



National Marine Fisheries Service, Northwest Region
7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115
www.nwr.noaa.gov



PUBLIC NOTICE

For Information Contact:
The Groundfish Branch (206) 526-6140

NMFS-SEA-10-08
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 22, 2010

PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHERY

Deadline Extended to August 1, 2010, for NORPAC Data Reviews

A change in the date by which potential participants in the trawl rationalization program must review their NORPAC data and by which NMFS intends to extract a copy of that database.

Deadline Extended to August 1, 2010

NMFS announces a change in the date by which potential participants in the trawl rationalization program must review their NMFS' Northwest Fisheries Science Center's Pacific whiting observer data in NORPAC (short for "North Pacific," a database of North Pacific fisheries and Pacific whiting information) and by which NMFS intends to extract a copy of that database.

The deadline to review and, if necessary, correct NORPAC data has been extended to August 1, 2010.

NMFS previously published a final rule (75 FR 4684, January 29, 2010) on data collection that included in the preamble an announcement to the industry that NMFS intends to review their catch data for purposes of ensuring that the initial issuance of permits, endorsements, QS,

whiting catch history assignments and other calculations undertaken by NMFS would be based on the best available data. In the final rule (and in the associated February 19, 2010, "Small Entity Compliance Guide"), NMFS provided instructions and contact information for participants to use in requesting and correcting data.

In the proposed initial issuance rule (75 FR 32994, June 10, 2010), NMFS announced its intent to extract catch data from Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission's Pacific Fisheries Information Network (PacFIN) and from NORPAC on July 1, 2010. However, NORPAC data had not been released prior to June 4, 2010. Due to the timing of the release of the NORPAC data, in the final initial issuance rule, NMFS intends to extend the date of extraction of NORPAC data to August 1, 2010, in order to give the public more time to verify their data (the date NMFS intends to extract data from the PacFIN database remains July 1, 2010). Potential participants have had notice of the significance of verifying their data; this extension to August 1, 2010 for NORPAC data provides them additional time to do so.

Groundfish E-mail Group

Subscribe to "wgroundfish" by visiting the following website: http://listserver.afsc.noaa.gov/read/all_forums/subscribe?name=wgroundfish