

National Wildlife Refuge to read as follows:

§ 32.31 Idaho.

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Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge

A. * * *

4. On waterfowl hunt days, we allow public entry onto the refuge from 3:00 a.m. until 1 hour after legal sunset.

5. We prohibit overnight vehicle parking on the refuge.

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■ 5. Amend § 32.39 by revising paragraph D.18.vi. of Patuxent Research Refuge to read as set forth below:

§ 32.39 Maryland.

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Patuxent Research Refuge

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D. Sport Fishing. * * *

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18. * * *

vi. We prohibit the use of any type of watercraft.

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§ 32.47 [Amended]

■ 6. Amend § 32.47 by removing Stillwater Management Area.

■ 7. Amend § 32.66 by adding paragraphs C.10. and C.11. of Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge to read as follows:

§ 32.66 Virginia.

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Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife Refuge

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C. * * *

10. We prohibit baiting or hunting over bait (see § 32.2(h)).

11. We prohibit possession of alcoholic beverages (see § 32.2(j)).

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Dated: September 24, 2009.

Leslie A. Marler,

National Wildlife Refuge System Federal Register Liaison.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 0910091344-9056-02]

RIN 0648-XR92

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Catching Pacific Cod for Processing by the Inshore Component in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska

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

ACTION: Temporary rule; closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for Pacific cod by vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the 2009 total allowable catch (TAC) of Pacific cod allocated to vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component of the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA.

DATES: Effective 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), October 1, 2009, until 2400 hrs, A.l.t., December 31, 2009.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Obren Davis, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone 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-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Regulations governing fishing by U.S. vessels in accordance with the FMP appear at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The 2009 TAC of Pacific cod allocated to vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component of the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA is 21,277 metric tons (mt) as established by the final 2009 and 2010 harvest specifications for groundfish of the GOA (74 FR 7333, February 17, 2009).

In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(i), the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), has determined that the 2009 TAC of Pacific cod allocated to vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component of the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA will soon be reached.

Therefore, the Regional Administrator is establishing a directed fishing allowance of 20,277 mt, and is setting aside the remaining 1,000 mt as bycatch to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries. In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(iii), the Regional Administrator finds that this directed fishing allowance has been reached. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for Pacific cod by vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component in the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA.

After the effective date of this closure the maximum retainable amounts at § 679.20(e) and (f) apply at any time during a trip.

Classification

This action responds to the best available information recently obtained from the fishery. The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NOAA (AA), finds good cause to waive the requirement to provide prior notice and opportunity for public comment pursuant to the authority set forth at 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) as such requirement is impracticable and contrary to the public interest. This requirement is impracticable and contrary to the public interest as it would prevent NMFS from responding to the most recent fisheries data in a timely fashion and would delay the closure of Pacific cod by vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component of the Central Regulatory Area of the GOA. Delaying the closure of Pacific cod after the Regional Administrator has determined that the directed fishing allowance has been reached is a conservation concern. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data only became available as of September 24, 2009.

The AA also finds good cause to waive the 30-day delay in the effective date of this action under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3). This finding is based upon the reasons provided above for waiver of prior notice and opportunity for public comment.

This action is required by § 679.20 and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

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

Dated: September 25, 2009.

Alan D. Risenhoover,

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

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