

Harvest Specifications of Groundfish for the GOA (64 FR 12094, March 11, 1999) as 4,150 metric tons (mt), determined in accordance with § 679.20(c)(3)(ii).

The Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), has established a directed fishing allowance of 3,650 mt, and is setting aside the remaining 500 mt as bycatch to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries. The fishery for northern rockfish in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA was closed to directed fishing under § 679.20(d)(1)(iii) on July 19, 1999, (64 FR 39090, July 21, 1999).

NMFS has determined that as of July 24, 1999, 700 mt remain in the directed fishing allowance. Therefore, NMFS is terminating the previous closure and is opening directed fishing for northern rockfish in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA.

Classification

All other closures remain in full force and effect. This action responds to the best available information recently obtained from the fishery. It must be implemented immediately in order to allow full utilization of the northern rockfish TAC. Providing prior notice and opportunity for public comment for this action is impracticable and contrary to the public interest. NMFS finds for good cause that the implementation of this action cannot be delayed for 30 days. Accordingly, under 5 U.S.C. 553(d), a delay in the effective date is hereby waived.

This action is required by § 679.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: August 4, 1999.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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 679

[Docket No. 990115017-9017-01; I.D. 011199A]

RIN 0648-AM08

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Steller Sea Lion Protection Measures for the Pollock Fisheries off Alaska; Correction

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

ACTION: Final rule; correction.

SUMMARY: This document contains corrections to the emergency interim rule to implement reasonable and prudent alternatives to avoid the likelihood that the pollock fisheries off Alaska will jeopardize the continued existence of the western population of Steller sea lions or adversely modify their critical habitat that was published in the **Federal Register** on January 22, 1999.

DATES: Effective August 10, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kent Lind, 907-586-7650.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: An emergency interim rule was published in the **Federal Register** on January 22, 1999 (64 FR 3437), implementing reasonable and prudent alternatives to avoid the likelihood that the pollock fisheries off Alaska will jeopardize the continued existence of the western population of Steller sea lions or adversely modify their critical habitat. An extension and revision of the emergency interim rule was subsequently published in the **Federal Register** on July 21, 1999 (64 FR 39087).

Need for Correction

In FR Doc. 99-1378, published on January 22, 1999 (64 FR 3437), incomplete seasonal references concerning protective measures for Steller sea lions were published. This document corrects those references.

§ 679.22 [Corrected]

On page 3443, in the third column, in § 679.22, in paragraph (a)(11)(iv)(C)(2), in the first, third, and fourth lines, after "A1 and A2" insert "and C" in both places.

Dated: August 4, 1999.

Andrew A. Rosenberg,

Deputy Asst. Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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