

Commission decision is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC's Reference Center (Room 239), 1919 M Street, NW, Washington, D.C. The complete text of this decision may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractors, International Transcription Service, Inc., (202) 857-3800, located at 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 246, or 2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 140, Washington, D.C. 20037.

#### List of Subjects in 47 CFR Part 73

Radio broadcasting.

Part 73 of title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

#### **PART 73—[AMENDED]**

1. The authority citation for Part 73 continues to read as follows:

Authority: Secs. 303, 48 Stat., as amended, 1082; 47 U.S.C. 154, as amended.

#### **§ 73.202 [Amended]**

2. Section 73.202(b), the Table of FM Allotments under Arizona is amended by removing Channel 280A at Bagdad and adding Chino Valley, Channel 280C3.

Federal Communications Commission.

John A. Karousos,

Chief, Allocations Branch, Policy and Rules Division, Mass Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 96-30128 Filed 11-25-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

## **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

### **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

#### **50 CFR Part 648**

[Docket No. 900124-0127; I.D. 111396D]

#### **Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Surf Clam and Ocean Quahog Fisheries; Minimum Clam Size for 1997**

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

**ACTION:** Suspension of surf clam minimum size limit.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS announces that the minimum size limit of 4.75 inches (12.065 cm) for Atlantic surf clams is suspended for the 1997 fishing year. The intended effect is to relieve the industry from a regulatory burden that is not necessary, as the vast majority of surf clams harvested are larger than the minimum size limit.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 1, 1997, through December 31, 1997.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David Gouveia, Fishery Management Specialist, 508-281-9280.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A final rule implementing Amendment 8 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Atlantic Surf Clam and Ocean Quahog Fishery (FMP) was published on June 14, 1990 (55 FR 24184). Section 648.72(c) of the FMP allows the Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, to suspend annually, by publication of an announcement in the Federal Register, the minimum size limit for Atlantic surf clams. This action may be taken unless discard, catch, and survey data indicate that 30 percent or more of the Atlantic surf clam resource is smaller than 4.75 inches (12.065 cm) and the overall reduced shell height is not attributable to beds where growth of the individual clams has been reduced because of density-dependent factors.

At its September 1996 meeting, the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) accepted the recommendations of its Statistical and Scientific Committee and Surf Clam/Ocean Quahog Committee and voted to recommend that the Regional Administrator suspend the minimum size limit for surf clams in 1997. Commercial surf clam shell length data for 1996 indicate that only 19.2 percent of the samples were composed of clams that were less than 4.75 inches (12.065 cm). Based on these data, the Regional Administrator adopts the Council's recommendation and publishes this announcement to suspend the minimum size limit for Atlantic surf clams for the period January 1, 1997, through December 31, 1997.

This action is authorized by 50 CFR part 648 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: November 20, 1996.

Gary C. Matlock,

Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 96-30075 Filed 11-25-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

#### **50 CFR Part 679**

[Docket No. 961114318-6318-01; I.D. 110496A]

RIN 0648-XX71

#### **Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area; Interim 1997 Harvest Specifications**

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

**ACTION:** Interim 1997 harvest specifications for groundfish; associated management measures; and closures.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS issues interim 1997 total allowable catch (TAC) amounts for each category of groundfish, pollock Community Development Quota (CDQ) amounts, and prohibited species bycatch allowances for the groundfish fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area (BSAI). NMFS is closing certain fisheries as specified in the interim 1997 groundfish specifications. The intended effect is to conserve and manage the groundfish resources in the BSAI.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 0001 hours, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), January 1, 1997, until the effective date of the Final 1997 Initial Harvest Specifications for Groundfish, which will be published in the Federal Register.

**ADDRESSES:** The preliminary 1997 Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) Report, dated September 1996, is available from the North Pacific Fishery Management Council, 605 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 306, Anchorage, AK 99501-2252, telephone 907-271-2809.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Susan J. Salvesson, 907-586-7228.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Background**

Groundfish fisheries in the BSAI are governed by Federal regulations at 50 CFR part 679 that implement the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands area (FMP). The FMP was prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) and approved by NMFS under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. General regulations that also pertain to the U.S. fisheries appear at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600.

The Council met September 16-22, 1996, to review scientific information concerning groundfish stocks. The Council adopted for public review the