

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 672

[Docket No. 950206041-5041-01; I.D. 070795F]

Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Eastern Regulatory Area

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

ACTION: Closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is closing the directed fishery for Pacific ocean perch (POP) in the Eastern Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the POP total allowable catch (TAC) in the Eastern Regulatory Area.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), July 9, 1995, until 12 midnight, A.l.t., December 31, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Sloan, 907-581-2062.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at 50 CFR parts 620 and 672.

In accordance with § 672.20(c)(1)(ii)(B) the POP TAC for the Eastern Regulatory Area was established by the final 1995 harvest specifications of groundfish (60 FR 8470, February 14, 1995) as 1,914 metric tons (mt).

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Director), has determined, in accordance with § 672.20 (c)(2)(ii), that the POP TAC in the Eastern Regulatory Area soon will be reached. Therefore, the Regional Director has established a directed fishing allowance of 1,614 mt, with consideration that 300 mt will be taken as incidental catch in directed fishing for other species in the Eastern Regulatory Area. The Regional Director has determined that the directed fishing allowance has been reached. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for POP in the Eastern Regulatory Area.

Directed fishing standards for applicable gear types may be found in the regulations at § 672.20(g).

Classification

This action is taken under § 672.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: July 10, 1995.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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50 CFR Part 672

[Docket No. 950206041-5041-01; I.D. 070795D]

Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska; Shortraker/Rougheye Rockfish in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska

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

ACTION: Closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is prohibiting retention of the shortraker/rougheye rockfish species group in the Eastern Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). NMFS is requiring that catches of the shortraker/rougheye rockfish species group in this area be treated in the same manner as prohibited species and discarded at sea with a minimum of injury. This action is necessary because the shortraker/rougheye rockfish species group total allowable catch (TAC) in the Eastern Regulatory Area of the GOA has been reached.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), July 9, 1995, until 12 midnight A.l.t., December 31, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew N. Smoker, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Gulf of Alaska (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at 50 CFR parts 620 and 672.

In accordance with § 672.20(c)(1)(ii), the TAC for the shortraker/rougheye rockfish species group in the Eastern Regulatory Area of the GOA was established by the final 1995 harvest specifications of groundfish (60 FR 8470, February 14, 1995), as 530 metric tons.

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, has determined, in accordance with § 672.20(c)(3), that the TAC for the shortraker/rougheye rockfish species group in the Eastern Regulatory Area of the GOA has been reached. Therefore, NMFS is requiring that further catches of the shortraker/rougheye rockfish species group in the Eastern Regulatory Area of the GOA be treated as prohibited species in accordance with § 672.20(e).

Classification

This action is taken under 50 CFR 672.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: July 10, 1995.

Richard W. Surdi,

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

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50 CFR Part 672

[Docket No. 950206041-5041-01; I.D. 070795E]

Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska; Northern Rockfish in the Eastern Gulf of Alaska

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

ACTION: Closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is prohibiting retention of northern rockfish in the Eastern Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). NMFS is requiring that catches of northern rockfish in this area be treated in the same manner as prohibited species and discarded at sea with a minimum of injury. This action is necessary because the northern rockfish total allowable catch (TAC) in the Eastern Regulatory Area of the GOA has been reached.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), July 9, 1995, until 12 midnight A.l.t., December 31, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Andrew N. Smoker, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Gulf of Alaska (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S.