

Species		Historic range	Family	Status	When listed	Critical habitat	Special rules
Scientific name	Common name						
FLOWERING PLANTS							
*	*	*	*	*	*		*
<i>Sidalcea oregana</i> var. <i>calva</i> .	Wenatchee Moun- tains checker-mal- low.	U.S.A. (WA)	Malvaceae—Mallow	E	673	NA	NA
*	*	*	*	*	*		*

Dated: December 8, 1999.

Jamie Rappaport Clark,

Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 99-33100 Filed 12-21-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 981014259-8312-02; I.D. 121699B]

Summer Flounder Fishery

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

ACTION: Commercial quota transfer; commercial quota harvest reopening.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces that the State of North Carolina is transferring 70,000 lb (31,752 kg) of commercial summer flounder quota to the State of New York from its 1999 quota. By this action, NMFS adjusts the quotas and announces the revised commercial quota for each state involved. NMFS also announces that the summer flounder commercial fishery in the EEZ for the State of New York is reopened. Vessels issued a commercial Federal fisheries permit for the summer flounder fishery may land summer flounder in New York for the remainder of calendar year 1999, unless closed due to the State of New York harvesting its commercial quota before the end of the calendar year. Regulations governing the summer flounder fishery require the publication of this notification to advise the State of New York that the fishery has reopened and to advise vessel permit holders and dealer permit holders that commercial quota is available for landing summer flounder in New York.

DATES: Effective December 17, 1999 through December 31, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul H. Jones, Fishery Policy Analyst, (978) 281-9273.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulations governing the summer flounder fishery are found at 50 CFR part 648. The regulations require annual specification of a commercial quota that is apportioned among the coastal states from North Carolina through Maine. The process to set the annual commercial quota and the percent allocated to each state are described in § 648.100.

After taking into account any overages of state quotas that occurred in 1998, the total commercial quota for summer flounder for the 1999 calendar year was set equal to 10,729,274 lb (4,866,717 kg), with a quota of 790,006 lb (358,341 kg) for New York and a quota of 3,044,589 lb (1,381,002 kg) for North Carolina (64 FR 46596; August 26, 1999).

The final rule implementing Amendment 5 to the FMP that was published on December 17, 1993 (58 FR 65936), provided the mechanism for summer flounder quota to be transferred from one state to another. Two or more states, under mutual agreement and with the concurrence of the Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, (Regional Administrator) can transfer or combine summer flounder commercial quota under section 648.100(e). The Regional Administrator is required to consider the criteria set forth in § 648.100(e)(1), in the evaluation of requests for quota transfers or combinations.

North Carolina has agreed to transfer 70,000 lb (31,752 kg) of its 1999 commercial quota to New York. The Regional Administrator has determined that the criteria set forth in § 648.100(e)(1) have been met, and publishes this notification of quota transfer. The revised quotas for the calendar year 1999 are: New York, 860,006 lb (390,099 kg); and North Carolina, 2,974,589 lb (1,349,274 kg).

NMFS issued a notification in the **Federal Register** on October 26, 1999 (64 FR 57586), announcing that the summer flounder commercial quota available to the State of New York had been harvested. The Regional Administrator has determined, based upon dealer reports and upon other available information, that the State of

North Carolina will not attain its quota for 1999 and, based on the 70,000-lb (31,752-kg) transfer of commercial summer flounder quota to the State of New York, that the State of New York commercial summer flounder fishery in the EEZ will reopen effective 0001 hours, December 17, 1999 through December 31, 1999. Therefore, vessels issued a commercial Federal fisheries permit for the summer flounder fishery may land summer flounder in New York for the remainder of calendar year 1999, unless closed due to the State of New York harvesting its commercial quota before the end of the calendar year. Effective December 17, 1999 through December 31, 1999, federally permitted dealers are also advised that they may purchase summer flounder from federally permitted vessels that land in New York for the remainder of the calendar year.

Classification

This action does not alter any of the conclusions reached in the environmental impact statement prepared for Amendment 2 to the FMP regarding the effects of summer flounder fishing activity on the human environment. Amendment 2 established procedures for setting an annual coastwide commercial quota for summer flounder and a formula for determining commercial quotas for each state. The quota transfer provision was established by Amendment 5 to the FMP and the environmental assessment prepared for Amendment 5 found that the action had no significant impact on the environment. Under section 6.03a.3(b)(1) of NOAA Administrative Order 216-6, this action is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare additional environmental analyses. This is a routine administrative action that reallocates commercial quota within the scope of previously published environmental analyses. This action is taken under 50 CFR part 648 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: December 17, 1999.

Bruce C. Morehead,

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

[FR Doc. 99-33151 Filed 12-17-99; 2:41 pm]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 679

[I.D. 113099C]

Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Community Development Quota Program

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

ACTION: Approval of amendments to the 1998-2000 Multispecies Community Development Plans (CDPs) for six Community Development Quota (CDQ) groups.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the approval of recommendations made by the State of Alaska (State) for the amendments to the 1998-2000 Multispecies (MS) CDPs for the six CDQ groups under the Western Alaska CDQ Program. This action is necessary to announce NMFS' decision to approve the State's recommendations and is intended to further the goals and objectives of the Magnuson-Stevens

Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

DATES: Approval of the amendments to the CDPs and the 2000 CDQ and prohibited species quota (PSQ) allocations are effective December 21, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the findings made by NMFS in approving the State's recommendations may be obtained from the Alaska Region, NMFS, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802, Attn: Lori Gravel.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Obren Davis, 907-586-7228.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The current percentage allocations of pollock, arrowtooth flounder, and "other species" CDQ and chinook salmon and non-chinook salmon PSQ to the CDQ groups expire on December 31, 1999. To synchronize the 3-year CDP cycles for all CDQ species by the end of 2000, and to allow the State to evaluate the impact of the American Fisheries Act (AFA) on the pollock CDQ fisheries, percentage allocations of pollock CDQ and associated incidental catch species are being made on an annual basis in 1999 and 2000. NMFS approved the 1999 percentage allocation recommendations for pollock and the associated incidental catch species on January 11, 1999. Percentage allocations to the CDQ groups for these five CDQ and PSQ species groups now must be approved for 2000. For the 2001 through

2003 fishing years, all groundfish CDQ and PSQ species will be combined into a single 3-year CDP cycle.

Eligible Western Alaska communities submitted to the State six applications for amendments to the MS CDPs for pollock and the related incidental catch species under 50 CFR 679.30. The State conducted a public hearing on September 28, 1999. During the North Pacific Fishery Management Council's October 1999 meeting, the State consulted with the Council concerning the proposed amendments to the MS CDPs. At that time, the State recommended the same percentage allocations to all of the CDQ groups as were approved for 1999, and the Council concurred in the State's recommendations.

On November 5, 1999, the State submitted a letter and findings to NMFS recommending that the CDPs for the six CDQ groups be complete and recommending the same percentage allocations for pollock and the associated incidental catch species as those approved for these CDQ groups for 1999. NMFS agrees with the State's recommendations and approves the amendments to the 1998-2000 MS CDPs for the six CDQ groups and the percentage allocations of pollock and other associated incidental catch species for 2000.

The allocations to each CDQ group are presented in the table following. NMFS' findings regarding this decision are also available (see **ADDRESSES**).

Selected Multispecies Groundfish and Prohibited Species Community Development Quota Allocations for 2000

Species or Species Group	APICDA	BBEDC	CBSFA	CVRF	NSDC	YDFDA
Pollock	16%	21%	5%	22%	22%	14%
Arrowtooth Flounder	18%	21%	9%	16%	16%	20%
Other Species	19%	22%	9%	14%	15%	21%
Chinook Salmon PSQ	16%	21%	5%	22%	22%	14%
Non-chinook Salmon PSQ	16%	21%	5%	22%	22%	14%

APICDA = Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association

BBEDC = Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation

CBSFA = Central Bering Sea Fishermen's Association

CVRF = Coastal Villages Region Fund

NSDC = Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation

YDFDA = Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association

PSQ = prohibited species quota

Dated: December 16, 1999.

Gary C. Matlock,

Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries National Marine Fisheries Service.

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