

| | If you own or operate a catcher vessel and engage in directed fishing for pollock in the | During the... | Then you are prohibited from subsequently engaging in directed fishing for pollock with that catcher vessel in the... |
|-----|---|----------------|---|
| (1) | BSAI | (i) A season | GOA until the following C season |
| | | (ii) B season | GOA until the A season of the next year |
| (2) | GOA | (i) A season | BSAI until the following B season |
| | | (ii) B season | BSAI until the following B season |
| | | (iii) C season | BSAI until the A season of the following year |
| | | (iv) D season | BSAI until the A season of the following year |

■ 9. In § 679.28, paragraphs (f)(3)(ii) and (f)(3)(iii) are revised, and paragraphs (f)(4), (f)(5), and (f)(6) are added to read as follows:

§ 679.28 Equipment and operational requirements.

* * * * *

(f) * * *

(3) * * *

(ii) Activate the VMS transmitter and receive confirmation from NMFS that the VMS transmissions are being received before engaging in operations when a VMS is required.

(iii) Continue the VMS transmissions until no longer engaged in operations requiring VMS.

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(4) What must the vessel owner do before activating a VMS transmitter for the first time? If you are a vessel owner who must use a VMS and you are activating a VMS transmitter for the first time, you must:

(i) Contact the NMFS enforcement division by FAX at 907-586-7703 and provide: the VMS transmitter ID, the vessel name, the Federal Fisheries Permit number, and approximately

when and where the vessel will begin fishing.

(ii) Call NMFS enforcement at 907-586-7225, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 0800 hours, A.l.t., and 1630 hours, A.l.t., at least 72 hours before leaving port and receive confirmation that the transmissions are being received.

(5) *What must the vessel owner do when the vessel replaces a VMS transmitter?* If you are a vessel owner who must use a VMS and you wish to replace a transmitter, you must either:

(i) Have followed the reporting and confirmation procedure for the replacement transmitter, as described above in paragraph (f)(4) of this section, or

(ii) Contact the NMFS Enforcement Division by phone or FAX and provide: the replacement VMS transmitter ID, the vessel name and the vessel's Federal Fisheries Permit Number and receive confirmation that the transmissions are being received before beginning operations.

(6) *When must the VMS transmitter be transmitting?* Your vessel's transmitter must be transmitting if the vessel is operating in any Reporting Area (see

definitions at § 679.2) off Alaska while any fishery requiring VMS, for which the vessel has a species and gear endorsement on its Federal Fisheries Permit under § 679.4(b)(5)(vi), is open.

§ 679.32 [Amended]

■ 10. In § 679.32, paragraph (e) is removed and reserved.

■ 11. In § 679.50, paragraph (c)(1)(x) is revised to read as follows:

§ 679.50 Groundfish Observer Program applicable through December 31, 2007.

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(c) * * *

(1) * * *(x) A vessel directed fishing with trawl gear for Atka mackerel in the Aleutian Islands subarea must carry two NMFS-certified observers at all times while directed fishing for Atka mackerel in the HLA directed fishery, as specified in § 679.20(a)(8).

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■ 12. In 50 CFR part 679, Tables 21, 22, 23, and 24 are deleted, Tables 4, 5, and 6 are revised, Table 12 is added, and Table 13 is removed and reserved to read as follows:

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