Additionally, it notes, the *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* was released during the year-end holidays, which reduced the amount of available time for review.

2. For the foregoing reasons, It Is Hereby Ordered that the time within which to file comments in this proceeding is extended to February 17, 1995 and the deadline for filing reply comments is extended to March 17, 1995.

List of Subjects

47 CFR Part 1

Administrative practice and procedure.

47 CFR Part 2

Radio.

47 CFR Part 21

Communications equipment.

47 CFR Part 94

Communications equipment.

Federal Communications Commission.

Robert H. McNamara,

Acting Chief, Private Radio Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

[FR Doc. 95–4389 Filed 2–22–95; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 6712–01–F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 663

[Docket No. 950209046-5046-01; I.D. 021495B]

RIN 0648-AG82

Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Modification of Nontrawl Sablefish Season

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

ACTION: Temporary rule.

SUMMARY: By a separate notice in the Federal Register, NMFS will publish proposed regulations that would establish a new season structure for the nontrawl sablefish component of the Pacific Coast Groundfish (PCG) limited entry fishery. The proposed new regular season would begin at noon August 6 each year. Under the regulations currently governing the fishery, the PCG nontrawl sablefish regular season could start as early as February 26, 1995, preceded by a 72-hour closure beginning on February 23. This early season is unacceptable to the industry for a number of reasons, particularly

safety, but also because at that time the quality and market value of sablefish is lower and there are alternative fishing opportunities. Accordingly, NMFS is temporarily amending the current regulations to prevent the PCG nontrawl sablefish regular season from opening pending the completion of the abovementioned rulemaking to establish a new season structure for the fishery.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This rule is effective from February 17, 1995, through September 1, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Information relevant to this temporary rule is available for public review during business hours at the Office of the Director, Northwest Region, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN C15700, Seattle, WA 98115-0070; and at the Office of the Director, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213. Copies of the Environmental Assessment/Regulatory Impact Review (EA/RIR) can be obtained from the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), 2000 SW First Avenue, Suite 420, Portland, OR 97201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: William L. Robinson at 206–526–6140, or Rodney R. McInnis at 310–980–4030. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

By a separate notice in the Federal Register, NMFS, based on a recommendation of the Council, will propose regulations that would establish a new season structure for the nontrawl sablefish component of the PCG limited entry fishery. The proposed new regular season would begin at noon August 6 each year. Both the limited entry and open-access fisheries would be required to remove all nontrawl gear from the water for the 72-hour period just prior to the start of the regular season for the limited entry fishery, except that baited pot gear may be deployed 24 hours prior to the start.

Under section IV.E.(3)(c) of the current annual specifications for the fishery, the limited entry sector of the nontrawl sablefish fishery is subject to a 300-lb (136 kg) daily trip limit when N. of 36°00′00" N. lat. and a 350-lb (159 kg) daily trip limit when S. of 36°00′00" N. lat. (60 FR 2331, 2343, January 9, 1995). Under the current regulations (50 CFR 663.23(b)(2)(i), the opening of the PCG nontrawl sablefish regular season is linked to the first nontrawl sablefish season opening in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA), which normally occurs in May. Under the new GOA Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) program, which is governed by 50 CFR part 676, the Alaska season could start as early as March 1, 1995, causing the PCG fishery to open on

February 26, 1995, preceded by a 72–hour closure beginning on February 23. This early season is unacceptable to the industry for a number of reasons, particularly safety, but also because at that time the quality and market value of sablefish is lower and there are alternative fishing opportunities.

Accordingly, NMFS is temporarily amending the current regulations to prevent the PCG nontrawl sablefish regular season from opening pending the completion of the above-mentioned rulemaking to establish a new season structure for the fishery.

Classification

The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA, (AA), has determined that this temporary rule is consistent with the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan, the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and other applicable law.

This temporary rule has been determined to be not significant for the purposes of E.O. 12866.

The Council prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed establishment of a new season structure for the nontrawl sablefish component of the PCG limited entry fishery.

On the basis of the EA, the AA concluded that there would be no significant impact on the environment.

NMFS is taking this action under the abbreviated rulemaking authority of the FMP (see 50 CFR part 663, Appendix III.B.3). This action and the proposed establishment of a new season structure was discussed, and was subject to public comment and scrutiny during Council meetings in August and October, 1994. The date the season would have opened under the existing rule is still uncertain, but the opening is tied to the opening date of the nontrawl sablefish season in the GOA and would probably be February 26. A late February opening is not desirable for several reasons, including potentially unsafe fishing conditions due to rough winter weather along much of the coast.

Accordingly, the AA has determined under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) that it is unnecessary and contrary to the public interest to provide prior notice in the **Federal Register** and to provide an opportunity for public comment on preventing the PCG nontrawl sablefish regular season from opening pending the completion of the above mentioned rulemaking to establish a new season structure for the fishery.

For the same reasons, the AA also finds good cause under 5 U.S.C.