rule were invited through January 30, 1995. No written comments were received within the comment period.

Upon reviewing the reasons for revisions to regulations addressing the management of the halibut bycatch limits established for the GOA hookand-line gear fisheries and the BSAI nontrawl fisheries, NMFS has determined that this final rule implementing the following measures is necessary for fishery conservation and management:

1. Separately define the GOA sablefish hook-and-line gear fishery under § 672.20(f)(1)(ii) and the BSAI groundfish jig gear fishery and the BSAI sablefish hook-and-line gear fishery under § 675.21(b)(2)(ii) so that these fisheries annually either receive a separate halibut bycatch allowance or are exempted from halibut bycatch restrictions. These determinations will be implemented by NMFS, after consultation with the Council, as part of the annual specification process set out at §§ 672.20(c) and 675.20(a)(7); and

2. Authorize NMFS, after consultation with the Council, to specify annually how seasonal bycatch allowances established for the BSAI nontrawl fisheries will be reapportioned among remaining seasons during the same fishing year.

Further explanation of, and reasons for, these measures are contained in the preamble to the proposed rule (59 FR 67268, December 29, 1994).

Final 1995 Specifications of the Pacific Halibut Bycatch Mortality Limit Established for the BSAI Nontrawl Fisheries

NMFS published with the proposed rule the proposed 1995 halibut bycatch allowances for the GOA hook-and-line gear fisheries and the BSAI nontrawl fisheries, seasonal apportionments thereof, and the manner in which these seasonal apportionments would be managed. The proposed specifications were recommended by the Council during its September 1994 meeting.

At its December 1994 meeting, the Council recommended final halibut bycatch specifications under the assumption that this final rule would be implemented early in 1995. These final recommendations would exempt the 1995 GOA and BSAI sablefish hookand-line gear fisheries from halibut bycatch restrictions and establish a 300 metric ton (mt) halibut bycatch mortality limit for the 1995 GOA hookand-line gear fisheries.

NMFS concurs with the Council's GOA halibut bycatch specifications for the hook-and-line gear fisheries as set out in Table 1. The justification for the 300 mt bycatch limit is discussed in the preamble to the proposed rule (59 FR 67268, December 29, 1994). This bycatch limit is apportioned between the demersal shelf rockfish fishery (10 mt) and the "other hook-and-line gear" fisheries (290 mt). Over 80 percent of the halibut bycatch mortality allowance apportioned to the "other hook-and-line gear" fisheries is seasonally apportioned to the first 5 months of the year to support the hook-and-line gear fishery for Pacific cod. The remaining amount of this halibut bycatch mortality allowance is divided between the last two seasons of the year to support the hook-and-line gear fishery for rockfish.

TABLE 1.—FINAL 1995 PACIFIC HALIBUT BYCATCH LIMIT, BYCATCH ALLOWANCES, AND SEASONAL APPORTIONMENTS THEREOF, FOR THE GOA HOOK-AND-LINE (H&L) GEAR FISHERIES

Fishery	Halibut bycatch mortality allowance in mt
Demersal shelf rockfish	10 mt. Exempt.
Jan. 1-May 14	242 mt.
May 15-Aug. 31	29 mt.
Sep. 1–Dec. 31	19 mt.
Total 1995 bycatch allow- ance specified for other H&L fisheries.	290 mt.
Total	300 mt

NMFS also concurs with the Council's final recommendation for 1995 BSAI nontrawl fishery halibut bycatch allowances as set out in Table 2. The halibut bycatch allowances are unchanged from those implemented under the final 1995 groundfish specifications published in the Federal Register February 14, 1995 (60 FR 8479). Under the authority of this final rule, however, Table 2 specifies that the BSAI sablefish hook-and-line gear fishery is exempt from 1995 halibutbycatch restrictions. Table 2 also specifies the accounting for any underharvest or overharvest of a seasonal apportionment of the Pacific cod halibut bycatch allowance.

TABLE 2.—FINAL 1995 PACIFIC HALIBUT BYCATCH ALLOWANCES, AND SEASONAL APPORTIONMENTS THEREOF, FOR THE BSAI NONTRAWL FISHERIES

Fishery	Halibut bycatch mortality allowance in mt
Pacific cod hook-and-line ¹ Jan. 1–Apr. 30 May 1–Aug. 31 Sep. 1–Dec. 31	475 mt. 40 mt. 210 mt.
Total	725 mt. Exempt. Exempt. 175 mt. Exempt.
Total	900 mt.

¹ Any unused portion of the first season's halibut bycatch allowance specified for the Pacific cod hook-and-line gear fishery would be reapportioned to the third seasonal allowance. Any overage of a seasonal bycatch allowance specified for this fishery would be deducted from the remaining seasonal bycatch allowances specified for 1995 in amounts proportional to these remaining seasonal bycatch allowances.

The specifications set out in Tables 1 and 2 supersede the halibut bycatch specifications for the GOA hook-andline gear fisheries published in the **Federal Register** February 14, 1995 (60 FR 8470) and for the BSAI nontrawl fisheries published in the **Federal Register** February 14, 1995 (60 FR 8479), respectively.

NMFS notes that separate halibut bycatch allowances may be established for the GOA and BSAI sablefish hookand-line gear fisheries in future years under the annual specification process if halibut discard mortality in these fisheries is not reduced in the manner anticipated under the IFQ program.

Classification

This final rule is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

The Assistant General Counsel of the Department of Commerce certified to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration that this would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The reasons were published in the **Federal Register** on December 29, 1994 (59 FR 67268). As a result, a regulatory flexibility analysis was not prepared.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Parts 672 and 675

Fisheries, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.