Amendment Text for GOA Groundfish FMP

Proposed Amendment 100 to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (GOA)

Additions are in bold.

- 1. Update Table of Contents as needed.
- 2. In the Executive Summary, Table ES-2, the description corresponding with the row labeled "Permit" is revised to read as follows:

All vessels participating in the GOA groundfish fisheries, other than fixed gear sablefish and demersal shelf rockfish in Southeast Outside district, require a Federal groundfish license, except for: vessels fishing in State of Alaska waters and vessels less than **or equal to** 26' LOA. Licenses are endorsed with area, gear, and vessel type and length designations. Fishing permits may be authorized, for limited experimental purposes, for the target or incidental harvest of groundfish that would otherwise be prohibited.

3. In Section 3.3.1 titled "License Limitation Program," the introductory paragraph is revised to read as follows:

Beginning on January 1, 2002, a Federal groundfish license is required for harvesting vessels (including harvester/processors) participating in all directed GOA groundfish fisheries, other than fixed gear sablefish throughout the GOA and demersal shelf rockfish in the Southeast Outside area (east of 140E W. longitude). Vessels fishing in State of Alaska waters (0-3 miles offshore) will be exempt, as will vessels less than **or equal to** 26 ft LOA and vessels using jig gear, subject to gear restrictions. Vessels exempted from the GOA groundfish license program, will be limited to the use of legal fixed gear in the Southeast Outside area.

4. Appendix A is amended to add the following text in Section A.1, Amendments to the FMP, in chronological amendment order as follows (insert amendment implementation date):

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Amendment 100, implemented on _____: This amendment corrects an omission in the FMP text that establishes vessel length limits for small vessels exempted from the license limitation program (LLP) in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) groundfish fisheries. This amendment makes the FMP text consistent with the original intent of the LLP, operations in the fisheries, and Federal regulations.