restrictions) their gear from a DAM zone once one is approved. Thus, NMFS makes this action effective 2 days after the date of publication of this document in the **Federal Register**. NMFS will also endeavor to provide notice of this action to fishermen through other means upon issuance of the rule by the AA, thereby providing approximately 3 additional days of notice while the Office of the **Federal Register** processes the document for publication.

NMFS determined that the regulations establishing the DAM program and actions such as this one taken pursuant to those regulations are consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the approved coastal management program of the U.S. Atlantic coastal states. This determination was submitted for review by the responsible state agencies under section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act. Following state review of the regulations creating the DAM program, no state disagreed with NMFS' conclusion that the DAM program is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the approved coastal management program for that state.

The DAM program under which NMFS is taking this action contains policies with federalism implications warranting preparation of a federalism assessment under Executive Order 13132. Accordingly, in October 2001 and March 2003, the Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental and Legislative Affairs, Department of Commerce, provided notice of the DAM program and its amendments to the appropriate elected officials in states to be affected by actions taken pursuant to the DAM program. Federalism issues raised by state officials were addressed in the final rules implementing the DAM program. A copy of the federalism Summary Impact Statement for the final rules is available upon request (**ADDRESSES**).

The rule implementing the DAM program has been determined to be not significant under Executive Order 12866.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.* and 50 CFR 229.32(g)(3)

Dated: October 7, 2008.

James W. Balsiger,

Acting Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. E8–24272 Filed 10–8–08; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 3510–22–S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 660

[Docket No. 060824226–6322–02]

RIN 0648–AX30

Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Biennial Specifications and Management Measures; Inseason Adjustments

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

ACTION: Final rule; inseason adjustments to groundfish management measures; request for comments.

SUMMARY: This final rule announces inseason changes to management measures in the Pacific Coast groundfish fisheries including: trip limit adjustments; the reopening of the Pacific whiting primary seasons for the shore-based, catcher/processor, and mothership sectors; bycatch limit increases; and modifications to the trawl Rockfish Conservation Areas. These routine actions, are authorized by the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP), and are intended to allow fisheries to access more abundant groundfish stocks while protecting overfished and depleted stocks.

DATES: Effective 0001 hours (local time) October 10, 2008. Comments on this action must be received no later than October 29, 2008.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments, identified by RIN 0648–AX30 by any of the following methods:

- Electronic Submissions: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal *http://www.regulations.gov*.
- Fax: 206–526–6736, Attn: Becky Renko.
- Mail: D. Robert Lohn, Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, Attn: Becky Renko, 7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115–0070.

Instructions: All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted to *http://www.regulations.gov* without change. All personal identifying information (for example, name, address, etc.) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit confidential business information, or otherwise sensitive or protected information. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter N/A in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous). Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word, Excel, WordPerfect, or Adobe PDF file formats only.

Copies of additional reports referred to in this document may also be obtained from the Pacific Fishery Management Council(Council). Copies of the Record of Decision (ROD), final regulatory flexibility analysis (FRFA), and the Small Entity Compliance Guide are available from D. Robert Lohn, Administrator, Northwest Region (Regional Administrator), NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE, Seattle, WA 98115–0070.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Becky Renko (Northwest Region, NMFS) 206–526–6110.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Electronic Access: This final rule is accessible via the Internet at the Office of the **Federal Register**'s Website at *http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html*. Background information and documents are available at the Council's website at *http://www.pcouncil.org/*.

Background

The Pacific Coast Groundfish FMP and its implementing regulations at title 50 in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), part 660, subpart G, regulate fishing for over 90 species of groundfish off the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California. Groundfish specifications and management measures are developed by the Council and are implemented by NMFS. A proposed rule to implement the 2007 2008 specifications and management measures for the Pacific Coast groundfish fishery and Amendment 16 4 of the FMP was published on September 29, 2006 (71 FR 57764). The final rule to implement the 2007 2008 specifications and management measures for the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery was published on December 29, 2006 (71 FR 78638). These specifications and management measures are codified in 50 CFR part 660, subpart G. The final rule was subsequently amended on: March 20, 2007 (72 FR 13043); April 18, 2007 (72 FR 19390); July 5, 2007 (72 FR 36617); August 3, 2007 (72 FR 43193); September 18, 2007 (72 FR 53165); October 4, 2007 (72 FR 56664); December 4, 2007 (72 FR 68097); December 18, 2007 (72 FR 71583); April 18, 2008 (73 FR 21057), and July 24, 2008 (73 FR 43139).

Inseason adjustments to the current groundfish management measures were

recommended by the Council in consultation with the Pacific Coast Treaty Indian Tribes and the States of Washington, Oregon, and California, at the Council's September 10 14, 2008, meeting in Boise, Idaho. The Pacific Council recommended the following adjustments to current groundfish management measures in response to updated fishery information: (1) increase the 2008 canary rockfish and widow rockfish bycatch limits for the non-tribal sectors of the whiting fishery; (2) reopen the 2008 non-tribal whiting primary season for the catcher/processor, mothership, and shore-based sectors; (3) move the shoreward boundary of the trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) north of 40°10.00' north latitude from 60–fm (110–m) to 75–fm (137–m), with the exception of the areas north of Cape Alava (48°10.00' north latitude) and between Cape Arago (4°20.83' north latitude) and Humbug mountain (42°40.50' north latitude); (4) coastwide, increase large footrope (and small footrope in the north) trawl trip limits for petrale sole and Dover sole for period 6; (5) increase small footrope chilipepper rockfish limits in the south; (6) increase the weekly and monthly cumulative limits for sablefish in the limited entry fixed gear daily trip limit fishery north of 36°00.00' north latitude; (7) increase shelf rockfish limits for open access gears south of Point Conception (34°27.00' north latitude) and, (8) take action to close the recreational fisheries off the State of California in the North and North Central management areas.

Catch of canary rockfish by scientific research vessels and catch in the limited entry trawl fisheries has been lower than was projected earlier in 2008. Scientific research catch projections made at the beginning of the year indicated that 5.5 mt of canary rockfish would be taken as scientific research catch in 2008, with 5.2 mt estimated to be taken in the Northwest Fishery Science Center's bottom trawl survey. To prevent an overfished species optimum yield (OY) from being exceeded, the amount projected to be taken during scientific research activities is not available to the groundfish fisheries until the activities are completed or near completion. NMFS and the Council have a better estimate of what is actually taken and the remainder can be released to the fishery.

When the Council considered inseason measures at its September 2008 meeting, the Northwest Fishery Science Center's bottom trawl survey was nearing completion and had passed most of the locations where previous surveys had encountered an abundance of canary rockfish. Updated projections from the bottom trawl survey (data through September 10, 2008) indicated that less than 2.6 mt of canary rockfish would be taken in the Northwest Fishery Science Center's bottom trawl survey in 2008. When combined with catch projections from other scientific research work, the revised projection for scientific research catch of canary rockfish is 2.9 mt. The revised projection is 2.6 mt less than the earlier projection.

Because catch projections early in the year use historical data to project effort, they are revised as the fishing year progresses and current-year data becomes available. Actual catch records indicate that trawl effort in areas shoreward of the trawl RCA north of 40°10.00' north latitude has been lower than projected. Implementation of a 60–fm (110–m) shoreward boundary in much of this area was intended to reduce incidental catch of canary rockfish, but may have discouraged more effort in the north than had been expected. Effort reductions may also be the result of vessels shifting to other trawl opportunities such as pink shrimp.

Catch projections for canary rockfish are in part based on a historical understanding of fishing effort. Fishing effort reductions resulted in less canary rockfish being taken than had been projected earlier in the year. Updated projections indicate that if no inseason adjustment were made, 3.5 mt of canary rockfish would be unharvested at the end of 2008 due to lower than projected commercial and scientific research catch. Given the availability of canary rockfish, the Council considered inseason adjustments to bycatch limits, trip limits, and RCA restrictions for the Pacific whiting primary season fisheries, and the limited entry bottom trawl fishery.

Pacific Whiting Fishery

Bycatch limits have been used to restrict the catch of overfished species, particularly canary, darkblotched and widow rockfish, in the non-tribal Pacific whiting fisheries. With bycatch limits, the industry has the opportunity to harvest a larger Pacific whiting OY, providing the incidental catch of overfished species does not exceed the adopted bycatch limits. If a bycatch limit is reached, all non-tribal sectors of the whiting fishery are closed. For 2008, the following bycatch limits were specified for the non-tribal Pacific whiting sectors: 275 mt for widow rockfish, 4.7 mt for canary rockfish, and 40 mt for darkblotched rockfish.

The 2008 Pacific whiting primary seasons were closed for the catcher/processor, mothership and shore-based sectors on August 19, 2008 (September 17, 2008; 73 FR 53763) when catch estimates indicated that the 4.7 mt bycatch limit for canary rockfish had been reached. When the fisheries were closed the shore-based sector had taken only 35.5 percent of its Pacific whiting allocation, the catcher/processor sector had taken 62.3 percent of its allocation, and the mothership sector had taken 84.0 percent of its allocation.

At its September meeting, the Council considered increasing the canary and widow rockfish bycatch limits and re-opening of the non-tribal sectors of the Pacific whiting fishery. Following discussion and public testimony, the Council recommended increasing the widow rockfish bycatch limit by 12 metric tons (from 275 mt to 287 mt) and increasing the canary rockfish bycatch limit by 2 metric tons (from 4.7 mt to 6.7 mt). With the Canary rockfish bycatch limit the Council recommended that the limit be raised by 1.7 mt (to 6.4 mt) upon reopening of the fishery then increase by 0.3 mt (to 6.7 mt) two weeks following the re-opening, but no later than October 26, 2008.

The Council considered the incremental increase of canary rockfish bycatch limits as a conservation measure. Historical data indicates that bycatch rates tend to be higher at the start of the Pacific whiting fisheries. As the fishery reopens, fishers will need to locate harvestable aggregations of Pacific whiting while minimizing the incidental catch of canary and widow rockfish. Increasing the bycatch limit two weeks after the fishery re-opens, when the incidental catch rates are expected to be lower, is expected to allow a greater proportion of the Pacific whiting allocations to be harvested. In addition, the Council expressed concern about stopping the fishery before a bycatch limit is exceeded so as not to exceed a rebuilding based OY. Increasing the bycatch limit after two weeks would provide a buffer while catch data were gathered and fishing patterns are established and understood. A 0.3 mt buffer at start-up would provide managers with an increased degree of certainty that fishery can be closed without going over the bycatch limit.

When the Council considered possible reopening dates, it indicated that reopening the fishery as quickly as possible would be beneficial to the fishery participants because the aggregations of whiting begin to move

into deeper waters and disperse later in the year, and may result in increased bycatch rates for non-whiting species, and; because late autumn weather is more dangerous for smaller vessels. During Council discussion, the Council recognized the need to consider the tracking and monitoring of catch, particularly of overfished species, when reopening the fisheries.

In 2008, a maximized retention and monitoring program was managed under federally managed exempted fishing permits (EFP). Most vessels in the shore-based sector operated under EFPs which allowed the sorting of groundfish catch to be delayed and catch in excess of cumulative trip limits and prohibited species catch retained until offloading. Retaining unsorted catch is otherwise prohibited by regulations at 50 CFR 660.306(a)(10) and 50 CFR 660.306(a)(2). EFPs were also issued to approximately 15 first receivers to allow first receivers to possess more than a single cumulative limit of a particular species, per vessel, per applicable cumulative limit period. The possession of catch in excess of the cumulative limits is otherwise prohibited by regulations at 50 CFR 660.306(a)(10).

Any vessel fishing under an EFP, has been required to have and use an electronic monitoring system (EMS). The EMS is a video monitoring system that allows for the integrity of maximized catch retention requirements to be maintained. First receiver's that accept unsorted Pacific whiting catch from vessels fishing under an EFP have been required to procure the service of a NMFS certified catch monitor to oversee the sorting, weighing, and recordkeeping process, as well as to gather information on incidentally caught salmon. Catch monitors are necessary to verify the accuracy of electronic fish ticket data used to manage the Pacific whiting shoreside fishery such that inaccurate or delayed information does not result in any fishery specifications (bycatch limits, species allocations, OYs, and biological opinion thresholds) being exceeded.

Because of the need for accurate monitoring of bycatch limits to provide the data NMFS needs to monitor the fishery and close in time to keep within the bycatch limits, NMFS has determined that adequate time is needed to hire, train and deploy catch monitors. In addition, time is needed to hire and train observers for the catcher/processor and mothership sectors, to reissue EFPs and to conduct onsite inspections of new first receivers. NMFS has determined that the earliest date that the fisheries can be reopened with adequate monitoring is October 12, 2008. Therefore, this notice announces: the reopening of the fishery at 0001 hours on October 12, 2008; an increase in the bycatch limit for widow to 287 mt effective on October 12, 2008; an increase in the canary rockfish bycatch limit to 6.4 mt on October 12, 2008; and an increase in the canary rockfish bycatch limit to 6.7 effective October 26, 2008.

Limited Entry Bottom Trawl North of 40°10.00' North Latitude

Updated catch projections based on landing data through August 30, 2008, indicate that the catch of several target species north of 40°10.00' north latitude are lower than previously projected. Because trawl opportunity in the north has been severely constrained by measures to rebuild overfished species, the Council indicated that there was a need to allow the fishers an opportunity to fish. Because catch projections early in the year use historical data to project effort, they are revised as the fishing year progresses and current year data becomes available. When compared to projections available at the Council's June 2008 meeting, the catch of several target species, including Dover sole, arrowtooth flounder, petrale sole and other flatfish was lower than expected.

Because the catch of target species and overfished species has been lower than expected, the Council considered liberalizing the RCA boundaries in the north and increasing target species trip limits. Two different approaches for modifying the RCA boundaries were considered. The first approach considered reopening the areas shoreward of the trawl RCA north of Cape Alava (48°10.00' north latitude) and between Cape Arago (43°20.83' north latitude) and Humbug mountain (42°40.50' north latitude) to 60–fm (110–m) beginning October 1 (or as early as possible) through the end of the year. The second approach considered the possibility of shifting the shoreward boundary of the RCA in the north to 75–fm (137–m) while leaving the area north of Cape Alava and the area between Cape Arago and Humbug mountain closed beginning October 1 (or as early as possible) through the end of the year. After consideration of the availability of canary rockfish and the bycatch implications of the different approaches, the Council recommended that the shoreward boundary of the trawl RCA be moved from 60–fm (110 m) to 75–fm (137 m) in areas north of 40°deg;10.00' north latitude as early as possible, but the areas north of Cape Alava and between Cape Arago and Humbug mountain remain closed. The Council identified concerns about the incidental canary rockfish catch relative to the limited benefit of opening closed areas north of Cape Alava and between Cape Arago and Humbug mountain. The Council also recommended increasing the petrale sole limit in the north for vessels using large and small footrope trawl gear from 30,000 lbs (13.6 mt) per two months to 45,000 lbs (20.41 mt) per two months in period 6, and increasing Dover sole in the north for vessels using large and small footrope trawl gear from 80,000 lbs (36.3 mt) per two months to 90,000 lbs (40.8 mt) per two months in period 6.

Limited Entry Trawl South of 40°deg;10.00' North Latitude

The Council considered increasing the petrale sole, Dover sole, and chilipepper rockfish trip limits in the area south of 40°10.00' north latitude. West Coast Groundfish Observer program data, provided by the NMFS Northwest Fishery Science Center, identified a larger than expected chilipepper rockfish discard rate for small footrope trawl gear in the area south of 40°10.00' north latitude. Rates were particularly high in the areas shoreward of the RCA. Because chilipepper rockfish co-occur with bocaccio and to a lesser degree with cowcod, targeting of chilipepper rockfish has been constrained. Industry participants requested that the Council consider increasing the small footrope trawl gear trip limit to allow the landing of incidentally caught chilipepper rockfish. After consideration of the potential impacts on bocaccio and cowcod projected to result from a modest increase in the trip limit, the Council recommended increasing the chilipepper rockfish limit for small footrope trawl gear in the south from 2,000 lbs (0.9 mt) per two months to 5,000 lbs (2.3 mt) per two months in period 6.

Because the catch of several target species and overfished species has been lower than expected, the Council considered increasing trip limits for petrale sole and Dover sole. The Council recommended increasing petrale sole south of 40°10.00' north latitude from 50,000 lbs (22.6 mt) per two months to 65,000 lbs (29.5 mt) per two months in period 6, and increasing the Dover sole from 80,000 lbs (36.3 mt) per two months to 90,000 lbs (40.8 mt) per two months in period 6.

Limited Entry Fixed Gear North of 36° North Latitude

The Council recommended increasing the daily limit in the limited entry fixed gear sablefish daily trip limit (DTL) fishery north of 36° north latitude in

June from 300–lbs (0.14–mt) per day to 500–lbs (0.23–mt) per day, which became effective August 1. Though limited, data indicates that catch in the DTL fishery is less than the allocation, and has been substantially less than the allocation in recent years. Using historical participation and catch information, the potential increase in the weekly and bimonthly limit for period 6 was evaluated. Because the catches would remain within the limited entry DTL allocation if the 2–month DTL limit were raised from 5,000–lbs (2.3–mt) to 6,500–lbs (2.9–mt) in period 6, the Council recommended raising the DTL limit north of 36 north latitude. The higher limit is expected to increase fishing opportunity without exceeding the allocation. The Council also recommended raising the corresponding weekly limit from 1,000 lb (0.5 mt) per week to 1,500 lb (0.7 mt) per week in period 6.

Open Access South of 34°27' North Latitude

The Council considered an increase in the shelf rockfish trip limits south of Point Conception (34°27' north latitude) from 750–lb (0.3–mt) 2 months to 1,000–lb (0.5–mt) 2 months because fishing effort has been lower than projected. Data through June 30, 2008, indicates that the shelf rockfish landings are approximately 25 percent lower than in previous years and well below the OY. Higher fuel costs and vessel monitoring system requirements may have contributed to the reduction in effort.

In recent years, shelf rockfish trip limits have been substantially reduced over historical levels to reduce the catch of overfished species found on the continental shelf. A variety of information was examined to understand potential impacts of increasing shelf rockfish trip limits. Observer data south of Point Conception indicated low overfished species bycatch, however only limited data were available. An analysis prepared by California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) indicated that the proposed trip limits change is likely to result in a 6.1 percent increase in the projected catch of shelf rockfish and would not be expected to result in the bocaccio or widow rockfish OYs being exceeded. The Council considered potential effort shifts as a result of higher trip limits south of Point Conception, but did not find evidence that the modest increase would create an economic incentive that is likely to result in an effort shift from the north. After public comment and discussion, the Council recommended increasing the shelf rockfish trip limit south of 34°27' north latitude to 1,000–lbs (0.5–mt) per two months in period 6.

California Recreational Fishery

Data available through August 10, 2008, indicated that the California harvest guideline for yelloweye rockfish was projected to be exceeded, therefore, CDFG took action to close the recreational fishery in the North and North Central Regions on September 2, 2008. As a result of the recreational closure, the California recreational fishery is projected to stay within their harvest guidelines for overfished species. CDFG requested and the Council recommended that NMFS Take conforming federal action to close the California recreational fishery in the North and North Central Management Area north of Point Arena.

Classification

These actions are taken under the authority of 50 CFR 660.370(c) and are exempt from review under Executive Order 12866.

These actions are authorized by the Pacific Coast groundfish FMP and its implementing regulations, and are based on the most recent data available. The aggregate data, upon which these actions are based, are available for public inspection at the Office of the Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, (see **ADDRESSES**) during business hours.

For the following reasons, NMFS finds good cause to waive prior public notice and comment on the revisions to the 2008 groundfish management measures under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) because notice and comment would be impracticable and contrary to the public interest. Also for the same reasons, NMFS finds good cause to waive part of the 30 day delay in effectiveness pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(1) and 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3).

The data upon which these recommendations were based was provided to the Council and the Council made its recommendations at its September 8–12, 2008, meeting in Boise, Idaho. There was not sufficient time after that meeting to draft this notice and undergo proposed and final rulemaking before these actions need to be in effect. For the actions to be implemented in this notice, affording the time necessary for prior notice and opportunity for public comment would be impractical and contrary to the public interest because it would prevent the Agency from managing fisheries using the best available science to approach without exceeding the OYs for Federally managed species. The inseason adjustments to management measures in this document affect commercial groundfish fisheries off Washington, Oregon, and California.

Changes to the non-tribal whiting canary rockfish bycatch limit must be implemented and the non-tribal fishery must be reopened as soon as possible, to relieve a restriction and allow fishermen the opportunity to harvest the remainder of the 2008 Pacific whiting OY. It would be contrary to the public interest to wait to implement these changes until after public notice and comment. Reopening the fishery as quickly as possible would be beneficial to the fishery participants because the aggregations of whiting begin to move into deeper waters and disperse later in the year, and this movement may result in increased bycatch rates for non-whiting species, and; because late autumn weather is more dangerous for smaller vessels. Taking the time to do provide notice and comment would eliminate the opportunity for many if not all vessels to participate in the fishery. The whiting fishery contributes a large amount of revenue to the coastal communities of Washington and Oregon. Leaving 101,694–mt (43.7 percent) of the whiting OY unharvested would sacrifice millions of dollars and hundreds of jobs for fishermen and coastal communities.

Projected effects of reopening the nontribal whiting fishery and increasing the non-tribal Pacific whiting widow and canary rockfish bycatch limits are within projected mortality for overfished species and other groundfish species. Failing to take these actions in a timely manner would result in unnecessary restriction of fisheries that are important to coastal communities and is therefore contrary to the public interest.

The adjustments to management measures in this document affect: limited entry commercial trawl and fixed gear fisheries off Washington, Oregon, and California and open access fisheries off California in the area south of 34°27' North latitude, and recreational fisheries off northern California. Adjustments to management measures must be implemented in a timely manner, by October 1, 2008, or as soon as possible afterward to allow: fishers an opportunity to harvest higher trip limits for species where the catch is tracking behind the projected catch levels for 2008; and to assure that recreational fishing in areas closed by CDFG or adjacent federal waters do not result in an overfished species OY being exceeded.

Changes to the cumulative limits in the limited entry trawl fishery, limited

entry fixed gear fishery and the open access fishery are needed to relieve a restriction by allowing fishermen increased opportunities to harvest available healthy stocks. Increased opportunities to harvest available healthy stocks while not exceeding the OYs for overfished species meets the objective of the Pacific Coast Groundfish FMP to allow fisheries to approach, but not exceed, OYs. It would be contrary to the public interest to wait to implement these changes until after public notice and comment, because making this regulatory change by October 1, or as soon as possible after, relieves a regulatory restriction for fisheries that are important to coastal communities. Without these inseason measures, there is an increased risk of causing economic harm to fishing communities. Delaying these changes would keep management measures in place that are not based on the best available science and would impair achievement of one of the Pacific Coast Groundfish FMP objectives of providing for year-round harvest opportunities or extending fishing opportunities as long as practicable during the fishing year.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 660

Fisheries, Fishing, Indians.

Dated: October 6, 2008.

Emily H. Menashes,

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

■ For the reasons set out in this preamble, 50 CFR part 660 is amended as follows:

PART 660—FISHERIES OFF WEST COAST STATES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 660 continues to read as follows:

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

■ 2. In § 660.373 paragraphs (b)(1)(iii) and (b)(4) are revised to read as follows:

§ 660.373 Pacific whiting (whiting) fishery management.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(1) * * *

(iii) Primary whiting seasons. After the start of a primary season for a sector of the whiting fishery, the season remains open for that sector until the quota is taken or a bycatch limit is reached and the fishery season for that sector is closed by NMFS. The primary seasons for the whiting fishery are as follows:

(A) Catcher/processor sector - May 15 to August 19, 2008; reopening on October 12, 2008.

(B) Mothership sector - May 15 to August 19, 2008; reopening on October 12, 2008.

(C) Shore-based sector

(*1*) June 15 to August 19, 2008 and reopening on October 12, 2008 north of 42° N. lat.; April 1 to May 21, 2008, June 15 to August 19, 2008 and reopening on October 12, 2008 between 42°-40°30' N. lat.

(*2*) South of 40°30' N. lat. the primary season is April 15 to May 21, 2008, June 15 to August 19, 2008 and reopening on October 12, 2008.

* * * * *

(4) *Bycatch limits in the whiting fishery.* The bycatch limits for the whiting fishery may be used inseason to close a sector or sectors of the whiting fishery to achieve the rebuilding of an overfished or depleted stock, under routine management measure authority at § 660.370(c)(1)(ii). These limits are routine management measures under § 660.370(c) and, as such, may be adjusted inseason or may have new species added to the list of those with bycatch limits. The whiting fishery bycatch limits for the sectors identified in § 660.323(a) are: 6.4 mt of canary rockfish on October 12, 2008; 6.7 mt of canary rockfish on October 26, 2008; 287 mt of widow rockfish; and 40 mt of darkblotched rockfish.

* * * * *

■ 3. In § 660.384 paragraphs (c)(3)(i)(A)(*1*)and (*2*) are revised to read as follows:

§ 660.384 Recreational fishery management measures.

* * * * *

(c)* * *

(3)* * *

(i) * * *

(A) * * *

(*1*) Between 42° N. lat. (California/Oregon border) and 40°10.00' N. lat. (North Region), recreational fishing for all groundfish (except ''other flatfish'' as specified in paragraph (c)(3)(iv) of this section) is prohibited seaward of the 20 fm (37 m) depth contour along the mainland coast and along islands and offshore seamounts from May 1 through October 13, 2008; and is closed entirely from January 1 through April 30, and October 14, 2008 through December 31, 2008 (i.e., prohibited seaward of the shoreline).

(*2*) Between 40°10' N. lat. and 37°11' N. lat. (North Central Region), recreational fishing for all groundfish (except ''other flatfish'' as specified in paragraph (c)(3)(iv) of this section) is prohibited seaward of the 20 fm (37 m) depth contour along the mainland coast and along islands and offshore seamounts from June 1 through October 13, 2008; and is closed entirely from January 1 through May 31, and October 14, 2008 through December 31, 2008 (i.e., prohibited seaward of the shoreline). Closures around the Farallon Islands (see paragraph (c)(3)(i)(C) of this section) and Cordell Banks (see paragraph (c)(3)(i)(D) of this section) also apply in this area.

* * * * *

■ 4. Tables 3 (North), 3 (South), 4 (North), 4 (South), and 5 (South) to part 660 subpart G are revised to read as follows:

Table 3 (North) to Part 660, Subpart G -- 2007-2008 Trip Limits for Limited Entry Trawl Gear North of 40°10' N. Lat.

Other Limits and Requirements Apply -- Read § 660.301 - § 660.399 before using this table 10/01/08

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
	Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)[6/]:						
1	North of 48°10 00' N lat	shore - modified 200 fm [7/]	shore - 200 fm	shore - 150 fm			shore - modified 200 fm [7/]
2	48°10 00' N lat - 46°38 17' N lat	75 fm - modified 200 fm [7/]	60 fm - 200 fm	60 fm - 150 fm		75 fm - 150 fm	75 fm - modified 200 fm [7/]
3	46°38 17' N lat - 46°16 00 N lat		60 fm - 200 fm		60 fm - 150 fm		
4	46°16 00 N lat - 45°46 00' N lat		75 fm - 200 fm	75 fm - 150 fm		75 fm - 200 fm	
5	45°46 00' N lat - 43°20 83' N lat		75 fm - 200 fm				
6	43°20 83' N lat - 42°40 50' N lat	shore - modified 200 fm [7/]	shore - 200fm				shore - modified 200 fm [7/]
7	42°40 50' N lat -40°10 00' N lat.	75 fm - modified 200 fm [7/]	75 fm - 200 fm	60 fm - 200 fm		75 fm - 200 fm	75 fm - modified 200 fm 7/

Selective flatfish trawl gear is required shoreward of the RCA, all trawl gear (large footrope, selective flatfish trawl, and small footrope trawl gear) is permitted seaward of the RCA Large footrope trawl gear is prohibited shoreward of the RCA Midwater trawl gear is permitted only for vessels participating in the primary whiting season

See § 660.370 and § 660.381 for Additional Gear, Trip Limit, and Conservation Area Requirements and Restrictions. See §§ 660.390-660.394 and §§ 660.396-660.399 for Conservation Area Descriptions and Coordinates (including RCAs, YRCA, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).

State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than federal trip limits, particularly in waters off Oregon and California

8	**Minor slope rockfish[2/] & Darkblotched rockfish**	1,500 lb/ 2 months				
9	**Pacific ocean perch**	1,500 lb/ 2 months				
10	**DTS complex**					
11	Sablefish					
12	large & small footrope gear	14,000 lb/ 2 months		19,000 lb/ 2 months	24,000 lb/ 2 months	19,000 lb/ 2 months
13	selective flatfish trawl gear	5,000 lb/ 2 months			7,000 lb/ 2months	
14	multiple bottom trawl gear [8/]	5,000 lb/ 2 months			7,000 lb/ 2months	
15	Longspine thornyhead					
16	large & small footrope gear	25,000 lb/ 2 months				
17	selective flatfish trawl gear	3,000 lb/ 2 months				
18	multiple bottom trawl gear [8/]	3,000 lb/ 2 months				
19	Shortspine thornyhead					
20	large & small footrope gear	12,000 lb/ 2 months		25,000 lb/ 2 months		
21	selective flatfish trawl gear	3,000 lb/ 2 months				
22	multiple bottom trawl gear [8/]	3,000 lb/ 2 months				
23	Dover sole					
24	large & small footrope gear	80,000 lb/ 2 months				90,000 lb/ 2 months
25	selective flatfish trawl gear	40,000 lb/ 2 months	50,000 lb/ 2 months	40,000 lb/ 2 months	50,000 lb/ 2 months	
26	multiple bottom trawl gear [8/]	40,000 lb/ 2 months	50,000 lb/ 2 months	40,000 lb/ 2 months	50,000 lb/ 2 months	

TABLE 3 (North)

Table 3 (North) Continued

27	**Whiting**							**TABLE 3 (North) con't**
28	midwater trawl	Before the primary whiting season CLOSED -- During the primary season: mid-water trawl permitted in the RCA See §660 373 for season and trip limit details -- After the primary whiting season CLOSED						
29	large & small footrope gear	Before the primary whiting season 20,000 lb/trip -- During the primary season. 10,000 lb/trip -- After the primary whiting season 10,000 lb/trip						
30	**Flatfish** (except Dover sole)							
31	Arrowtooth flounder							
32	large & small footrope gear	150,000 lb/ 2 months						
33	selective flatfish trawl gear	10,000 lb/ 2 months						
34	multiple bottom trawl gear [8/]	10,000 lb/ 2 months						
35	Other flatfish [3/], English sole, starry flounder, & Petrale sole							
36	large & small footrope gear for Other flatfish[3/], English sole, & starry flounder	110,000 lb/ 2 months	110,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 30,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole	110,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 20,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole			110,000 lb/ 2 months	
37	large & small footrope gear for Petrale sole	40,000 lb/ 2 months					45,000 lb/ 2 months	
38	selective flatfish trawl gear for Other flatfish[3/], English sole, & starry flounder	70,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 10,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole	70,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 18,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole	50,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 18,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole	80,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 18,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole	80,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 16,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole	80,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 10,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole	
39	selective flatfish trawl gear for Petrale sole							
40	multiple bottom trawl gear [8/]	70,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 10,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole	70,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 18,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole	50,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 18,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole	80,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 18,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole	80,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 16,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole	80,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 10,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole	
41	**Minor shelf rockfish[1/], Shortbelly, Widow & Yelloweye rockfish**							
42	midwater trawl for Widow rockfish	Before the primary whiting season CLOSED -- During primary whiting season In trips of at least 10,000 lb of whiting, combined widow and yellowtail limit of 500 lb/ trip, cumulative widow limit of 1,500 lb/ month Mid-water trawl permitted in the RCA See §660 373 for primary whiting season and trip limit details -- After the primary whiting season CLOSED						
43	large & small footrope gear	300 lb/ 2 months						
44	selective flatfish trawl gear	300 lb/ month		1,000 lb/ month, no more than 200 lb/ month of which may be yelloweye rockfish			300 lb/ month	
45	multiple bottom trawl gear [8/]	300 lb/ month		300 lb/ 2 months, no more than 200 lb/ month of which may be yelloweye rockfish			300 lb/ month	

Table 3 (North) Continued

46	**Canary rockfish**				
47	large & small footrope gear	CLOSED			
48	selective flatfish trawl gear	100 lb/ month	300 lb/ month	100 lb/ month	
49	multiple bottom trawl gear [8/]	CLOSED			
50	**Yellowtail**				
51	midwater trawl	Before the primary whiting season CLOSED -- During primary whiting season In trips of at least 10,000 lb of whiting combined widow and yellowtail limit of 500 lb/ trip, cumulative yellowtail limit of 2,000 lb/ month Mid-water trawl permitted in the RCA See §660 373 for primary whiting season and trip limit details -- After the primary whiting season CLOSED			
52	large & small footrope gear	300 lb/ 2 months			
53	selective flatfish trawl gear	2,000 lb/ 2 months			
54	multiple bottom trawl gear [8/]	300 lb/ 2 months			
55	**Minor nearshore rockfish & Black rockfish**				
56	large & small footrope gear	CLOSED			
57	selective flatfish trawl gear	300 lb/ month			
58	multiple bottom trawl gear [8/]	CLOSED			
59	**Lingcod** [4/]				
60	large & small footrope gear	1,200 lb/ 2 months	4,000 lb/ 2 months		
61	selective flatfish trawl gear		1,200 lb/2 months		
62	multiple bottom trawl gear [8/]				
63	**Pacific cod**	30,000 lb/ 2 months	70,000 lb/ 2 months		30,000 lb/ 2 months
64	**Spiny dogfish**	200,000 lb/ 2 months	150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months	
65	**Other Fish** [5/]	Not limited			

TABLE 3 (North) con't

1/ Bocaccio, chilipepper and cowcod are included in the trip limits for minor shelf rockfish
2/ Splitnose rockfish is included in the trip limits for minor slope rockfish
3/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660 302 and include butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole
4/ The minimum size limit for lingcod is 24 inches (61 cm) total length
5/ "Other fish" are defined at § 660 302 and include sharks, skates, ratfish, morids, grenadiers, and kelp greenling
Cabezon is included in the trip limits for "other fish "
6/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is a gear and/or sector specific closed area generally described by depth contours
but specifically defined by lat/long coordinates set out at §§ 660 391-660 394
7/ The "modified 200 fm" line is modified to exclude certain petrale sole areas from the RCA
8/ If a vessel has both selective flatfish gear and large or small footrope gear on board during a cumulative limit period (either
simultaneously or successively), the most restrictive cumulative limit for any gear on board during the cumulative limit period applies
for the entire cumulative limit period

To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.

Table 3 (South) to Part 660, Subpart G -- 2007-2008 Trip Limits for Limited Entry Trawl Gear South of 40°10' N. Lat.

Other Limits and Requirements Apply -- Read § 660.301 - § 660.399 before using this table

10/01/08

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
	Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)[6/]:						
1	South of 40°10' N lat.	100 fm - 150 fm [7/]					
	All trawl gear (large footrope, selective flatfish trawl, and small footrope trawl gear) is permitted seaward of the RCA Large footrope trawl gear is prohibited shoreward of the RCA Midwater trawl gear is permitted only for vessels participating in the primary whiting season						
	See § 660.370 and § 660.381 for Additional Gear, Trip Limit, and Conservation Area Requirements and Restrictions. See §§ 660.390-660.394 and §§ 660.396-660.399 for Conservation Area Descriptions and Coordinates (including RCAs, YRCA, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).						
	State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than federal trip limits, particularly in waters off Oregon and California						
2	**Minor slope rockfish[2/] & Darkblotched rockfish**						
3	40°10' - 38° N lat	15,000 lb/ 2 months					
4	South of 38° N lat	55,000 lb/ 2 months					
5	**Splitnose**						
6	40°10' - 38° N lat	15,000 lb/ 2 months			10,000 lb/ 2 months		15,000 lb/ 2 months
7	South of 38° N lat	40,000 lb/ 2 months					
8	**DTS complex**						
9	Sablefish	14,000 lb/ 2 months		19,000 lb/ 2 months	24,000 lb/ 2 months		19,000 lb/ 2 months
10	Longspine thornyhead	25,000 lb/ 2 months					
11	Shortspine thornyhead	12,000 lb/ 2 months		25,000 lb/ 2 months			
12	Dover sole	80,000 lb/ 2 months					90,000 lb/ 2 months
13	**Flatfish** (except Dover sole)						
14	Other flatfish[3/], English sole, & starry flounder	110,000 lb/ 2 months	110,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 30,000 lb/ 2 months of which may be petrale sole				110,000 lb/ 2 months
15	Petrale sole	50,000 lb/ 2 months					65,000 lb/ 2 months
16	Arrowtooth flounder	10,000 lb/ 2 months					
17	**Whiting**						
18	midwater trawl	Before the primary whiting season CLOSED -- During the primary season mid-water trawl permitted in the RCA See §660 373 for season and trip limit details -- After the primary whiting season CLOSED					
19	large & small footrope gear	Before the primary whiting season 20,000 lb/trip -- During the primary season 10,000 lb/trip -- After the primary whiting season 10,000 lb/trip					

TABLE 3 (South)

Table 3 (South) Continued

20	**Minor shelf rockfish[1/], Chilipepper, Shortbelly, Widow, & Yelloweye rockfish**				
21	large footrope or midwater trawl for Minor shelf rockfish & Shortbelly	300 lb/ month			
22	large footrope or midwater trawl for Chilipepper	2,000 lb/ 2 months	12,000 lb/ 2 months	8,000 lb/ 2 months	
23	large footrope or midwater trawl for Widow & Yelloweye	CLOSED			
24	small footrope trawl for Minor Shelf, Shortbelly, Widow & Yelloweye	300 lb/ month			
25	small footrope trawl for Chilipepper	2,000 lb/ 2 months			5,000 lb/ 2 months
26	**Bocaccio**				
27	large footrope or midwater trawl	300 lb/ 2 months			
28	small footrope trawl	CLOSED			
29	**Canary rockfish**				
30	large footrope or midwater trawl	CLOSED			
31	small footrope trawl	100 lb/ month	300 lb/ month	100 lb/ month	
32	**Cowcod**	CLOSED			
33	**Minor nearshore rockfish & Black rockfish**				
34	large footrope or midwater trawl	CLOSED			
35	small footrope trawl	300 lb/ month			
36	**Lingcod[4/]**				
37	large footrope or midwater trawl	1,200 lb/ 2 months	4,000 lb/ 2 months		
38	small footrope trawl		1,200 lb/ 2 months		
39	**Pacific cod**	30,000 lb/ 2 months	70,000 lb/ 2 months		30,000 lb/ 2 months
40	**Spiny dogfish**	200,000 lb/ 2 months	150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months	
41	**Other Fish[5/] & Cabezon**	Not limited			

TABLE 3 (South) con't

1/ Yellowtail is included in the trip limits for minor shelf rockfish
2/ POP is included in the trip limits for minor slope rockfish
3/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660 302 and include butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole
4/ The minimum size limit for lingcod is 24 inches (61 cm) total length
5/ Other fish are defined at § 660 302 and include sharks, skates, ratfish, morids, grenadiers, and kelp greenling
6/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is a gear and/or sector specific closed area generally described by depth contours but specifically defined by lat/long coordinates set out at §§ 660 391-660 394
7/ South of 34°27' N lat , the RCA is 100 fm - 150 fm along the mainland coast, shoreline - 150 fm around islands
To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.

Table 4 (North) to Part 660, Subpart G -- 2007-2008 Trip Limits for Limited Entry Fixed Gear North of 40°10' N. Lat.

Other Limits and Requirements Apply -- Read § 660.301 - § 660.399 before using this table 10/01/08

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
	Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)[6/]:						
1	North of 46°16' N. lat.	shoreline - 100 fm					
2	46°16' N lat. - 40°10' N. lat	30 fm - 100 fm					
	See § 660.370 and § 660.382 for Additional Gear, Trip Limit, and Conservation Area Requirements and Restrictions. See §§ 660.390-660.394 and §§ 660.396-660.399 for Conservation Area Descriptions and Coordinates (including RCAs, YRCA, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).						
	State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than federal trip limits, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.						
3	**Minor slope rockfish [2/] & Darkblotched rockfish**	4,000 lb/ 2 months					
4	**Pacific ocean perch**	1,800 lb/ 2 months					
5	**Sablefish**	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,000 lb, not to exceed 5,000 lb/ 2 months			500 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,000 lb, not to exceed 5,000 lb/ 2 months		500 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,500 lb, not to exceed 6,500 lb/ 2 months
6	**Longspine thornyhead**	10,000 lb/ 2 months					
7	**Shortspine thornyhead**	2,000 lb/ 2 months					
8	**Dover sole**	5,000 lb/ month South of 42° N lat , when fishing for "other flatfish," vessels using hook-and-line gear with no more than 12 hooks per line, using hooks no larger than "Number 2" hooks, which measure 11 mm (0.44 inches) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0 45 kg) weights per line are not subject to the RCAs.					
9	**Arrowtooth flounder**						
10	**Petrale sole**						
11	**English sole**						
12	**Starry flounder**						
13	**Other flatfish[1/]**						
14	**Whiting**	10,000 lb/ trip					
15	**Minor shelf rockfish[2/], Shortbelly, Widow, & Yellowtail rockfish**	200 lb/ month					
16	**Canary rockfish**	CLOSED					
17	**Yelloweye rockfish**	CLOSED					
18	**Minor nearshore rockfish & Black rockfish**						
19	North of 42° N. lat.	5,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black or blue rockfish 3/					
20	42° - 40°10' N. lat.	6,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black or blue rockfish 3/					
21	**Lingcod[4/]**	CLOSED		800 lb/ 2 months		400 lb/ month	CLOSED
22	**Pacific cod**	1,000 lb/ 2 months					
23	**Spiny dogfish**	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months		
24	**Other fish[5/]**	Not limited					

TABLE 4 (North)

1/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660.302 and include butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.
2/ Bocaccio, chilipepper and cowcod are included in the trip limits for minor shelf rockfish and splitnose rockfish is included in the trip limits for minor slope rockfish.
3/ For black rockfish north of Cape Alava (48°09.50' N. lat.), and between Destruction Is. (47°40' N. lat.) and Leadbetter Pnt. (46°38.17' N. lat), there is an additional limit of 100 lb or 30 percent by weight of all fish on board, whichever is greater, per vessel, per fishing trip.
4/ The minimum size limit for lingcod is 22 inches (56 cm) total length North of 42° N. lat. and 24 inches (61 cm) total length south of 42° N. lat.
5/ "Other fish" are defined at § 660.302 and include sharks, skates, ratfish, morids, grenadiers, and kelp greenling. Cabezon is included in the trip limits for "other fish."
6/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is a gear and/or sector specific closed area generally described by depth contours but specifically defined by lat/long coordinates set out at §§ 660.391-660 394.

To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.

Table 4 (South) to Part 660, Subpart G -- 2007-2008 Trip Limits for Limited Entry Fixed Gear South of 40°10' N. Lat.

Other Limits and Requirements Apply -- Read § 660.301 - § 660.399 before using this table 10/01/08

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
	Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)[5/]:						
1	40°10' - 34°27' N lat	30 fm - 150 fm					
2	South of 34°27' N lat	60 fm - 150 fm (also applies around islands)					
	See § 660.370 and § 660.382 for Additional Gear, Trip Limit, and Conservation Area Requirements and Restrictions. See §§ 660.390-660.394 and §§ 660.396-660.399 for Conservation Area Descriptions and Coordinates (including RCAs, YRCA, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).						
	State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than federal trip limits, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.						
3	**Minor slope rockfish[2/] & Darkblotched rockfish**	40,000 lb/ 2 months					
4	**Splitnose**	40,000 lb/ 2 months					
5	**Sablefish**						
6	40°10' - 36° N. lat.	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,000 lb, not to exceed 5,000 lb/ 2 months			500 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,000 lb, not to exceed 5,000 lb/ 2 months		500 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,500 lb, not to exceed 6,500 lb/ 2 months
7	South of 36° N. lat	350 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,050 lb					
8	**Longspine thornyhead**	10,000 lb / 2 months					
9	**Shortspine thornyhead**						
10	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	2,000 lb/ 2 months					
11	South of 34°27' N lat.	3,000 lb/ 2 months					
12	**Dover sole**	5,000 lb/ month South of 42° N. lat., when fishing for "other flatfish," vessels using hook-and-line gear with no more than 12 hooks per line, using hooks no larger than "Number 2" hooks, which measure 11 mm (0.44 inches) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line are not subject to the RCAs.					
13	**Arrowtooth flounder**						
14	**Petrale sole**						
15	**English sole**						
16	**Starry flounder**						
17	**Other flatfish[1/]**						
18	**Whiting**	10,000 lb/ trip					
19	**Minor shelf rockfish[2/], Shortbelly, Widow rockfish, and Bocaccio (including Chilipepper between 40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.)**						
20	40°10' - 34°27' N lat	Minor shelf rockfish, shortbelly, widow rockfish, bocaccio & chilipepper: 2,500 lb/ 2 months, of which no more than 500 lb/ 2 months may be any species other than chilipepper.					
21	South of 34°27' N lat.	3,000 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	3,000 lb/ 2 months			
22	**Chilipepper rockfish**						
23	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat	Chilipepper included under minor shelf rockfish, shortbelly, widow and bocaccio limits -- See above					
24	South of 34°27' N. lat.	2,000 lb/ 2 months, this opportunity only available seaward of the nontrawl RCA					
25	**Canary rockfish**	CLOSED					
26	**Yelloweye rockfish**	CLOSED					
27	**Cowcod**	CLOSED					
28	**Bocaccio**						
29	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat	Bocaccio included under Minor shelf rockfish, shortbelly, widow & chilipepper limits -- See above					
30	South of 34°27' N. lat.	300 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	300 lb/ 2 months			

TABLE 4 (South)

Table 4 (South). Continued

TABLE 4 (South)

31	**Minor nearshore rockfish & Black rockfish**							
32	Shallow nearshore	600 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	800 lb/ 2 months	900 lb/ 2 months	800 lb/ 2 months	600 lb/ 2 months	
33	Deeper nearshore							
34	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat	700 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	700 lb/ 2 months		600 lb/ 2 months	700 lb/ 2 months	
35	South of 34°27' N. lat.	500 lb/ 2 months		600 lb/ 2 months				
36	California scorpionfish	600 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	600 lb/ 2 months	800 lb/ 2 months		600 lb/ 2 months	
37	**Lingcod**[3/]	CLOSED		800 lb/ 2 months			400 lb/ month	CLOSED
38	**Pacific cod**	1,000 lb/ 2 months						
39	**Spiny dogfish**	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months			
40	**Other fish**[4/] **& Cabezon**	Not limited						

1/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660.302 and include butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.
2/ POP is included in the trip limits for minor slope rockfish. Yellowtail is included in the trip limits for minor shelf rockfish.
3/ The minimum size limit for lingcod is 24 inches (61 cm) total length
4/ "Other fish" are defined at § 660.302 and include sharks, skates, ratfish, morids, grenadiers, and kelp greenling.
5/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is a gear and/or sector specific closed area generally described by depth contours but specifically defined by lat/long coordinates set out at §§ 660.391-660.394, except that the 20-fm depth contour off California is defined by the depth contour and not coordinates

To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.

Table 5 (South) to Part 660, Subpart G -- 2007-2008 Trip Limits for Open Access Gears South of 40°10' N. Lat.

Other Limits and Requirements Apply -- Read § 660.301 - § 660.399 before using this table 10/01/08

		JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
	Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)[5/]:						
1	40°10' - 34°27' N lat.	30 fm - 150 fm					
2	South of 34°27' N. lat.	60 fm - 150 fm (also applies around islands)					
	See § 660.370 and § 660.383 for Additional Gear, Trip Limit, and Conservation Area Requirements and Restrictions. See §§ 660.390-660.394 and §§ 660.396-660.399 for Conservation Area Descriptions and Coordinates (including RCAs, YRCA, CCAs, Farallon Islands, Cordell Banks, and EFHCAs).						
	State trip limits and seasons may be more restrictive than federal trip limits, particularly in waters off Oregon and California.						
3	**Minor slope rockfish[1/] & Darkblotched rockfish**						
4	40°10' - 38° N. lat.	Per trip, no more than 25% of weight of the sablefish landed					
5	South of 38° N. lat	10,000 lb/ 2 months					
6	**Splitnose**	200 lb/ month					
7	**Sablefish**						
8	40°10' - 36° N. lat	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 800 lb, not to exceed 2,400 lb/ 2 months		300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 800 lb, not to exceed 2,200 lb/ 2 months			
9	South of 36° N. lat.	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 700 lb			300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 700 lb, not to exceed 1,000 lb/ 1 month	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 700 lb, not to exceed 2,100 lb/ 2 months	
10	**Thornyheads**						
11	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat	CLOSED					
12	South of 34°27' N. lat	50 lb/ day, no more than 1,000 lb/ 2 months					
13	**Dover sole**	3,000 lb/month, no more than 300 lb of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs South of 42° N lat., when fishing for "other flatfish," vessels using hook-and-line gear with no more than 12 hooks per line, using hooks no larger than "Number 2" hooks, which measure 11 mm (0.44 inches) point to shank, and up to two 1 lb (0.45 kg) weights per line are not subject to the RCAs					
14	**Arrowtooth flounder**						
15	**Petrale sole**						
16	**English sole**						
17	**Starry flounder**						
18	**Other flatfish[2/]**						
19	**Whiting**	300 lb/ month					
20	**Minor shelf rockfish[1/], Shortbelly, Widow & Chilipepper rockfish**						
21	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	300 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	200 lb/ 2 months		300 lb/ 2 months	
22	South of 34°27' N. lat	750 lb/ 2 months		750 lb/ 2 months			1,000 lb/ 2 months
23	**Canary rockfish**	CLOSED					
24	**Yelloweye rockfish**	CLOSED					
25	**Cowcod**	CLOSED					
26	**Bocaccio**						
27	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	200 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	100 lb/ 2 months		200 lb/ 2 months	
28	South of 34°27' N. lat.	100 lb/ 2 months		100 lb/ 2 months			

TABLE 5 (South)

Table 5 (South) Continued

29	**Minor nearshore rockfish & Black rockfish**							
30	Shallow nearshore	600 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	800 lb/ 2 months	900 lb/ 2 months	800 lb/ 2 months	600 lb/ 2 months	
31	Deeper nearshore							
32	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	700 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	700 lb/ 2 months		600 lb/ 2 months	700 lb/ 2 months	
33	South of 34°27' N. lat.	500 lb/ 2 months		600 lb/ 2 months				
34	California scorpionfish	600 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED	600 lb/ 2 months	800 lb/ 2 months		600 lb/ 2 months	
35	**Lingcod**[3/]	CLOSED		400 lb/ month				CLOSED
36	**Pacific cod**	1,000 lb/ 2 months						
37	**Spiny dogfish**	200,000 lb/ 2 months		150,000 lb/ 2 months	100,000 lb/ 2 months			
38	**Other Fish**[4/] **& Cabezon**	Not limited						
39	**RIDGEBACK PRAWN AND, SOUTH OF 38°57.50' N. LAT., CA HALIBUT AND SEA CUCUMBER NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL**							
40	**NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) for CA Halibut, Sea Cucumber & Ridgeback Prawn:**							
41	40°10' - 38° N. lat.	100 fm - modified 200 fm [6/]	100 fm - 150 fm				100 fm - modified 200 fm [6/]	
42	38° - 34°27' N. lat.	100 fm - 150 fm						
43	South of 34°27' N lat.	100 fm - 150 fm along the mainland coast; shoreline - 150 fm around islands						
44		Groundfish: 300 lb/trip Trip limits in this table also apply and are counted toward the 300 lb groundfish per trip limit. The amount of groundfish landed may not exceed the amount of the target species landed, except that the amount of spiny dogfish landed may exceed the amount of target species landed. Spiny dogfish are limited by the 300 lb/trip overall groundfish limit. The daily trip limits for sablefish coastwide and thornyheads south of Pt. Conception and the overall groundfish "per trip" limit may not be multiplied by the number of days of the trip. Vessels participating in the California halibut fishery south of 38°57.50' N. lat. are allowed to (1) land up to 100 lb/day of groundfish without the ratio requirement, provided that at least one California halibut is landed and (2) land up to 3,000 lb/month of flatfish, no more than 300 lb of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs, sand sole, starry flounder, rock sole, curlfin sole, or California scorpionfish (California scorpionfish is also subject to the trip limits and closures in line 31)						
45	**PINK SHRIMP NON-GROUNDFISH TRAWL GEAR** *(not subject to RCAs)*							
46	South	**Effective April 1 - October 31:** Groundfish: 500 lb/day, multiplied by the number of days of the trip, not to exceed 1,500 lb/trip. The following sublimits also apply and are counted toward the overall 500 lb/day and 1,500 lb/trip groundfish limits: lingcod 300 lb/ month (minimum 24 inch size limit); sablefish 2,000 lb/ month; canary, thornyheads and yelloweye rockfish are PROHIBITED All other groundfish species taken are managed under the overall 500 lb/day and 1,500 lb/trip groundfish limits Landings of these species count toward the per day and per trip groundfish limits and do not have species-specific limits. The amount of groundfish landed may not exceed the amount of pink shrimp landed.						

TABLE 5 (South) con't

1/ Yellowtail rockfish is included in the trip limits for minor shelf rockfish and POP is included in the trip limits for minor slope rockfish.
2/ "Other flatfish" are defined at § 660.302 and include butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, Pacific sanddab, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole.
3/ The size limit for lingcod is 24 inches (61 cm) total length.
4/ "Other fish" are defined at § 660 302 and include sharks, skates, ratfish, morids, grenadiers, and kelp greenling.
5/ The Rockfish Conservation Area is a gear and/or sector specific closed area generally described by depth contours but specifically defined by lat/long coordinates set out at §§ 660.391-660.394, except that the 20-fm depth contour off California is defined by the depth contour and not coordinates.
6/ The "modified 200 fm" line is modified to exclude certain petrale sole areas from the RCA.
To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.

[FR Doc. E8–24368 Filed 10–10–08; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–22–S