

be subject to ex ante pricing regulation. The Commission amended its rules to specify that its pricing flexibility rules no longer apply to business data services. The Commission also limited the circumstances under which price cap LECs must file their business data services contracts as contract-based tariffs. This document is consistent with the *Order*, which stated that the Commission would publish a document in the **Federal Register** announcing the effective date of this rule.

**DATES:** The amendments to §§ 1.776 and 69.701 of the Commission's rules, published at June 2, 2017, 82 FR 25660, are effective November 29, 2017.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** William Kehoe, Pricing Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-7122, or email: [william.kehoe@fcc.gov](mailto:william.kehoe@fcc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This document announces that, on November 7, 2017, OMB approved, for a period of three years, the changes in information collection requirements relating to §§ 1.774, 1.776 and 69.701 of the Commission's rules, as contained in the Commission's *Business Data Services Report and Order*, FCC 17-43, published at 82 FR 25660, June 2, 2017. The OMB Control Number is 3060-0760. The Commission publishes this document as an announcement of the effective date of §§ 1.776 and 69.701 of the Commission's rules. If you have any comments on the burden estimates listed below, or how the Commission can improve the collections and reduce any burdens caused thereby, please contact Nicole Ongele, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-A620, 445 12th Street SW., Washington, DC 20554. Please include the OMB Control Number, 3060-0760, in your correspondence. The Commission will also accept your comments via email at [PRA@fcc.gov](mailto:PRA@fcc.gov). To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an email to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (TTY).

#### Synopsis

As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), the FCC is notifying the public that it received final OMB approval on November 7, 2017, for the information collection requirements contained in the modifications to §§ 1.774, 1.776, and 69.701 of the Commission's rules. Under 5 CFR part 1320, an agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of

information unless it displays a current, valid OMB Control Number.

No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act that does not display a current, valid OMB Control Number. The OMB Control Number is 3060-0760.

The foregoing notice is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13, October 1, 1995, and 44 U.S.C. 3507.

The total annual reporting burdens and costs for the respondents are as follows:

*OMB Control Number:* 3060-0760.

*OMB Approval Date:* November 7, 2017.

*OMB Expiration Date:* November 30, 2020.

*Title:* 272 Sunset Order, WC Docket No. 06-120; Access Charge Reform, CC Docket No. 96-262, First Report and Order; Second Order on Reconsideration and Memorandum Opinion and Order; and Fifth Report and Order; Business Data Services Report and Order, WC Docket No. 16-143 et al.

*Form Number:* N/A.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit.

*Number of Respondents and Responses:* 13 respondents; 66 responses.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 3-80 hours.

*Frequency of Response:* One-time reporting requirement; on-occasion reporting requirement; third-party disclosure requirement.

*Obligation to Respond:* Required to obtain or retain benefits. Statutory authority for this information collection is contained in 47 U.S.C. 1, 4(i) through (j), 201 through 205, and 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 151, 154(i) through (j), 201 through 205, and 303(r).

*Total Annual Burden:* 1,256 hours.

*Total Annual Cost:* \$61,050.

*Privacy Act Impact Assessment:* No impact(s).

*Nature and Extent of Confidentiality:* The information requested is not of a confidential nature. However, respondents may request materials or information submitted to the Commission be withheld from public inspection under 47 CFR 0.459 of the Commission's rules.

*Needs and Uses:* On April 28, 2017, the Commission released the *Business Data Services Order*, WC Docket No. 16-143 et al., FCC 17-43, reforming the business data services/special access regulations for incumbent and competitive LECs. The Commission's

reforms included replacing the application-based pricing flexibility rules with a new framework under which: (a) Packet-based services, time division multiplexing (TDM) services with bandwidth greater than 45 mbps, and TDM transport services are not subject to ex ante pricing regulation; (b) a new standard is applied to determine the extent to which the Commission regulates price cap LECs' TDM end user channel terminations with bandwidth less than 45 mbps and certain other low bandwidth business data services. Under this standard, a price cap LEC is not subject to ex ante pricing regulation in the provision of these services in counties deemed competitive under the Commission's competitive market test or for which the price cap LEC previously obtained Phase II pricing flexibility; (c) the price cap LEC is subject to ex ante pricing regulation in other counties where it is the incumbent LEC, but in these counties the price cap LEC has downward pricing flexibility (*i.e.*, the equivalent of Phase I pricing flexibility under the prior rules); and (d) the Commission will update the competitive market test results every three years using data already collected in FCC Form 477.

Among other rules changes, the *Business Data Services Order* repealed § 1.774, which set forth requirements for pricing flexibility applications, and added § 1.776, which limits the circumstances under which price cap LECs must file their business data services contracts as contract-based tariffs. The Commission also amended § 69.701 of its rules to specify that its pricing flexibility rules no longer apply to business data services.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Marlene H. Dortch,**

*Secretary, Office of the Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

#### 50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 161020985-7181-02]

RIN 0648-XF702

#### Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Several Groundfish Species in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Temporary rule; apportionment of reserves; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS apportions amounts of the non-specified reserve to the initial total allowable catch (ITAC) of Aleutian Islands (AI) Greenland turbot, AI “other rockfish,” Bering Sea (BS) sablefish, Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) Alaska plaice, BSAI northern rockfish, BSAI “other flatfish,” BSAI shortraker rockfish, BSAI sculpin, BSAI skates, and Central and Western Aleutian Islands (CAI/WAI) blackspotted/rougheye rockfish in the BSAI management area. This action is necessary to allow the fisheries to continue operating. It is intended to promote the goals and objectives of the fishery management plan for the BSAI management area.

**DATES:** Effective November 24, 2017, through 2400 hrs, Alaska local time, December 31, 2017. Comments must be received at the following address no later than 4:30 p.m., Alaska local time, December 11, 2017.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, identified by NOAA–NMFS–2016–0140, by either of the following methods:

- *Electronic Submission:* Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal e-Rulemaking Portal. Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=NOAA-NMFS-2016-0140>, click the “Comment Now!” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.

- *Mail:* Submit written comments to Glenn Merrill, Assistant Regional Administrator, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Alaska Region NMFS, Attn: Ellen Sebastian. Mail comments to P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802–1668.

*Instructions:* NMFS may not consider comments if they are sent by any other method, to any other address or individual, or received after the comment period ends. All comments received are a part of the public record and NMFS will post the comments for public viewing on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) without change. All personal identifying information (e.g., name, address, etc.), confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive information submitted voluntarily by the sender is publicly accessible. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter “N/A” in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steve Whitney, 907–586–7228.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NMFS manages the groundfish fishery in the (BSAI) exclusive economic zone according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (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 2017 ITAC of AI Greenland turbot was established as 106 metric tons (mt), the 2017 ITAC of AI “other rockfish” was established at 550 mt, the 2017 ITAC of BS sablefish was established as 1,051 mt, the 2017 ITAC of BSAI Alaska plaice was established as 11,050 mt, the 2017 ITAC of BSAI northern rockfish was established as 4,250 mt, the 2017 ITAC of BSAI “other flatfish” was established as 2,125 mt, the 2017 TAC of BSAI shortraker rockfish was established as 125 mt, the 2017 ITAC of BSAI sculpins was established as 3,825 mt, the 2017 ITAC of BSAI skates was established as 22,100 mt, and the 2017 TAC of CAI/WAI blackspotted/rougheye rockfish was established as 125 mt by the final 2017 and 2018 harvest specifications for groundfish of the BSAI (82 FR 11826, February 27, 2017). In accordance with § 679.20(a)(3) the Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, has reviewed the most current available data and finds that the ITACs for AI Greenland turbot, AI “other rockfish,” BS sablefish, BSAI Alaska plaice, BSAI northern rockfish, BSAI “other flatfish,” BSAI shortraker rockfish, BSAI sculpin, BSAI skates, and CAI/WAI blackspotted/rougheye rockfish need to be supplemented from the non-specified reserve to promote efficiency in the utilization of fishery resources in the BSAI and allow fishing operations to continue.

Therefore, in accordance with § 679.20(b)(3), NMFS apportions from the non-specified reserve of groundfish 19 mt to AI Greenland turbot, 21 mt to AI “other rockfish,” 48 mt to BS sablefish, 5,500 mt to BSAI Alaska plaice ITAC, 475 mt to BSAI northern rockfish ITAC, 2,050 mt to BSAI “other flatfish” ITAC, 30 mt to BSAI shortraker rockfish ITAC, 1,500 mt to BSAI sculpin ITAC, 1,487 mt to BSAI skates ITAC, and 10 mt to the CAI/WAI blackspotted/rougheye rockfish TAC in the BSAI management area. These

apportionments are consistent with § 679.20(b)(1)(i) and do not result in overfishing of any target species because the revised ITACs and total allowable catch (TAC) are equal to or less than the specifications of the acceptable biological catch in the final 2017 and 2018 harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI (82 FR 11826, February 27, 2017).

The harvest specification for the 2017 ITACs and TACs included in the harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI are revised as follows: 125 mt for AI Greenland turbot, 571 mt for AI “other rockfish,” 16,550 mt for Alaska plaice, 4,175 mt for “other flatfish”, 155 mt for BSAI shortraker rockfish, 5,325 mt for BSAI sculpins, and 135 mt for CAI/WAI blackspotted/rougheye rockfish. The harvest specification for the 2017 ITAC included in the harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI is revised as follows: 1,099 mt for BS sablefish, 4,725 mt for BSAI northern rockfish, and 23,587 mt for BSAI skates.

#### 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) and § 679.20(b)(3)(iii)(A) as such a 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 apportionment of the non-specified reserves of groundfish to the AI Greenland turbot, AI “other rockfish,” BS sablefish, BSAI Alaska plaice, BSAI northern rockfish, BSAI “other flatfish,” BSAI shortraker rockfish, BSAI sculpin, BSAI skates, and CAI/WAI blackspotted/rougheye rockfish in the BSAI. Immediate notification is necessary to allow for the orderly conduct and efficient operation of this fishery, to allow the industry to plan for the fishing season, and to avoid potential disruption to the fishing fleet and processors. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data only became available as of November 21, 2017.

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.

Under § 679.20(b)(3)(iii), interested persons are invited to submit written comments on this action (see **ADDRESSES**) until December 11, 2017. 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: November 24, 2017.

**Alan D. Risenhoover,**

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

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