

related reporting requirements and ensuring that data filed by carriers are adequate, truthful, and thorough.

IV. Ordering Clauses

Pursuant to section 410(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. 410(b), that the Federal-State Joint Conference on Accounting Issues be convened.

Pursuant to section 410(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. 410(b), that the Federal-State Joint Conference shall be chaired by the Honorable Michael K. Powell or his designee and shall be comprised of any or all of the other Federal commissioners and representatives from up to five State commissions, who shall be recommended by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

List of Subjects in 47 CFR Parts 32, 42, 51, and 64

Communications common carriers, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Telephone, Uniform System of Accounts.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene H. Dortch,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Transportation Security Administration

49 CFR Part 1511

[Docket No. TSA-2002-11334]

RIN 2110-AA02

Aviation Security Infrastructure Fees

AGENCY: Transportation Security Administration (TSA), DOT.

ACTION: Final waiver of audit submission requirements.

SUMMARY: TSA is issuing this document to inform all air carriers and foreign air carriers that, under certain conditions, it will defer enforcement of the independent audit submission deadline set forth in the regulations on Aviation Security Infrastructure Fees. This will be the final such deferral.

DATES: Under the conditions described in this document, TSA is allowing air carriers and foreign air carriers until December 31, 2002 to finalize and submit to TSA the independent audits required by 49 CFR part 1511.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For guidance on technical matters contact

Randall Fiertz, Acting Director of Revenue, (202) 385-1209. For guidance on legal or other matters contact Steven Cohen, Office of Chief Counsel, (202) 493-1216.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In order to offset the costs of providing civil aviation security services, TSA published in the **Federal Register** an interim final rule (67 FR 7926; February 20, 2002), codified at 49 CFR part 1511, that imposed the Aviation Security Infrastructure Fee on air carriers and foreign air carriers engaged in air transportation, foreign air transportation, and intrastate air transportation.

Sections 1511.5 and 1511.7 require these carriers to provide TSA with certain information on their costs related to screening passengers and property incurred in 2000. This information was due to be received by TSA by May 18, 2002. Section 1511.9 requires each such carrier to provide for and submit to TSA an independent audit of these costs, which were due to be received by TSA by July 1, 2002.

As reflected in the public docket on the Aviation Security Infrastructure Fee regulation, TSA-2002-11334, as available online at <http://dms.dot.gov>, TSA denied several requests that it alter the audit requirement and extend the July 1, 2002 audit deadline.

However, on three occasions TSA has announced that it would temporarily defer enforcement of the audit submission deadline against carriers that meet certain criteria related to the fees by certain dates. These criteria are that the carriers must make timely and proper fee payments, must submit any necessary revisions to their part 1511 Appendix A submission(s), and must remit all adjusted fee payments retroactive to February 18, 2002. The first announcement appeared in TSA's "Guidance for the Aviation Security Infrastructure Fee," as published in the **Federal Register** on May 1, 2002 (docket item no. 20). The second announcement was in TSA's July 24, 2002, response letter to the Air Transport Association (docket item no. 35). The third such announcement, which extended this conditional waiver of enforcement of the regulation's audit submission deadline until October 31, 2002, was published in the **Federal Register** on September 4, 2002 (docket item no. 39).

TSA's motivation in allowing additional time for the carriers to provide for and submit independent audits of their Appendix A submissions has been twofold. First, the agency was responding to numerous public requests for more time to allow the carriers to

conduct proper audits. Second, TSA was allowing for time for the 107th Congress to consider one of the Department of Transportation's proposed technical corrections to Section 118 of the Aviation and Transportation Security Act (Pub. L. 107-71), codified at 49 U.S.C. 44940. Among other changes, this proposed correction would have revised the current fee structure by setting the total fee at a flat amount that would then be apportioned among air carriers and foreign air carriers by TSA according to market share or another appropriate method, beginning in fiscal year 2003. This revision would have eliminated the need for each carrier to provide TSA with an independent audit of its Appendix A submissions regarding their calendar year 2000 costs related to screening passengers and property.

To date, Congress has not acted on this proposal. Because it now appears unlikely that this proposed revision will be enacted during the current session of Congress, TSA is issuing this document to allow time for carriers to finalize and submit to TSA the independent audits required by 49 CFR part 1511. By this document, under the above conditions, TSA extends the current temporary deferral of enforcement for air carriers and foreign air carriers whose independent audits are received by TSA on or before December 31, 2002. TSA is neither waiving nor deferring enforcement of any other requirement set forth in 49 U.S.C. 44940 or 49 CFR part 1511. Absent relevant statutory change prior to December 15, 2002, please note that TSA will not grant further general deferrals or waivers of the independent audit submission requirement. Air carriers and foreign air carriers that are not in compliance after December 31, 2002, will be subject to civil enforcement and other appropriate actions.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 28, 2002.

James M. Loy,

Acting Under Secretary of Transportation for Security.

[FR Doc. 02-27734 Filed 10-28-02; 3:04 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 635

[I.D. 102202A]

Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Fisheries; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna

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

ACTION: General category closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS has determined that the 2002 fishing year Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT) General category quota will be attained by October 25, 2002. Therefore, the General category fishery will be closed effective 11:30 p.m. on October 25, 2002. This action is being taken to prevent overharvest of the total adjusted General category quota of 777.0 metric tons (mt).

DATES: Effective 11:30 p.m. local time on October 25, 2002, through May 31, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brad McHale or Dianne Stephan, 978-281-9260.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulations implemented under the authority of the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*) and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*) governing the harvest of BFT by persons and vessels subject to U.S. jurisdiction are found at 50 CFR part 635. Section 635.27 subdivides the U.S. BFT quota recommended by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas among the various domestic fishing categories. The General category landings quota, including time-period subquotas and the New York Bight set-aside, are specified annually as required under § 635.27(a)(1). The 2002 fishing year General category quota and effort control specifications were issued on October 1, 2002 (67 FR 61537).

General Category Closure

NMFS is required, under § 635.28 (a)(1), to file with the Office of the **Federal Register** for publication notification of closure when a BFT quota is reached, or is projected to be reached. On and after the effective date and time of such closure notification, for the remainder of the fishing year or for a specified period as indicated in the notification, fishing for, retaining, possessing, or landing BFT under that

quota category is prohibited until the opening of the subsequent quota period or until such date as specified in the notification.

The adjusted 2002 fishing year BFT quota specifications issued pursuant to § 635.27 set a total adjusted coastwide General category quota of 767 mt, excluding the 10 mt New York Bight set-aside, of large medium and giant BFT to be harvested from the regulatory area during the 2002 fishing year. Based on reported landings and effort, NMFS projects that this quota will be reached by October 25, 2002. Therefore, fishing for, retaining, possessing, or landing large medium or giant BFT intended for sale by persons aboard vessels in the General or HMS Charter/Headboat categories must cease at 11:30 p.m. local time October 25, 2002. The intent of this closure is to prevent overharvest of the quota established for the General category.

If it is determined that quota remains uncaught in the General category, or if additional quota can be made available to the General category through an inseason transfer, NMFS will announce the re-opening and/or transfer action in a separate **Federal Register** notice. In addition, NMFS will announce the opening date of the General category New York Bight fishery through a separate **Federal Register** notice if and when it is determined that large medium and giant BFT are available in the New York Bight area. General category permit holders may tag and release BFT while the General category is closed, subject to the requirements of the tag-and-release program at § 635.26.

Vessels permitted in the HMS Charter/Headboat category may continue to fish for and retain BFT under the Angling category regulations. The current Angling category daily retention limit, effective from June 15 through October 31, 2002 is four school, large school or small medium BFT (measuring from 27 to less than 73 inches (from 69 to less than 185 cm) curved fork length). Effective November 1 through May 31, 2003, the daily retention limit in all areas for all vessels fishing under the Angling category quota (67 FR 39869, June 11, 2002) will be adjusted to one large school or small medium BFT (measuring from 47 inches to less than 73 inches (from 119 cm to less than 185 cm) curved fork length). In addition, HMS Charter/Headboat category vessels may continue to retain one large medium or giant "trophy" BFT, measuring 73 inches (185 cm) or greater, per fishing year (June 1 through May 31).

Classification

This action is taken under § 635.28(a) and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.* and 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: October 24, 2002.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 011005244-2011-02; I.D. 102202B]

Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Closure of Fishery for *Loligo* Squid

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

ACTION: Closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces that the directed fishery for *Loligo* squid in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) will be closed effective November 2, 2002. Vessels issued a Federal permit to harvest *Loligo* squid may not retain or land more than 2,500 lb (1.13 mt) of *Loligo* squid per trip for the remainder of the year. This action is necessary to prevent the fishery from exceeding its 2002 quota and allow for effective management of this stock.

DATES: Effective 0001 hours, November 2, 2002, through 0001 hours, January 1, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul H. Jones, Fishery Policy Analyst, 978-281-9273, fax 978-281-9135, e-mail paul.h.jones@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulations governing the *Loligo* squid fishery are found at 50 CFR part 648. The regulations require specifications for maximum sustainable yield, initial optimum yield, allowable biological catch, domestic annual harvest (DAH), domestic annual processing, joint venture processing and total allowable levels of foreign fishing for the species managed under the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fishery Management Plan. The procedures for