

HLA directed fishery for each statistical area based on the estimated fishing capacity of vessels registered to fish in the area and assigned to the HLA directed fishery under paragraph (a)(8)(iii)(B) of this section. Each HLA directed fishery will last no longer than 14 days.

(F) *Groundfish directed fishery prohibition.* Vessels registering under paragraph (a)(8)(iii)(A) of this section are prohibited from participating in any groundfish directed fishery other than the one assigned under paragraph (a)(8)(iii)(B) of this section during the opening of the first HLA directed fishery assigned to the vessel in a season, as specified in § 679.7(a)(19).

\* \* \* \* \*

(11) *GOA Pacific cod TAC—(i) Seasonal apportionment.* The TAC established for Pacific cod in the Western and Central Regulatory Areas of the GOA will be divided 60 percent to the A season and 40 percent to the B season, as specified in § 679.23(d)(3).

(ii) The Regional Administrator may apply any underage or overage of Pacific cod harvest from one season to the subsequent season. In adding or subtracting any underages or overages to the subsequent season, the Regional Administrator shall consider bycatch needed to optimize catch by gear groups and sectors.

(iii) Pacific cod catch between the A and B seasons. Pacific cod harvested between the closure of the A season and opening of the B season shall be deducted from the B season TAC apportionment.

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) \* \* \*

(2) \* \* \*

(i) *Pollock inshore-offshore reapportionment.* Any amounts of the GOA reserve that are reapportioned to pollock as provided by paragraph (b) of this section must be apportioned for processing by the inshore component in the GOA and the offshore component in the GOA in the same proportions specified in paragraph (a)(6)(ii) of this section.

(ii) *Pacific Cod inshore-offshore reapportionment.* Any amounts of the GOA reserve that are reapportioned to Pacific cod as provided by paragraph (b) of this section must be apportioned for processing by the inshore component in the GOA and the offshore component in the GOA in the same proportion specified in paragraph (a)(6)(iii) of this section.

\* \* \* \* \*

(c)

(2)

(i) GOA. One-fourth of each proposed TAC and apportionment thereof (not

including the reserves or the first seasonal allowances of pollock or Pacific cod), one-fourth of the proposed halibut prohibited species catch amounts, and the proposed first seasonal allowances of pollock and Pacific cod.

(ii) *BSAI.* Except for pollock, Pacific cod, Atka mackerel, and the hook-and-line and pot gear allocation of sablefish, one quarter of each proposed initial TAC and apportionment thereof, one quarter of each CDQ reserve established by paragraph (b)(1)(iii) of this section, and one quarter of the proposed PSQ reserve and prohibited species catch allowances established by § 679.21.

(A) The interim specifications for pollock, Pacific cod, and Atka mackerel will be equal to the first seasonal allowances for pollock, Pacific cod, and Atka mackerel that are published in the proposed specifications under paragraph (c)(1) of this section.

(B) The interim specifications for CDQ pollock, CDQ Atka mackerel, and CDQ Pacific cod will be equal to the first seasonal allowances that are published in the proposed specifications under paragraph (c)(1) of this section.

\* \* \* \* \*

(d) \* \* \*

(4) *Harvest control for pollock, Atka mackerel, and Pacific cod.* If a biological assessment of stock condition for pollock, Pacific cod, or Atka mackerel within an area projects that the spawning biomass in that area will be equal to or below 20 percent of the projected unfished spawning biomass during a fishing year, the Regional Administrator will prohibit the directed fishery for the relevant species within the area. The Regional Administrator will prohibit the directed fishery under this paragraph by notification published in the **Federal Register**. The directed fishery will remain closed until a subsequent biological assessment projects that the spawning biomass for the species in the area will exceed 20 percent of the projected unfished spawning biomass during a fishing year.

\* \* \* \* \*

(e) \* \* \*

(2) \* \* \*

(iv) The maximum retainable amount for vessels fishing during an individual fishing trip in areas closed to directed fishing and in areas open to directed fishing is the lowest maximum retainable amount applicable to the prohibited species or species group in any of these areas, and this maximum retainable amount must be applied for the duration of the individual fishing trip.

\* \* \* \* \*

■ 7. In § 679.22, paragraphs (a)(5), (a)(7), (a)(8), (b)(2), and (b)(3) are revised to read as follows:

#### § 679.22 Closures.

(a) \* \* \*

(5) *Catcher Vessel Operational Area (CVOA)—(i) Definition.* The CVOA is defined as that part of the BSAI that is south of 56°00' N lat. and between 163°00' W long. and 167°30' W long., and north of the Aleutian Islands (Figure 2 to part 679).

(ii) *Catcher/processor restrictions.* A catcher/processor vessel authorized to fish for BSAI pollock under § 679.4 is prohibited from conducting directed fishing for pollock in the CVOA during the B pollock season defined at § 679.23(e)(2)(ii), unless it is operating under a CDP approved by NMFS.

\* \* \* \* \*

(7) *Steller sea lion protection areas, Bering Sea subarea—(i) Bogoslof area—(A) Boundaries.* The Bogoslof area consists of all waters of area 518 as described in Figure 1 of this part south of a straight line connecting 55°00' N lat./170°00' W long., and 55°00' N lat./168°11'4.75" W long.;

(B) *Fishing prohibition.* All waters within the Bogoslof area are closed to directed fishing for pollock, Pacific cod, and Atka mackerel by vessels named on a Federal Fisheries Permit under § 679.4(b), except as provided in paragraph (a)(7)(i)(C) of this section.

(C) *Bogoslof Pacific cod exemption area.* (1) All catcher vessels less than 60 ft (18.3 m) LOA using jig or hook-and-line gear for directed fishing for Pacific cod are exempt from the Pacific cod fishing prohibition as described in paragraph (a)(7)(i)(B) of this section in the portion of the Bogoslof area south of a line connecting a point 3 nm north of Bishop Point (54°01'25" N lat./166°57'00" W long.) to Cape Tanak (53°33'50" N lat./168°00'00" W long.), not including waters of the Bishop Point Pacific cod fishing closures as described in Table 5 of this part.

(2) If the Regional Administrator determines that 113 mt of Pacific cod have been caught by catcher vessels less than 60 ft (18.3 m) LOA using jig or hook-and-line gear in the exemption area described in paragraph (a)(7)(i)(C)(1) of this section, the Regional Administrator will prohibit directed fishing for Pacific cod by catcher vessels less than 60 ft (18.3 m) LOA using jig or hook-and-line gear in the exemption area by notification published in the **Federal Register**.

(ii) *Bering Sea Pollock Restriction Area.* (A) *Boundaries.* The Bering Sea Pollock Restriction Area consists of all waters of the Bering Sea subarea south