

- (130) 40°37.35' N. lat., 124°29.05' W. long.;
- (131) 40°34.76' N. lat., 124°29.82' W. long.;
- (132) 40°36.78' N. lat., 124°37.06' W. long.;
- (133) 40°32.44' N. lat., 124°39.58' W. long.;
- (134) 40°24.82' N. lat., 124°35.12' W. long.;
- (135) 40°23.30' N. lat., 124°31.60' W. long.;
- (136) 40°23.52' N. lat., 124°28.78' W. long.;
- (137) 40°22.43' N. lat., 124°25.00' W. long.;
- (138) 40°21.72' N. lat., 124°24.94' W. long.;
- (139) 40°21.87' N. lat., 124°27.96' W. long.;
- (140) 40°21.40' N. lat., 124°28.74' W. long.;
- (141) 40°19.68' N. lat., 124°28.49' W. long.;
- (142) 40°17.73' N. lat., 124°25.43' W. long.;
- (143) 40°18.37' N. lat., 124°23.35' W. long.;
- (144) 40°15.75' N. lat., 124°26.05' W. long.;
- (145) 40°16.75' N. lat., 124°33.71' W. long.;
- (146) 40°16.29' N. lat., 124°34.36' W. long.; and
- (147) 40°10.00' N. lat., 124°21.12' W. long.

28. Previous Regulations Superseded

These regulations shall supersede all previous regulations of the Commission, and these regulations shall be effective each succeeding year until superseded.

Classification

IPHC Regulations

Because approval by the Secretary of State of the IPHC regulations is a foreign affairs function, the notice-and-comment and delay-in-effective date requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), 5 U.S.C. 553, do not apply to this notice of the effectiveness and content of the IPHC regulations, 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1). Because prior notice and an opportunity for public comment are not required to be provided for these portions of this 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 not applicable.

Catch Sharing Plan for Area 2A

An EA/RIR was prepared on the proposed changes to the CSP. NMFS has determined that the proposed changes to the CSP and the management measures implementing the CSP

contained in these regulations will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment, and the preparation of an environmental impact statement on the final action is not required by 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act or its implementing regulations.

At the proposed rule stage, the Chief Counsel for Regulation, Department of Commerce, certified to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration that this action will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. No comments were received on this certification or on the economic impacts of the rule. No regulatory flexibility analysis has been prepared.

This action has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

The AA finds good cause to waive the requirement to provide a 30-day delay in effectiveness (5 U.S.C. 553(d)) because it is contrary to the public interest to delay the effectiveness date of this rule for 30 days. This rule must be made effective for the opening of the 2003 Pacific halibut fishing season on March 1, 2003. Delaying the opening of the fishing season is contrary to the public interest because it would cause unnecessary economic burden on fishery participants due to loss of fishing opportunity. Because the annual quotas and management measures are ultimately determined by an international commission, the IPHC, the AA is constrained and cannot respond by publishing the final rule until after the IPHC has adopted the annual quotas and management measures for the year. NMFS's implementation of changes to the CSP could not begin until after January 24, 2003, when the IPHC adopted annual quotas and management measures for 2003. There was not enough time between when the IPHC adopted the annual quotas and management measures for 2003 and the scheduled March 1, 2003, start of the fishing season to publish the regulations in the **Federal Register** with enough time for a 30-day delay in effectiveness. In addition, good cause exists to waive the 30-day delay in effectiveness for the minor technical amendment to 50 CFR 300.63 pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) because this amendment only clarifies the regulatory language and does not include a substantive change to the regulations.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR part 300

Fisheries, Fishing, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Treaties.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 773–773k.

Dated: February 27, 2003

William T. Hogarth,

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

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR part 300 is amended as follows:

PART 300—INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES REGULATIONS, SUBPART E—PACIFIC HALIBUT FISHERIES

1. The authority citation for 50 CFR part 300, subpart E continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 773–773k.

2. Section 300.63, paragraph (a)(3)(ii) is revised to read as follows:

§ 300.63 Catch sharing plans, local area management plans, and domestic management measures.

* * * * *

(a) * * *

(3) * * *

(ii) It is unlawful for any person to possess or land halibut south of 46°53'18" N. lat. that were taken and retained as incidental catch authorized by this section in the directed longline sablefish fishery.

* * * * *

[FR Doc. 03–5171 Filed 3–3–03; 3:18 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 622

[Docket No. 001005281–0369–02; I.D. 030303A]

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Trip Limit Reduction

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

ACTION: Trip limit reduction.

SUMMARY: NMFS reduces the trip limit in the commercial hook-and-line fishery for king mackerel in the southern Florida west coast subzone to 500 lb (227 kg) of king mackerel per day in or from the exclusive economic zone (EEZ). This trip limit reduction is necessary to protect the Gulf king mackerel resource.

DATES: This rule is effective 12:01 a.m., local time, March 5, 2003, through June