

(ii) From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with natural vegetation;

(iii) From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with vegetation from agricultural crops, as long as such camouflaging does not result in the exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of grain or other feed; or

(iv) Standing or flooded standing agricultural crops where grain is inadvertently scattered solely as a result of a hunter entering or exiting a hunting area, placing decoys, or retrieving downed birds.

(8) Participants may not possess shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading) other than steel shot, bismuth-tin, tungsten-iron, tungsten-polymer, tungsten-matrix, tungsten-nickel-iron, or other shots that are authorized in § 20.21(j).

(v) *Under what conditions would the managed take program be suspended?* We will annually assess the overall impact and effectiveness of the program on each resident Canada goose population to ensure compatibility with long-term conservation of this resource. If at any time evidence is presented that clearly demonstrates that a resident Canada goose population no longer presents a serious threat of injury to the area or areas involved, we will initiate action to suspend the program for the specific resident Canada goose population in question. However, resumption of growth by the resident Canada goose population in question may warrant reinstatement of such regulations to control the population. Depending on the status of resident Canada goose populations, it is possible that a managed take program may be in effect for one or more resident Canada goose populations, but not others.

(e) *What are the general program conditions and restrictions?* The program is subject to the conditions elsewhere in this section, and, unless otherwise specifically authorized, the conditions outlined below:

(1) Nothing in this section applies to any Federal land within a State's boundaries without written permission of the Federal agency with jurisdiction.

(2) States may not undertake any actions under this section if the activities adversely affect other migratory birds or species designated as endangered or threatened under the authority of the Endangered Species Act.

(f) *Can the program be suspended?* We reserve the right to suspend or revoke an Agency's authority under this program if we find that the terms and conditions specified in the program

have not been adhered to by that Agency. The criteria for suspension and revocation are outlined in § 13.27 and § 13.28 of this subchapter. Upon appeal, final decisions to revoke authority will be made by the Director. Additionally, at such time that we determine that a specific population of resident Canada geese no longer poses a threat to human health or safety, personal property, agricultural crops, or injury to other interests; or no longer needs to be reduced in order to allow resolution or prevention of injury to people, property, agricultural crops, or other interests, or is within Flyway management objectives, we may choose to terminate part or all of the program. In all cases, we will annually review the effectiveness of the program.

(g) *What population information is the State required to collect concerning the resident Canada goose control and management program?* Participating States must provide an annual estimate of the breeding population and distribution of resident Canada geese in their State. The States must submit this estimate on or before August 1 of each year, to the Chief, Division of Migratory Bird Management, 4401 N. Fairfax Dr., MBSP-4107, Arlington, Virginia 22203.

(h) *Has OMB approved the information collection requirements of the program?* The information collection requirements of the program will be submitted to OMB for approval.

Agencies may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The proposed recordkeeping and reporting requirements imposed under § 21.61 will be used to administer this program, particularly in the assessment of impacts that alternative regulatory strategies may have on resident Canada geese and other migratory bird populations, and to monitor the program effectiveness and the population status of resident Canada geese. We will require the information from State wildlife agencies responsible for migratory bird management in order to continue participation in the program and to protect the resident Canada goose population. We estimate the public reporting burden for this collection of information to be 1503 hours, including the time for gathering and maintaining data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. States may send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, Fish and Wildlife Service, ms 224-ARLSQ, 1849

C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240, or the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project 1018-0099, Washington, DC 20503.

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Dated: July 9, 2003.

Craig Manson,

Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[I.D. 081303C]

Groundfish Fisheries of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area and the Gulf of Alaska; Public Hearings

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

ACTION: Public hearings on the revised Draft Alaska Groundfish Fisheries Programmatic Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (PSEIS)

SUMMARY: NOAA Fisheries will hold five public meetings in Washington, D.C., Seattle, WA, and in Juneau, Kodiak and Anchorage, AK, in September and October 2003 for the purpose of answering questions and receiving public testimony on the PSEIS.

DATES: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** under the heading "Meeting Dates and Addresses" for the dates of the public meetings.

ADDRESSES: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** under the heading "Meeting Dates and Addresses" for the addresses of the public meetings.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven K. Davis, Programmatic SEIS Manager, Anchorage, AK, Phone: 907-271-3523.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 27, 2001, based on a review of public comment, NOAA Fisheries announced its intent to revise the Alaska Groundfish Fisheries draft PSEIS released in January 2001 (66 FR 59228, November 27, 2001). An extensive public involvement process has resulted in the adoption of new multi-objective policy alternatives which have been analyzed in the revised PSEIS.

The public comment period on the revised PSEIS is from August 29, 2003 until October 15, 2003. The public has the opportunity to submit comments on the document in one of three ways:

(1) Mail in a written comment letter to: National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Regional Office, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802, Attn: Lori Gravel;

(2) Submit a comment through the NOAA Fisheries e-Comments website, accessible at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/seis/default.com>;

(3) Submit oral comments at one of the revised PSEIS public hearings.

Faxed comments will not be accepted.

NMFS has scheduled five public hearings on the revised PSEIS. The purpose of these meetings is to provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions on the revised PSEIS, as well as to submit formal oral testimony on the document during the comment period. Information on these meetings can also be found on the NOAA

Fisheries Alaska Region's website at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov>.

Meeting Dates and Addresses

The dates, times, locations, and telephone numbers of the hearings are as follows:

September 8, 2003, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Eastern daylight time - NOAA, Science Center Room, 1301 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD. Local Contact: Kim Marshall 301-713-2341.

September 11, 2003, 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Pacific daylight time - Alaska Fisheries Science Center, 7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Bldg. 9, Seattle, WA. Local Contact: Dan Ito 206-526-4232.

September 17, 2003, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Alaska daylight time - National Marine Fisheries Service, Federal Building, 709 W. 9th Street, Room 445, Juneau, AK. Local Contact: Jim Hale: 907-586-7491.

September 24, 2003, 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. Alaska daylight time - Alaska Fisheries Science Center Kodiak Laboratory,

Kodiak Fisheries research Center Conference Room, 301 Research Ct., Kodiak, AK. Local Contact: Tom Pearson 907-481-1780.

October 7, 2003, 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. - Sheraton Hotel, 401 E 6th Avenue, Anchorage, AK. Local Contact: Steven K. Davis 907-271-3523.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Steven K. Davis at 907-271-3523 at least 7 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: August 14, 2003.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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