

FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, ECO.

Note 2: Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this airworthiness directive, if any, may be obtained from the ECO.

Effective Date

(d) This amendment becomes effective on June 12, 2003.

Issued in Burlington, Massachusetts, on May 1, 2003.

Francis A. Favara,

Acting Manager, Engine and Propeller Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 03-11266 Filed 5-7-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

15 CFR Part 902

50 CFR Part 679

[Docket No. 020718172-3062-03; I. D. 051402C]

RIN 0648-AQ08

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Steller Sea Lion Protection Measures Correction

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

ACTION: Correcting amendments.

SUMMARY: This final rule corrects the regulatory text of the final rule published January 2, 2003, implementing Steller sea lion protection measures for the Alaska groundfish fishery.

DATES: Effective May 7, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Steller Sea Lion Protection Measures Off Alaska (SEIS), including the 2001 biological opinion (2001 BiOp) and regulatory impact review may be obtained from the Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK, 99802, Attn: Lori Durall. The SEIS is also available on the NMFS Alaska Region home page at <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Melanie Brown, NMFS, 907-586-7228 or e-mail at melanie.brown@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

A final rule published January 2, 2003 (68 FR 204), implementing Steller sea lion protection measures for the groundfish fisheries of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (BSAI) and the Gulf of Alaska (GOA), contains errors in its paragraph designations, cross-references, regulatory text, and tables which are corrected by this action.

Corrections to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control Numbers Table

Two corrections are needed in the OMB control number references in the table at 15 CFR 902.1(b). The OMB control number assigned to § 679.20(a)(8)(iii) is incorrect. Also, the table is missing an OMB control number and corresponding paragraph that applies to the Steller sea lion protection measures. This action corrects the number assigned to § 679.20(a)(8)(iii) to read “-0206”. OMB control number “-0269” that incorrectly was applied to § 679.20(a)(8)(iii) in the final rule is properly assigned to § 679.5(n)(2)(iii), which is added to the table with this action. This correction will accurately display the OMB control numbers for these collection-of-information approvals, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Corrections to the Regulatory Text

A number of corrections to the final rule for the Steller sea lion protection measures are needed for consistency with the final rule for Amendments 61/61/13/8 implementing the American Fisheries Act (AFA) (67 FR 79692, December 30, 2002, effective January 29, 2003). The AFA final rule at § 679.20(a)(5)(i)(A) and (a)(5)(ii) describes the Bering Sea subarea and Aleutian Islands subarea and Bogoslof district pollock AFA allocations, respectively. However, the Steller sea lion protection measures final rule provisions describing the seasonal apportionment of pollock in the BSAI and GOA also were codified at § 679.20(a)(5)(i)(A) and (a)(5)(ii)(B). This correction adds a new paragraph § 679.20(a)(5)(i)(B) describing the Steller sea lion protection measures seasonal apportionment of pollock in the Bering sea subarea. Section 679.20(a)(5)(i)(B) in the final rule regarding the Steller sea lion conservation area harvest limit is also redesignated as § 679.20(a)(5)(i)(C) to ensure proper paragraph designations. The seasonal apportionments for the GOA pollock fishery were codified by the AFA final rule at § 679.20(a)(5)(iii); therefore, no

additional changes are needed in the Steller sea lion protection measures final rule for the GOA pollock seasonal apportionments. Cross-references in § 679.22(a)(7) to the redesignated paragraph § 679.20(a)(5)(i)(C) also are corrected. This correction results in no substantive changes to the requirements of the AFA or the Steller sea lion protection measures.

In addition, the Steller sea lion protection measures final rule contains cross-references to § 679.20(a)(6)(ii) and (iii) at § 679.20(b)(2)(i) and (ii). These cross-referenced paragraphs were renumbered as (a)(6)(i) and (a)(6)(ii), respectively, when the AFA final rule was published. This action corrects these cross-references in § 679.20(b)(2)(i) and (ii) to § 679.20(a)(6)(i) and (ii). This correction does not substantively change the requirements of either the final rule for the AFA or the Steller sea lion protection measures final rule.

Table 4 in 50 CFR part 679 specifies closures to directed fishing for pollock with trawl gear around identified Steller sea lion rookeries and haulouts in the Gulf of Alaska, the Bering Sea and the Aleutian Islands. The Steller sea lion protection measures final rule incorrectly specified the closed areas around Uliaga and Kagamil haulouts. Table 4 currently specifies a 10 nm closure around each of these haulouts (68 FR 218, January 2, 2003). Although these 10 nm closures are correctly specified for the waters within the Bering Sea subarea around these haulouts, Table 4 should have closed all of the Steller sea lion critical habitat around these haulouts that extends west of 170 degrees W. longitude into the Aleutian Islands subarea. In the proposed rule for this amendment, NMFS announced that directed fishing for pollock inside critical habitat in the Aleutian Islands subarea would be prohibited (67 FR 56703, column 1, September 4, 2002). Steller sea lion critical habitat includes an aquatic zone that extends 20 nm seaward from Uliaga and Kagamil haulouts (50 CFR 226.202(a), Table 2). Therefore, this action corrects Table 4 in 50 CFR part 679 by closing the waters of the Aleutian Islands subarea that lie within 20 nm of Uliaga and Kagamil haulouts to directed fishing for pollock with trawl gear.

Table 5 in 50 CFR part 679 specifies closures to directed fishing for Pacific cod with trawl gear, hook-and-line gear, and pot gear around identified Steller sea lion rookeries and haulouts in the Gulf of Alaska, the Bering Sea, and the Aleutian Islands. The final rule resulted in several errors that require correction.