

[Federal Register: January 6, 1994]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
50 CFR Part 676

[Docket No. 921114-3183; I.D. 123093A]

Limited Access Management of Fisheries off Alaska

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

ACTION: Notification of application period.

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SUMMARY: NMFS announces an application period for individuals and other persons to apply for Quota Share (QS) under the Individual Fishing Quota (**IFQ**) program for Pacific halibut and sablefish fisheries off Alaska. The **IFQ** program was developed under the authority of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson Act) and the Northern Pacific Halibut Act (Halibut Act). This action is necessary to provide potential applicants with notice of an opportunity to apply for QS under the **IFQ** program. Individuals and other persons thought to be eligible to apply have been so informed by NMFS; all others are hereby notified that they must submit a Request for Application prior to being sent an individualized application form by NMFS. The intended effect of this action is to formally announce the application period for QS under the **IFQ** program for Pacific Halibut and sablefish fisheries off Alaska.

DATES: Applications must be received during the application period beginning January 17, 1994, and ending at close of business on July 15, 1994.

ADDRESSES: Applications must be sent to NMFS, Restricted Access Management, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668 or 709 W. 9th, room 413, Juneau, AK 99801. Applications and copies of the regulations that implement the **IFQ** program for Pacific halibut and sablefish fisheries off Alaska may be obtained from NMFS at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Phillip J. Smith, Chief, Restricted Access Management Division, Alaska Region, NMFS, at 907-586-7344.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The **IFQ** program is a regulatory regime intended by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to promote the conservation and management of halibut and sablefish resources and to further the objectives of the Magnuson Act and the Halibut Act. The regulations implementing the **IFQ** program were approved by the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) and became effective on December 9, 1993 (58 FR 59375, November 9, 1993).

Under 50 CFR 676.20(d), the Director, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Director), must provide to any person, on request, an application form for an initial allocation of QS. The application form sent to the person requesting a QS allocation will include all data on that person's vessel ownership and catch history of halibut and sablefish that can be released to the applicant under current state and Federal confidentiality rules, and that are available to the Regional Director at the time of the request. The Regional Director must also provide for an application period, of no less than 180 days, for the submission of applications for initial allocation of QS. The Regional Director is directed to provide notice of the application period in the Federal Register and other information sources that the Regional Director deems appropriate.

This notification is intended to comply with the requirements of 50 CFR 676.20(d). Persons thought to be eligible to apply for QS have been so informed by NMFS by mail. All others are hereby notified that they must submit a Request for Application prior to being sent an individualized application form by NMFS. The application period to submit applications for initial allocation of QS begins on January 17, 1994, and extends for 180 days, ending at the close of business on July 15, 1994. Incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant with specific kinds of information identified that are necessary to make it complete. Applications for initial allocation of QS received after the close of business on July 15, 1994, will not be considered.

#### Classification

This action is taken under 50 CFR 676.20.

#### List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 676

Fisheries, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 773 et seq. and 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.

Dated: December 30, 1993.

David S. Crestin,  
Acting Director, Office of Fisheries, Conservation and Management,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.

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