

Species		Historic range	Vertebrate population where endangered or threatened	Status	When listed	Critical habitat	Special rules
Common name	Scientific name						
* Snake, copperbelly water.	* Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta.	* U.S.A. (IL, IN, KY, MI, OH).	* Indiana north of 40 degrees north latitude, Michigan, Ohio.	* T	* 607	* NA	* NA
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Dated: January 16, 1997.  
 John G. Rogers,  
 Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.  
 [FR Doc. 97-2056 Filed 1-27-97; 8:45 am]  
 BILLING CODE 4310-55-P

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**50 CFR Part 679**

[Docket No. 960502124-6190-02; I.D. 012497B]

**Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Scallop Fishery; Closure in Registration Area E**

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

**ACTION:** Closure.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is closing the scallop fishery in Scallop Registration Area E (Prince William Sound) east of 146° West long. This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the scallop total allowable catch (TAC) in this area.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), January 24, 1997, until 2400 hrs, A.l.t., June 30, 1997.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mary Furuness, 907-586-7228.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The scallop fishery in the exclusive economic zone off Alaska is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for Scallop Fishery off Alaska (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing for scallops is governed by regulations appearing at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

In accordance with § 679.62(b), the 1996-1997 scallop TAC for Scallop Registration Area E was established by the Final 1996-1997 Harvest Specifications of Scallops (61 FR 38099,

July 23, 1996) and a reduced TAC was apportioned (62 FR 2043, January 15, 1997) as 17,300 lb (7,847 kg) of shucked scallop meat in the part of Registration Area E east of 146° West long.

In accordance with § 679.62(c), the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, has determined that the scallop TAC for Scallop Registration Area E east of 146° West long. has been reached.

Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting the taking and retention of scallops in Scallop Registration Area E east of 146° West long. from 1200 hrs, A.l.t., January 24, 1997, through 2400 hrs, A.l.t., June 30, 1997.

**Classification**

This action is required by § 679.62 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: January 24, 1997.  
 George H. Darcy,  
 Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.  
 [FR Doc. 97-2229 Filed 1-24-97; 3:50 pm]  
 BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

**50 CFR Part 679**

[Docket No. 961126333-6333-01; I.D. 012497A]

[Docket No. 960129018-6018-01; I.D. 122396A]

**Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 610; Pacific Cod for Processing by the Inshore Component in the Western and Central Regulatory Areas**

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

**ACTION:** Closure and correction.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 610 in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). This action is necessary to prevent exceeding the interim specification for pollock in this area. NMFS is also correcting a typographical mistake in FR Doc. 96-

33290 (I.D. 122396A) published on December 31, 1996.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** 1200 hrs, Alaska local time (A.l.t.), January 26, 1997, until superseded by the Final 1997 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael Sloan, 907-581-2062.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The groundfish fishery in the GOA exclusive economic zone is managed by NMFS according to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (FMP) prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Fishing by U.S. vessels is governed by regulations implementing the FMP at subpart H of 50 CFR part 600 and 50 CFR part 679.

The interim specification of pollock total allowable catch in Statistical Area 610 was established by Interim 1997 Harvest Specifications (61 FR 64299, December 4, 1996) as 9,075 metric tons (mt), determined in accordance with § 679.20(c)(2)(i).

In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(i), the Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Administrator), has determined that the 1997 interim specification of pollock in Statistical Area 610 soon will be reached. Therefore, the Regional Administrator is establishing a directed fishing allowance of 8,875 mt, and is setting aside the remaining 200 mt as bycatch to support other anticipated groundfish fisheries. In accordance with § 679.20(d)(1)(iii), the Regional Administrator finds that this directed fishing allowance will soon be reached. Consequently, NMFS is prohibiting directed fishing for pollock in Statistical Area 610 until superseded by the Final 1997 Harvest Specifications for Groundfish.

Maximum retainable bycatch amounts for applicable gear types may be found in the regulations at § 679.20(e).

**Correction**

In a directed fishing opening, FR Doc 96-33290, published December 31, 1996 (61 FR 69050), the first line of the

SUMMARY contained a typographical error. It is corrected to read,  
"SUMMARY: NMFS is opening \* \* \*"

Classification

This action is required by 50 CFR 679.20 and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

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

Dated: January 24, 1997.

George H. Darcy,

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

[FR Doc. 97-2230 Filed 1-24-97; 3:50 pm]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-F**