

DRAFT

AMENDMENT 30 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR GROUND FISH OF THE GULF OF ALASKA

AMENDMENT 27 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR GROUND FISH OF THE BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS AREA

AMENDMENT 3 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE COMMERCIAL KING AND TANNER CRAB FISHERIES OF THE BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS AREA

These amendments implement language changes to the Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) to indicate that observer requirements under the FMPs are contained in the North Pacific Fisheries Research Plan.

1. Amendment 30 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska

Chapter 4

On page 4-25, 4.3.4.1 Observers, combine the first and second paragraphs, and add the following new paragraph:

On [insert approval date of Research Plan] the Secretary approved the North Pacific Fisheries Research Plan, which was developed by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to promote management, conservation, and scientific understanding of groundfish, halibut, and crab resources off Alaska. The existing Observer Plan will remain in place during the first year of the Research Plan only.

2. Amendment 27 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area

Chapter 14

On page 14-15, 14.4.6 Domestic Observer Program, add the following new paragraph:

On [insert approval date of Research Plan] the Secretary approved the North Pacific Fisheries Research Plan, which was developed by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to promote management, conservation, and scientific understanding of groundfish, halibut, and crab resources off Alaska. The existing Observer Plan will remain in place

during the first year of the Research Plan only.

3. Amendment 3 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Commercial King and Tanner Crab Fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area

Chapter 8

On page 8-4, insert a new paragraph after the first paragraph to read as follows:

On [insert approval date of Research Plan] the Secretary approved the North Pacific Fisheries Research Plan, which was developed by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to promote management, conservation, and scientific understanding of groundfish, halibut, and crab resources off Alaska. Federal and State king and Tanner crab observer requirements are described in the North Pacific Fisheries Research Plan.

On page 8-39, 8.3.7 State Observer Requirements, change the next to the last sentence to read as follows:

The State currently has a mandatory observer requirement for all catcher/processors and floating processors participating in the king crab, C. bairdi, and C. opilio fisheries as a condition to obtaining a processing permit.

On page 8-39, add a sentence to the end of the last paragraph, to read as follows:

State and Federal king and Tanner crab observer requirements are described in the North Pacific Fisheries Research Plan.