Classification

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS, determined that the FMP is necessary for the conservation and management of the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area fisheries and that it is consistent with the Magnuson Act and other applicable laws.

NMFS prepared an FRFA as part of the RIR. A copy of this analysis is available from the Council (see ADDRESSES).

To avoid a regulatory hiatus when the February 23, 1995, emergency rule expires and to address conservation concerns resulting from uncontrolled fishing for scallops, this rule must be effective on 12:01 a.m., A.l.t., August 29, 1995. In addition, because this rule will continue the emergency rule's prohibition on fishing for scallops, the fishing industry will not need any additional time to adjust to the requirements imposed by this rule. These reasons constitute good cause under authority contained in 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) for waiving all or part of the 30-day delay in effective date.

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

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 673

Fisheries.

Dated: August 8, 1995.

Gary Matlock,

Program Management Officer, National Marine Fisheries Service.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 673 is added as follows:

1. Part 673 is added to Chapter VI of 50 CFR to read as follows:

PART 673—SCALLOP FISHERY OFF ALASKA

Sec.

- 673.1 Purpose and scope.
- 673.2 Definitions.
- 673.3 Prohibitions.

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

§673.1 Purpose and scope.

(a) These regulations implement Federal authority under the Magnuson Act to manage the scallop fishery in the exclusive economic zone off Alaska.

(b) Regulations in this part govern commercial fishing for scallops in the exclusive economic zone off Alaska.

§673.2 Definitions.

In addition to the definitions in the Magnuson Act and in 50 CFR part 620, the terms in 50 CFR part 673 have the following meanings:

Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) (see § 620.2 of this chapter)

Scallop(s) means any species of the family Pectinidae, including without limitation weathervane scallops (*Patinopecten caurinus*).

§673.3 Prohibitions.

In addition to the general prohibitions specified in § 620.7 of this chapter, it is unlawful for any person to retain any scallops in the EEZ seaward of Alaska during the period that extends through the earlier of August 28, 1996, or until superseded by other management measures.

[FR Doc. 95–19971 Filed 8–10–95; 1:12 pm] BILLING CODE 3510–22–F