

Mexico were not prohibited by September 14, 2000, the Council concluded, as explained in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**, that serious gear conflict, economic losses to fishery participants, and overfishing could occur. Accordingly, under authority set forth at 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the AA finds that providing notice and the opportunity for prior public comment would be contrary to the public interest. Because it would delay the completion of regulatory action to prohibit the use of trap gear in the royal red shrimp fishery in the EEZ of the Gulf of Mexico beyond September 14, 2000. For this same reason, under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the AA finds for good cause that a delay in the effective date of this emergency interim rule would be contrary to the public interest because this emergency interim rule does not impose new or additional restrictions; rather, it maintains the status quo condition regarding allowable gear in the royal red shrimp fishery, i.e., trap gear is not allowed, no time is required to come into compliance with the rule. For this reason, under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the AA also finds good cause that a delay in the effective date of this emergency interim rule is unnecessary.

Because prior notice and an opportunity for public comment are not required to be provided for this emergency interim rule by 5 U.S.C. 553 or any other law, the analytical requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601 et seq., are inapplicable.

The President has directed Federal agencies to use plain language in their communications with the public, including regulations. To comply with this directive, we seek public comment on any ambiguity or unnecessary complexity arising from the language used in this emergency interim rule. Such comments should be sent to NMFS Southeast Regional Office (see **ADDRESSES**).

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 622

Fisheries, Fishing, Puerto Rico, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Virgin Islands.

Dated: September 13, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

*Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 622 is amended as follows:

PART 622—FISHERIES OF THE CARIBBEAN, GULF, AND SOUTH ATLANTIC

1. The authority citation for part 622 continues to read as follows:

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

2. In § 622.31, paragraph (k) is added to read as follows:

§ 622.31 Prohibited gear and methods.

* * * * *

(k) Traps for royal red shrimp in the Gulf EEZ. A trap may not be used to fish for royal red shrimp in the Gulf EEZ. A trap used to fish for royal red shrimp in the Gulf EEZ may be disposed of in any appropriate manner by the Assistant Administrator or an authorized officer. [FR Doc. 00-24012 Filed 9-14-00; 2:14 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 000623193-0193-01; I.D. 060800D]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Prohibited Species Catch in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands, Correction

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

ACTION: Final 2000 harvest specifications; technical amendment; correction.

SUMMARY: This document corrects Table 7 of the technical amendment to the final 2000 prohibited species catch (PSC) allowances specified for trawl groundfish fisheries of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI).

DATES: Effective June 15, 2000, through 2400 hrs A.L.T. December 31, 2000.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This document contains corrections to the technical amendment to the final 2000 PSC allowances specified for trawl groundfish fisheries of the BSAI.

The technical amendment (65 FR 42302, July 10, 2000) to the Final 2000 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish (65 FR 8282, February 18, 2000) established PSC allowances under regulations implementing Amendment 57 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area (FR 65 31105, May 16, 2000). The 2000 Pacific halibut and crab PSC limits for the BSAI trawl fisheries were reduced to the following amounts: Pacific halibut, 3,675 mt; Zone 1 red king crab, 97,000 animals; Chionoecetes (C.) opilio, 4,350,000 animals; C. bairdi Zone 1, 830,000; and C. bairdi Zone 2, 2,520,000 animals.

Correction

In the technical amendment, Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Prohibited Species Catch in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands, published on July 10, 2000 (65 FR 42302), FR Doc. 00-17269, corrections are made as follows:

1. In the document, 2000 harvest specifications; technical amendment, published on July 10, 2000 (65 FR 42302), FR Doc. 00-17269, on page 42303, mathematical errors were made in Table 7. Table 7 is corrected to read as follows:

Table 7 to Part 679 [Corrected]

In the second column, under the heading, "Halibut mortality (mt) BSAI," the sixth entry, "7457" that corresponds with "Jan. 1-April 30," is corrected to read "457" and in the last line "4,675" that corresponds with the "Grand Total" is corrected to read "4,576".

Dated: September 13, 2000.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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