

Dated: December 30, 2022.

Samuel D. Rauch, III,

*Deputy Assistant Administrator for
Regulatory Programs, National Marine
Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2022-28626 Filed 1-4-23; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 220223-0054; RTID 0648-
XC635]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2023 Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Pollock, Atka Mackerel, and Pacific Cod Total Allowable Catch Amounts

Correction

In rule document 2022-28343
appearing on pages 80090-80094 in the
issue of December 29, 2022, make the
following corrections:

1. On page 80093, in Table 9, in the
first column, in the 13th and 14th lines
down, “Hook-and-line catcher vessel
≤60 ft LOA” should read, “Hook-and-
line catcher vessel ≥60 ft LOA”.

2. On the same page, in the same
table, in the same column, in the 16th
line down, “Pot catcher vessel ≤60 ft
LOA” should read, “Pot catcher vessel
≥60 ft LOA”.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 220216-0049; RTID 0648-
XC650]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Western 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 catcher vessels
using hook-and-line (HAL) gear in the
Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of
Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary
to prevent exceeding the A season
allowance of the 2023 total allowable
catch of Pacific cod by catcher vessels
using HAL gear in the Western
Regulatory Area of the GOA.

DATES: Effective 0001 hours, Alaska
local time (A.l.t.), January 1, 2023,
through 1200 hours, A.l.t., June 10,
2023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Krista Milani, 907-581-2062.

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 A season allowance of the 2023
Pacific cod total allowable catch (TAC)
apportioned to catcher vessels using
HAL gear in the Western Regulatory
Area of the GOA is 35 metric tons (mt)
as established by the final 2022 and
2023 harvest specifications for
groundfish in the GOA (87 FR 11599,
March 2, 2022) and inseason adjustment
(87 FR 80088, December 29, 2022). The
Regional Administrator has determined
that the 2023 TAC apportioned to
catcher vessels using HAL gear in the
Western Regulatory Area of the GOA is
necessary to account for the incidental
catch of this species in other anticipated
groundfish fisheries for the 2023 fishing
year. Therefore, in accordance with
§ 679.20(d)(1)(i), the Regional
Administrator establishes the directed
fishing allowance for catcher vessels
using HAL gear in the Western
Regulatory Area of the GOA as 0 mt.
Consequently, in accordance with
§ 679.20(d)(1)(iii), NMFS is prohibiting
directed fishing for catcher vessels using

HAL gear in the Western Regulatory
Area of the GOA.

While this closure is effective, the
maximum retainable amounts at
§ 679.20(e) and (f) apply at any time
during a trip.

Classification

NMFS issues this action pursuant to
section 305(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens
Act. This action is required by 50 CFR
part 679, which was issued pursuant to
section 304(b), and is exempt from
review under Executive Order 12866.

Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), there
is good cause to waive prior notice and
an opportunity for public comment on
this action, as notice and comment
would be 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 catcher vessels using HAL gear
in the Western Regulatory Area of the
GOA. NMFS was unable to publish a
notice providing time for public
comment because the most recent,
relevant data only became available as
of December 29, 2022.

The Assistant Administrator for
Fisheries, NOAA 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.

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

Dated: December 30, 2022.

Jennifer M. Wallace,

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

[FR Doc. 2022-28629 Filed 12-30-22; 4:15 pm]

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