

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

## 50 CFR Part 648

[Docket No. 040112010-4114-02; I.D. 122203A]

RIN 0648-AN17

**Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast (NE) Multispecies Fishery; Amendment 13; Correction**

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

**ACTION:** Final rule; correction.

**SUMMARY:** This document contains a correction to the final rule implementing Amendment 13 to the NE Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP) published on April 27, 2004. Because publication of the Amendment 13 final rule followed publication of the Electronic Dealer Reporting (EDR) final rule, § 648.7 of Amendment 13 unintentionally superseded § 648.7 of the EDR final rule, creating confusion as to which set of regulatory changes were, in fact, being implemented. Therefore, this document corrects the error contained in the Amendment 13 final rule as it relates to § 648.7.

**DATES:** Effective May 1, 2004.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NMFS recently published two final rules, EDR (69 FR 13482, March 23, 2004) and Amendment 13 (69 FR 22906, April 27, 2004), both of which implement revised regulatory text for § 648.7. Amendment 13 was under development by the New England Fishery Management Council, in cooperation with NMFS, for several years. It was originally anticipated that publication of the Amendment 13 final rule would precede publication of the implementing regulations for the EDR final rule. The preamble to the Amendment 13 final rule clearly indicates that NMFS would be issuing electronic dealer reporting requirements in a separate, future rulemaking (i.e., the EDR Rule). The Amendment 13 revision to § 648.7 was intended initially only as a place-holder until such time that the

EDR final rule was implemented. However, in order to ensure that the EDR final rule became effective by May 1, 2004, and to accommodate the 30-day delay in effectiveness pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, NMFS published the EDR final rule first, on March 23, 2004. NMFS inadvertently failed to remove the place-holder language in the Amendment 13 final rule to reflect the new requirements contained in the EDR final rule at § 648.7. Because of this oversight, and unless corrected, the Amendment 13 implementing regulations will supersede the EDR § 648.7 revised text. Therefore, NMFS corrects the final rule implementing Amendment 13 by removing all reference to § 648.7. This section will be implemented as published in the EDR final rule that published on March 23, 2004 (69 FR 13482).

**Correction****PART 648—[CORRECTED]**

■ The publication on April 27, 2004, at 69 FR 22906, FR Doc. 04-8884 is corrected as follows:

**§ 648.7 [Corrected]**

■ On page 22946, in the second column, first complete paragraph, remove the entire instruction 4, including the amendatory text in instruction 4 and the corresponding regulatory text, and renumber the remaining instructions accordingly.

Dated: April 27, 2004.

**Rebecca Lent,**

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

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

## 50 CFR Part 660

[Docket No. 031216314-4118-03; I.D. 112803A]

RIN 0648-AR54

**Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Provisions; Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Annual Specifications; Pacific Whiting**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Final rule; 2004 groundfish fishery specifications; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This final rule establishes the 2004 fishery specifications for whiting in the U.S. exclusive economic zone (EEZ) and state waters off the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California as authorized by the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP). This **Federal Register** document also serves to announce that the whiting resource is estimated to be above the target rebuilding biomass and will no longer have an overfished species status, and amends the final rule implementing the specifications and management measures for the 2004 fishing year, which were published March 9, 2004. These specifications include the allowable biological catch (ABC), optimum yield (OY), tribal allocation, and allocations for the non-tribal commercial sectors. The intended effect of this action is to establish allowable harvest levels of whiting based on the best available scientific information. NMFS is specifically seeking comments on changes to the ABC in this final rule. These changes are described below in the section of the preamble titled ABC/OY Recommendations.

**DATES:** Effective April 27, 2004, through December 31, 2004. Comments on the 2004 whiting ABC must be received by June 1, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by [031216314-01 and/or 0648-AR54], by any of the following methods:

- *E-mail:*

[GWhiting2004ABC.nwr@noaa.gov](mailto:GWhiting2004ABC.nwr@noaa.gov); identified by [031216314-01 and/or 0648-AR54] in the subject line of the message.

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- *Fax:* 206-526-6736.

- *Mail:* D. Robert Lohn,

Administrator, Northwest Region (Regional Administrator), NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE., Seattle, WA 98115-0070; Robert Lohn, Administrator.

Copies of the final environmental impact statement (FEIS) for this action are available from Donald McIsaac, Executive Director, Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Portland, OR 97220, phone: 503-820-2280. These documents are also available online at