Season Dates: Open October 8, 2018, through February 16, 2019.

Daily Bag Limits: Six ducks, including no more than four hen mallards, six black ducks, four mottled ducks, one fulvous whistling duck, four mergansers, three scaup, two hooded merganser, three wood ducks, one canvasback, two redheads, and two pintail. The season is closed for harlequin ducks.

Sea Ducks

Season Dates: Open October 1, 2018, through February 16, 2019.

Daily Bag Limits: Seven ducks including no more than four of any one species (only one of which may be a hen elder).

Woodcock

Season Dates: Open October 8 through November 24, 2018.

Daily Bag Limits: Three woodcock.

Canada Geese

Season Dates: Open September 3 through 15, 2018, and open October 22, 2018, through February 16, 2019.

Daily Bag Limits: Eight Canada geese.

Snow Geese

Season Dates: Open September 3 through 13, 2018, and open November 19, 2018, through February 16, 2019.

Daily Bag Limits: 15 snow geese.

Sora and Virginia Rails

Season Dates: Open September 3 through November 30, 2018.

Daily Bag Limits: 5 sora and 10 Virginia rails.

Snipe

Season Dates: Open September 3 through December 8, 2018.

Daily Bag Limits: Eight snipe.

General Conditions: Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Nontoxic shot is required. All other basic Federal migratory bird hunting regulations contained in 50 CFR part 20 will be observed.

(cc) White Earth Band of Ojibwe, White Earth, Minnesota (Tribal Members Only).

Ducks

Season Dates: Open September 8 through December 16, 2018.

Daily Bag Limit for Ducks: 10 ducks, including no more than 2 female mallards, 2 pintail, and 2 canvasback.

Mergansers

Season Dates: Open September 8 through December 16, 2018.

Daily Bag Limit for Mergansers: Five mergansers, including no more than two hooded mergansers.

Geese

Season Dates: Open September 1 through December 15, 2018.

Daily Bag Limit: 10 geese through September 221, and 5 thereafter.

Coots

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 30, 2018.

Daily Bag Limit: 10 coots.

Mourning Dove

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 30, 2018.

Daily Bag Limit: 25 mourning dove.

Woodcock

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 30, 2018.

Daily Bag Limit: 10 woodcock.

Rail

Season Dates: Open September 1 through November 30, 2018.

Daily Bag Limit: 25 rail.

General Conditions: Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Nontoxic shot is required. All other basic Federal migratory bird hunting regulations contained in 50 CFR part 20 will be observed.

Dated: August 17, 2018.

Andrea Travnicek,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—Water and Science, Exercising the Authority of the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

[FR Doc. 2018–18382 Filed 8–23–18; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 170817779–8161–02]

RIN 0648–XG444

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pollock in the Bering Sea Subarea

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

ACTION: Temporary rule; reallocation.

SUMMARY: NMFS is reallocating projected unused amounts of Bering Sea subarea pollock from the incidental catch allowance to the directed fisheries. This action is necessary to allow the 2018 total allowable catch (TAC) of pollock to be harvested.

DATES: Effective August 21, 2018, until 2400 hrs, A.l.t., December 31, 2018.


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 2018 pollock incidental catch allowance in the Bering Sea subarea was established as 47,888 metric tons (mt) by the 2018 and 2019 final harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI (83 FR 8365, February 27, 2018), and as adjusted by reallocations (83 FR 9235, March 5, 2018), in accordance with §679.20(a)(5)(I)(A)(I) and the American Fisheries Act (AFA) (Pub. L. 105–277, Division C, Title II).

As of August 16, 2018, the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, has determined that approximately 19,700 (mt) of pollock remain in the incidental catch allowance. Based on projected harvest rates of other groundfish species and the expected incidental catch of pollock in those fisheries, the Regional Administrator has determined that 2,500 mt of pollock specified in the incidental catch allowance will not be necessary as incidental catch. Therefore, NMFS is
apportioning the projected unused amount, 2,500 mt, of pollock from the incidental catch allowance to the directed fishing allowances established pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(A).
Pursuant to the pollock allocation requirements set forth in §679.20(a)(5)(i), this transfer will increase the allocation to catcher vessels harvesting pollock for processing by the inshore component by 1,250 mt, to catcher/processors and catcher vessels harvesting pollock for processing by catcher/processors in the offshore component by 1,000 mt, and to catcher vessels harvesting pollock for processing by motherships in the offshore component by 250 mt. Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(4)(ii), 8.5 percent of the 915 mt allocated to catcher/processors in the offshore component, 85 mt, will be available for harvest only by eligible catcher vessels delivering to listed catcher/processors. Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(4)(iii), an additional 5 mt or 0.5 percent of the catcher/processor sector allocation of pollock will be available to unlisted AFA catcher/processors.

Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(A), Table 5 of the 2018 and 2019 final harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI are revised as follows:

**TABLE 5—FINAL 2018 ALLOCATIONS OF POLLOCK TACs TO THE DIRECTED POLLOCK FISHERIES AND TO THE CDQ DIRECTED FISHING ALLOWANCES (DFA)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area and sector</th>
<th>2018 Allocations</th>
<th>2018 A season¹</th>
<th>2018 B season¹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A season DFA</td>
<td>SCA harvest limit²</td>
<td>B season DFA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bering Sea subarea TAC¹</td>
<td>1,378,441</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDQ DFA</td>
<td>138,334</td>
<td>62,250</td>
<td>38,734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICA</td>
<td>45,388</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Bering Sea non-CDQ DFA</td>
<td>1,194,719</td>
<td>537,624</td>
<td>334,521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFA Inshore</td>
<td>597,359</td>
<td>268,812</td>
<td>167,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFA Catcher/Processors³</td>
<td>477,888</td>
<td>215,049</td>
<td>133,809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catch by C/Ps⁴</td>
<td>437,267</td>
<td>196,770</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catch by CVs³⁵</td>
<td>40,620</td>
<td>18,279</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unlisted C/P Limit⁶</td>
<td>2,389</td>
<td>1,075</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFA Motherships</td>
<td>119,472</td>
<td>53,762</td>
<td>33,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive Harvesting Limit⁷</td>
<td>209,076</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excessive Processing Limit⁸</td>
<td>358,416</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aleutian Islands subarea ABC</td>
<td>40,788</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aleutian Islands subarea TAC¹</td>
<td>4,900</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDQ DFA</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>n/a</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICA</td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aleut Corporation</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area harvest limit</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>541</td>
<td>12,236</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>542</td>
<td>6,118</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>543</td>
<td>2,039</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bogoslof District ICA⁸</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(A), the Bering Sea subarea pollock, after subtracting the CDQ DFA (10 percent) and the ICA (45,388 mt), is allocated as a DFA as follows: Inshore sector—50 percent, catcher/processor sector (C/P)—40 percent, and mothership sector—10 percent. In the Bering Sea subarea, 45 percent of the DFA is allocated to the A season (January 20–June 10) and 55 percent of the DFA is allocated to the B season (June 10–November 1). Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(iii)(B)(1) through (iii), the annual Aleutian Islands pollock TAC, after subtracting first for the CDQ directed fishing allowance (10 percent) and second for the ICA (2,400 mt), is allocated to the Aleut Corporation for a pollock directed fishery. In the Aleutian Islands subarea, the A season is allocated up to 40 percent of the ABC and the B season is allocated the remainder of the pollock directed fishery.

²In the Bering Sea subarea, pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(C), no more than 28 percent of each sector’s annual DFA may be taken from the SCA before noon, April 1.

³Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(4), not less than 8.5 percent of the DFA allocated to listed catcher/processors shall be available for harvest only by eligible catcher vessels delivering to listed catcher/processors.

⁴Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(4)(ii), the AFA unlisted catcher/processors are limited to harvesting not more than 0.5 percent of the catcher/processors’ sector’s allocation of pollock.

⁵Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(4)(iii), NMFS establishes an excessive harvesting share limit equal to 17.5 percent of the sum of the non-CDQ pollock DFAs.

⁶Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(7), NMFS establishes an excessive processing share limit equal to 30.0 percent of the sum of the non-CDQ pollock DFAs.

⁷Pursuant to §679.20(a)(5)(iii)(B)(6), NMFS establishes harvest limits for pollock in the A season in Area 541 of no more than 30 percent, in Area 542 of no more than 15 percent, and in Area 543 of no more than 15 percent of the Aleutian Islands pollock ABC.

⁸Pursuant to §679.22(a)(7)(i)(B), the Bogoslof District is closed to directed fishing for pollock. The amounts specified are for ICA only and are not apportioned by season or sector.

**Note:** Seasonal or sector apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.

**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 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 reallocation of projected unused amounts of Bering Sea subarea...
pollock from the incidental catch allowance to the directed fisheries. NMFS was unable to publish a notice providing time for public comment because the most recent, relevant data only became available as of August 16, 2018.

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 taken under 50 CFR 679.20, and is exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.