

in a legal opinion² dated October 4, 1993, by the Office of the Solicitor, Department of the Interior, are applicable law. Under section 303 of the Magnuson Act, allowable ocean harvest must be consistent with all applicable laws.

(m) *Inseason notice procedures.* Telephone hotlines and USCG broadcasts will provide actual notice of inseason actions for commercial, recreational, and treaty Indian fishing.

(n) *Reporting requirements.* Reporting requirements for commercial fishing may be imposed to ensure timely and accurate assessment of catches in regulatory areas subject to quota management. Such reports are subject to the limitations described herein. Persons engaged in commercial fishing in a regulatory area subject to quota management and landing their catch in another regulatory area open to fishing may be required to transmit a brief radio report prior to leaving the first regulatory area. The regulatory areas subject to these reporting requirements, the contents of the radio reports, and the entities receiving the reports will be specified annually.

[61 FR 34601, July 2, 1996, as amended at 64 FR 26328, May 14, 1999; 66 FR 29241, May 30, 2001]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 61 FR 34601, July 2, 1996, § 660.408 was added. This section contains information collection and record-keeping requirements and will not become effective until approval has been given by the Office of Management and Budget.

§ 660.409 Inseason actions.

(a) *Fixed inseason management provisions.* NMFS is authorized to take the following inseason management actions annually, as appropriate.

(1) *Automatic season closures based on quotas.* When a quota for the commercial or the recreational fishery, or both, for any salmon species in any portion of the fishery management area is projected by the Regional Director to be reached on or by a certain date, NMFS will, by an inseason action issued under § 660.411, close the commercial or recreational fishery, or both, for all salmon species in the por-

tion of the fishery management area to which the quota applies as of the date the quota is projected to be reached.

(2) *Rescission of automatic closure.* If a fishery is closed under a quota before the end of a scheduled season based on overestimate of actual catch, NMFS will reopen that fishery in as timely a manner as possible for all or part of the remaining original season provided NMFS finds that a reopening of the fishery is consistent with the management objectives for the affected species and the additional open period is no less than 24 hours. The season will be reopened by an inseason action issued under § 660.411.

(3) *Adjustment for error in preseason estimates.* NMFS may, by an inseason action issued under § 660.411, make appropriate changes in relevant seasons or quotas if a significant computational error or errors made in calculating preseason estimates of salmon abundance are identified, provided that such correction can be made in a timely manner to affect the involved fishery without disrupting the capacity to meet the objectives of the fishery management plan.

(b) *Flexible inseason management provisions.* (1) The Regional Director will consult with the Chairman of the Council and the appropriate State Directors prior to taking any of the following flexible inseason management provisions, which include, but are not limited to, the following:

(i) Modification of quotas and/or fishing seasons.

(ii) Modification of the species that may be caught and landed during specific seasons and the establishment or modification of limited retention regulations.

(iii) Modification of recreational bag limits and recreational fishing days per calendar week.

(iv) Establishment or modification of gear restrictions.

(v) Modification of boundaries, including landing boundaries, and establishment of closed areas.

(2) Fishery managers must determine that any inseason adjustment in management measures is consistent with fishery regimes established by the

²Copies of the Solicitor's Opinion are available from the Director, Southwest Region, NMFS.

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U.S.-Canada Pacific Salmon Commission, ocean escapement goals, conservation of the salmon resource, any adjudicated Indian fishing rights, and the ocean allocation scheme in the fishery management plan. All inseason adjustments will be based on consideration of the following factors:

- (i) Predicted sizes of salmon runs.
- (ii) Harvest quotas and hooking mortality limits for the area and total allowable impact limitations, if applicable.
- (iii) Amount of commercial, recreational, and treaty Indian catch for each species in the area to date.
- (iv) Amount of commercial, recreational, and treaty Indian fishing effort in the area to date.
- (v) Estimated average daily catch per fisherman.
- (vi) Predicted fishing effort for the area to the end of the scheduled season.
- (vii) Other factors, as appropriate.

§ 660.410 Conservation objectives.

(a) The conservation objectives are summarized in Table 3-1 of the Pacific Coast Salmon Plan.

(b) *Modification of escapement goals.* NMFS is authorized, through an action issued under § 660.411, to modify an escapement goal if—

(1) A comprehensive technical review of the best scientific information available provides conclusive evidence that, in the view of the Council, the Scientific and Statistical Committee, and the Salmon Technical Team, justifies modification of a conservation objective; except that the 35,000 natural spawner floor for Klamath River fall chinook may be changed only by amendment.

(2) For Oregon coastal chinook, specific goals are developed within the overall goal for north coast and south coast stocks; or

(3) Action by a Federal court indicates that modification of an escapement goal is appropriate.

(c) The annual management measures will be consistent with NMFS jeopardy standards or NMFS recovery

plans for species listed under the Endangered Species Act.

[61 FR 34572, July 2, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 35451, July 1, 1997; 66 FR 29241, May 30, 2001]

§ 660.411 Notification and publication procedures.

(a) *Notification and effective dates.* (1) Annual and certain other actions taken under §§ 660.408 and 660.410 will be implemented by an action published in the FEDERAL REGISTER, and will be effective upon filing, unless a later time is specified in the action.

(2) Inseason actions taken under § 660.409 will be by actual notice available from telephone hotlines and USCG broadcasts, as specified annually. Inseason actions will also be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER as soon as practicable. Inseason actions will be effective from the time specified in the actual notice of the action (telephone hotlines and USCG broadcasts), or at the time the inseason action published in the FEDERAL REGISTER is effective, whichever comes first.

(3) Any action issued under this section will remain in effect until the expiration date stated in the action or until rescinded, modified, or superseded. However, no inseason action has any effect beyond the end of the calendar year in which it is issued.

(b) *Public comment.* If time allows, NMFS will invite public comment prior to the effective date of any action published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. If NMFS determines, for good cause, that an action must be filed without affording a prior opportunity for public comment, public comments on the action will be received by NMFS for a period of 15 days after filing of the action with the Office of the Federal Register.

(c) *Availability of data.* The Regional Director will compile in aggregate form all data and other information relevant to the action being taken and will make them available for public review during normal office hours at the Northwest Region, NMFS. For actions affecting fisheries occurring primarily or exclusively in the fishery management area seaward of California, information relevant to the action also will be made available for public review