

with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the PRA, unless that collection displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

This proposed rule has been determined to be not significant for purposes of E.O. 12866.

The Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulation of the Department of Commerce certified to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration that this proposed rule, if adopted, would not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities as follows.

This change constitutes a minor regulatory amendment needed to reinforce the intended purpose of the 6-hour prior notice of landing. The current regulations do not require, as was intended, fishermen to make the landing at the time scheduled in the Prior Notice; they are restricted only from making the landing before 6 hours have elapsed since the Prior Notice was given. This action would define the length of time within which a 6-hour prior notice is valid and require that fishermen land IFQ species at the time specified in the prior notice or within 2 hours after the specified time.

The estimate of the reporting burden associated with the prior notice of landing is .2 hours and \$2.00 per response, as described in the Supporting Statement for Collection of Information submitted for OMB authorization of the IFQ Program (OMB control number 0648-0272). NMFS expects instances when a vessel operator inadvertently miscalculates the expected time of landing and thus needs to submit an additional prior notice to be relatively infrequent. Hence, the economic impact of this rule would not be significant.

Therefore, a regulatory flexibility analysis was not prepared.

#### List of Subjects in 50 CFR 679

Fisheries, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Dated: February 13, 1997.

Nancy Foster

*Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

For the reasons set out in the preamble, 50 CFR Part 679 is proposed to be amended as follows:

## PART 679—FISHERIES OF THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE OFF ALASKA

1. The authority citation for part 679 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 773 *et seq.*, 1801 *et seq.*

2. In § 679.5, paragraph (l)(1)(i)(B) is revised and paragraph (l)(1)(i)(D) is added to read as follows:

### § 679.5 Recordkeeping and reporting.

\* \* \* \* \*

(l) \* \* \*

(1) \* \* \*

(i) \* \* \*

(B) Notification must include: Name of the registered buyer(s) to whom the IFQ halibut or IFQ sablefish will be landed and the location of the landing; vessel identification; estimated weight of the IFQ halibut or IFQ sablefish that will be landed; identification number(s) of the IFQ card(s) that will be used to land the IFQ halibut or IFQ sablefish; and the date and time that the landing will take place.

\* \* \* \* \*

(D) The operator of any vessel wishing to land IFQ halibut or IFQ sablefish before the date and time reported in the prior notice or later than 2 hours after the date and time reported in the prior notice must submit a new prior notice of IFQ landing in compliance with the provisions set forth in paragraphs (l)(1)(i)(A) through (C) of this section.

\* \* \* \* \*

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## 50 CFR Part 697

[I.D. 021197A]

RIN 0648-AH58

### Atlantic Weakfish Fisheries; Public Hearings

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

**ACTION:** Notice of public hearings; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS will hold three public hearings to receive comments from fishery participants and other members of the public regarding proposed regulations on the harvest and possession of weakfish in the exclusive economic zone of the Atlantic Ocean from Maine through Florida.

**DATES:** Written comments on the proposed rule and supporting documents (Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Regulatory Impact Review (DSEIS/RIR)) must be received on or before March 17, 1997. The public hearings will be held during the month of March. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for dates and times of the public hearings.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to Richard H. Schaefer, Chief, Staff Office of Intergovernmental and Recreational Fisheries (Fx2), National Marine Fisheries Service, 8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 425, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Clearly mark the outside of the envelope "Atlantic Weakfish Comments." The public hearings will be held in New Jersey, Delaware, and North Carolina. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for the public hearing locations.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Thomas Meyer/Paul Perra, 301-427-2014.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The proposed regulations are necessary to be compatible with rules already implemented by the coastal states through the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Amendment 3 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Weakfish, and to ensure the rebuilding of the weakfish stock along the east coast of the Atlantic Ocean.

A complete description of the measures, and the purpose and need for the proposed action, is contained in the proposed rule published on February 14, 1997 (62 FR 6935) and is not repeated here. Copies of the proposed rule may be obtained by writing (see **ADDRESSES**) or calling the contact person (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**).

To accommodate people unable to attend a hearing or wishing to provide additional comments, NMFS also solicits written comments on the proposed rule.

The public hearings will be held as follows:  
*Tuesday, March 4, 1997, Cape May Court House, NJ 7-9 p.m.*  
Rutgers' Cooperative Extension Office  
355 South Dennis/Court House Road  
(Route 657)  
Cape May Court House, NJ 08210  
*Thursday, March 6, 1997, Manteo, NC, 7-9 p.m.*  
North Carolina Aquarium  
Airport Road

Manteo, NC 27954  
*Monday, March 10, 1997, Dover, DE, 7:30-9 p.m.*  
Department of Natural Resources  
Environmental Control Auditorium  
89 Kings Highway  
Dover, DE 19903  
The purpose of this document is to alert the interested public of hearings and provide for public participation. These hearings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for

sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Thomas Meyer by February 25, 1997 (see **ADDRESSES**).

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 5101 *et seq.*  
Gary C. Matlock,  
*Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,*  
*National Marine Fisheries Service.*  
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