

§ 665.205

50 CFR Ch. VI (10–1–10 Edition)

§ 665.205 Notification.

(a) The owner or operator of a fishing vessel subject to § 665.203(a)(1) must inform PIRO at least 72 hours (not including weekends and holidays) before leaving port, of his or her intent to fish within the protected species study zones defined in § 665.201. The notice must include the name of the vessel, name of the operator, intended departure and return date, and a telephone number at which the owner or operator may be contacted during the business day (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) to indicate whether an observer will be required on the subject fishing trip.

(b) The operator of a fishing vessel that has taken Hawaii bottomfish MUS in the Ho'omalau Zone must contact the USCG, by radio or otherwise, at the 14th District, Honolulu, HI; Pacific Area, San Francisco, CA; or 17th District, Juneau, AK, at least 24 hours before landing, and report the port and the approximate date and time at which the bottomfish will be landed.

§ 665.206 Gear restrictions.

(a) *Bottom trawls and bottom set gillnets.* Fishing for Hawaii bottomfish and seamount groundfish MUS with bottom trawls and bottom set gillnets is prohibited.

(b) *Possession of gear.* Possession of a bottom trawl and bottom set gillnet by any vessel having a permit under § 665.203 or otherwise established to be fishing for Hawaii bottomfish or seamount groundfish MUS in the management subareas is prohibited.

(c) *Poisons and explosives.* The possession or use of any poisons, explosives, or intoxicating substances for the purpose of harvesting Hawaii bottomfish and seamount groundfish MUS is prohibited.

§ 665.207 At-sea observer coverage.

(a) All fishing vessels subject to §§ 665.200 through 665.212 must carry an observer when directed to do so by the Regional Administrator.

(b) PIRO will advise the vessel owner or operator of any observer requirement within 72 hours (not including weekends or holidays) of receipt of the notice provided pursuant to § 665.205(a). If an observer is required, the owner or operator will be informed of the terms

and conditions of observer coverage, and the time and place of embarkation of the observer.

(c) All observers must be provided with sleeping, toilet, and eating accommodations at least equal to that provided to a full crew member. A mattress or futon on the floor, or a cot, is not acceptable in place of a regular bunk. Meal and other galley privileges must be the same for the observer as for other crew members.

(d) Female observers on a vessel with an all-male crew must be accommodated either in a single-person cabin or, if reasonable privacy can be ensured by installing a curtain or other temporary divider, in a two-person cabin shared with a licensed officer of the vessel. If the cabin assigned to a female observer does not have its own toilet and shower facilities that can be provided for the exclusive use of the observer, then a schedule for time-sharing of common facilities must be established and approved by the Regional Administrator prior to the vessel's departure from port.

§ 665.208 Protected species conservation.

The Regional Administrator may change the size of the protected species study zones defined in § 665.201 of this subpart:

(a) If the Regional Administrator determines that a change in the size of the study zones would not result in fishing for bottomfish in the NWHI that would adversely affect any species listed as threatened or endangered under the ESA.

(b) After consulting with the Council.

(c) Through notification in the FEDERAL REGISTER published at least 30 days prior to the effective date or through actual notice to the permit holders.

§ 665.209 Fishing moratorium on Hancock Seamount.

Fishing for Hawaii bottomfish and seamount groundfish MUS on the Hancock Seamount is prohibited through August 31, 2010.