

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Public Law 102-587 is The Oceans Act of 1992. Subtitle C of Title V of The Oceans Act of 1992, titled the Abandoned Barge Act of 1992, (hereinafter referred to as the Act), amended 46, U.S. Code, to prohibit abandonment of barges, to provide a civil penalty for abandonment, to authorize removal, and to require the numbering of barges. The Secretary of Transportation is delegating his authority under the Act to the Commandant of the Coast Guard.

The Act prohibits an owner or operator of a barge over 100 gross tons from abandoning it on the navigable waters of the United States. The Act authorizes the Secretary to assess a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 per day of abandonment. If the barge owner or operator cannot be identified or refuses to remove the barge, the Secretary may contract for removal of the barge at the expense of the owner or operator. To help identify barge owners, the Secretary is required to ensure the numbering of all undocumented barges over 100 gross tons.

This rule adds a specific delegation of authority to 49 CFR § 1.46, thus amending the codification to reflect the Secretarial delegation of authority to the Commandant of the Coast Guard.

Since this amendment relates to departmental management, organization, procedure, and practice, notice and comment on it are unnecessary and it may be made effective in fewer than 30 days after

publication in the Federal Register. Therefore, this final rule is effective upon publication in the Federal Register.

#### List of Subjects in 49 CFR Part 1

Authority delegations (Government agencies), Organization and functions (Government agencies).

In consideration of the foregoing, Part 1 of Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, is amended as follows:

#### **PART 1—[AMENDED]**

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

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 322; Pub. L. 101-552, 28 U.S.C. 2672, 31 U.S.C. 3711(a)(2).

2. Section 1.46 is amended by adding a new paragraph (zz) to read as follows:

#### **§ 1.46 Delegations to Commandant of the Coast Guard.**

\* \* \* \* \*

(zz) Carry out the functions and exercise the authority vested in the Secretary by 46 U.S. Code Chapter 47 (abandonment of barges) and § 12301(b) (numbering of undocumented barges), as enacted by the Oceans Act of 1992, Title V, section 5301 *et seq.*, Pub. L. No. 102-587, 106 Stat. 5081. This authority may be redelegated.

Issued at Washington, DC this 23rd day of January, 1996.

Federico Penã,

*Secretary of Transportation.*

[FR Doc. 96-1831 Filed 1-30-96; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-62-M**

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

#### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

#### **50 CFR Part 672**

[Docket No. 951120272-5272-01; I.D. 012696A]

#### **Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 61**

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

**ACTION:** Closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 61 in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the interim specification for pollock in this area.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), January 28, 1996, until superseded by the final 1996 specifications.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mary Furuness, 907-586-7228.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS 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 Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at 50 CFR parts 620 and 672.

The interim specification of pollock total allowable catch in Statistical Area 61 was established by Interim 1996 Harvest Specifications (60 FR 61492, November 30, 1995) as 6,125 metric tons (mt), determined in accordance with § 672.20(c)(1)(ii)(A).

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Director), has determined, in accordance with § 672.20(c)(2)(ii), that the 1996 interim specification of pollock in Statistical Area 61 soon will be reached. The Regional Director established a directed fishing allowance of 5,925 mt, and has set aside the remaining 200 mt as bycatch to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 61 until superseded by the Final 1996 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish in the Federal Register.

Maximum retainable bycatch amounts for applicable gear types may be found in the regulations at § 672.20(g).

#### Classification

This action is taken under 50 CFR 672.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: January 26, 1996.

Richard H. Schaefer,

*Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 96-1906 Filed 1-26-96; 3:28 pm]

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#### 50 CFR Part 672

[Docket No. 951120272-5272-01; I.D. 012696B]

#### Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 62

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

**ACTION:** Closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 62 in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the interim specification for pollock in this area.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 12 noon, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), January 29, 1996, until superseded by the final 1996 specifications.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mary Furuness, 907-586-7228.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS 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

Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at 50 CFR parts 620 and 672.

The interim specification of pollock total allowable catch in Statistical Area 62 was established by Interim 1996 Harvest Specifications (60 FR 61492, November 30, 1995) as 3,125 metric tons (mt), determined in accordance with § 672.20(c)(1)(ii)(A).

The Director, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Director), has determined, in accordance with § 672.20(c)(2)(ii), that the 1996 interim specification of pollock in Statistical Area 62 soon will be reached. The Regional Director established a directed fishing allowance of 2,925 mt, and has set aside the remaining 200 mt as bycatch to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 62 until superseded by the Final 1996 Harvest Specifications of Groundfish in the Federal Register.

Maximum retainable bycatch amounts for applicable gear types may be found in the regulations at § 672.20(g).

#### Classification

This action is taken under 50 CFR 672.20 and is except from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: January 26, 1996.

Richard H. Schaefer,

*Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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