allow for the previous year's annual specifications to remain in effect if the annual specifications for the new fishing year are not published in the **Federal Register** prior to the start of the fishing year. The 2004 annual quota for *Loligo* squid was 16,872.4 mt, with 5,606.7 mt allocated to Quarter I (69 FR 4861, February 2, 2004).

The annual quota in 2005 is not proposed to change from the 2004 value, but because the proposed 2005 Research Set-Aside (RSA) is greater than the 2004 RSA allocation, the individual Quarterly quotas are minimally different. The proposed rule for the 2005 annual specifications published on January 10, 2005 (70 FR 1686), with a comment period open through February 9, 2005. The proposed 2005 annual quota for *Loligo* squid is 16,744.9 mt. This amount is proposed to be allocated by quarter, as shown below.

TABLE 1.—*Loligo* SQUID QUARTERLY ALLOCATIONS.

Quarter	Percent	Metric Tons ¹	Research Set-aside
I (Jan-Mar)	33.23	5,564.3	N/A
II(Apr-Jun)	17.61	2,948.8	N/A
III(Jul-Sep)	17.3	2,896.9	N/A
IV(Oct-Dec)	31.86	5,334.9	N/A
Total	100	16,744.9	255.1

¹Quarterly allocations after 255.1 mt research set-aside deduction.

Section 648.22 requires NMFS to close the directed Loligo squid fishery in the EEZ when 80 percent of the quarterly allocation is harvested in Quarters I, II, and III, and when 95 percent of the total annual DAH has been harvested. NMFS is further required to notify, in advance of the closure, the Executive Directors of the Mid-Atlantic, New England, and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils; mail notification of the closure to all holders of *Loligo* squid permits at least 72 hours before the effective date of the closure; provide adequate notice of the closure to recreational participants in the fishery; and publish notification of the closure in the **Federal Register**. The Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, based on dealer reports and other available information, has determined that 80 percent of the DAH for *Loligo* squid in Quarter I will be harvested. Therefore, effective 0001 hours, February 20, 2005, the directed fishery for *Loligo* squid is closed and vessels issued Federal permits for *Loligo* squid may not retain or land more than 2,500 lb (1,134 kg) of *Loligo* during a calendar day. The directed fishery will reopen effective 0001 hours, April 1, 2005, when the Quarter II quota becomes available.

Classification

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

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

Dated: February 14, 2005.

Alan D. Risenhoover,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 660

[I.D. 021505A]

Fisheries off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; Western Pacific Crustacean Fisheries; 2005 Bank-specific Harvest Guidelines

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

ACTION: Notification of no harvest guideline for crustaceans.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces that an annual harvest guideline for the commercial lobster fishery in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) will not be issued for the year 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alvin Katekaru, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office, at (808)973-2937.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the regulations implementing the Fishery Management Plan for Crustacean Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region (Crustaceans FMP) at 50 CFR

660.50(b)(2), every year NMFS is required to publish a harvest guideline for lobster Permit Area 1, which encompasses the exclusive economic zone (0 to 200 nm from shore) around the NWHI. The fishery has been closed since 2000. This action is (a) taken as a precautionary measure to prevent overfishing of the lobster resources while NMFS conducts biological research and assessment on the lobster stocks; (b) in compliance with an order of the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii to keep the NWHI commercial lobster fishery closed until an environmental impact statement and a biological opinion have been prepared for the Crustaceans FMP; and (c) consistent with Executive Orders 13178 and 13196, issued in December 2000 and January 2001, respectively, that established the NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve.

NMFS will not publish any harvest guideline for the NWHI commercial lobster fishery for the year 2005, and no harvest of NWHI lobster resources is allowed. NMFS intends to continue to study and assess the status of the lobster populations in the NWHI and examine the resulting information to determine the appropriate direction for future fishery management actions.

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

Dated: February 15, 2005.

Alan D. Risenhoover,
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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