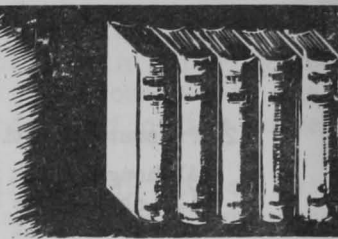




FEDERAL ACTIONS



Department of the Army

FISHERY PRODUCTS PROCUREMENT AND EXPORTS TO OCCUPIED AREAS: As of April 1, under working agreement covering purchase responsibility, the Office of the Quartermaster General has been designated as the procurement agency for the procurement of food (including fishery products) out of Government-appropriated funds for feeding the civilian populations of Western Germany, Japan, and the Ryukyus, according to the Office of Food Administrator for Occupied Areas, Department of the Army.

Offers of fishery products and requests for listing as permanent bidders should be submitted by U. S. Suppliers to the Quartermaster Purchasing Office (QM), 1819 West Pershing Road, Chicago 9, Illinois.

U. S. Appropriated Funds: The Department of the Army is charged with administrative responsibility for the expenditure of funds appropriated by the Congress of the United States for feeding the civilian populations of Western Germany, Japan, and the Ryukyus. Within the Department of the Army, the Officer of the Food Administrator for Occupied Areas (FAOA) approves import requirements for these areas and makes funds available to various purchasing agencies for actual physical procurement.

European Recovery Program: Procurement of fishery products in the United States for Western Germany, Austria, and Trieste with ERP funds under the annual programs as approved by ECA is carried out by the Office of the Quartermaster General.

Food Supplies for Occupation Forces: All food for Army personnel is purchased by the Quartermaster Corps through established trade channels. Prospective suppliers should communicate with the Quartermaster Purchasing Office in Chicago.



Department of Commerce

EDIBLE FISH AND SHELLFISH PRODUCTS REMOVED FROM EXPORT CONTROL: A revised list of commodities exportable under general license GRO has been issued by the Office of International Trade of the Department of Commerce. This revised list, which became effective April 29, 1949, contains a substantial number of additions to the previous one. Included are all edible fish and shellfish and their products.

371.8

GENERAL LICENSE GRO

(a) Scope of Licenses

A general license designated GRO is hereby established authorizing the exportation to all destinations of certain commodities not included on the Positive List of Commodities (Part 399) but set forth in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) Commodity List

The following specified commodities may be exported under the provisions of this general license GRO to all destinations:

Commodities Exportable Under General License GRO

Dept. of Commerce Schedule B No.	Commodity
	Fish and fish products:
007000-007109	Fish, fresh or frozen, whether or not whole (include fillets).
007200-007609	Shellfish, fresh or frozen (include raw and fresh-cooked shellfish and shellfish meats).
007700-007998	Fish, salted, pickled, or dry-cured.
008001, 008005	Shellfish, pickled, salted, or dry-cured.
008101	Fish, smoked or kippered.
008400-008650	Fish, canned.
008700-008898	Shellfish, canned.
008995	Fish, prepared or preserved, n.e.s. (include cakes, balls, paste, sauce, caviar, and roe).
008998	Shellfish, prepared or preserved, n.e.s.
009900	Edible animal products, n.e.s.:
	Edible terrapin; frog legs; snails; turtle meat; whale meat.
	Other inedible animals and products:
099920	Shells, unmanufactured.
099998	Animal products, inedible, n.e.s.: cuttlefish bone; fish eggs, hatching; fish essence; fish scales; fish sounds; halibut viscera; pearl essence; paispearl paste; salmon milt for breeding; squid bait, frozen; trout eggs, hatching.
	Miscellaneous commodities, n.e.s.:
	Buttons, and parts:
971290	Pearl or shell buttons.
971300	Button parts, backs, blanks, or molds (all materials).
984900	Fishing tackle and equipment suitable only for commercial fishing.

These commodities do not require a validated license for exportation to any destination.

Only the commodities classified under the Schedule B numbers in the left-hand column, and as restricted in the commodity descriptions, may be exported under general license GRO.



Department of the Interior
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

AMENDMENTS TO ALASKA COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REGULATIONS: The Federal Register of May 12, 1949, carried two amendments to the Alaska commercial fisheries regulations. Amendment to Section 102.28 is made in order to require a more practical yet effective means of closing salmon traps to fishing. Amendment to Section 122.5 provides that the North Behm Canal section shall have a salmon fishing season consistent with adjoining districts.

1. Section 102.28 is amended to read as follows:

§ 102.28 *Method of closing salmon traps.* During all periods when fishing is prohibited, the heart walls of salmon traps shall be lifted or lowered in accordance with the method prescribed by section 5 of the act of June 6, 1924, and the tunnels from hearts to pots shall be closed in the following manner:

(a) *Floating traps.* Poles shall be permanently secured to the webbing at each side of the mouth of the pot tunnel and shall extend from the tunnel floor to a height at least two feet above the water. A draw line shall be reeved through the lower ends of both poles and the top of one, and the upper end of this line shall be spliced to a length of chain. The two tunnel walls must be overlapped as far as possible across the pot gap and the draw line must be pulled tight so as to completely close the bottom of the tunnel. The pole on the right side of the pot gap, as viewed from the shore, must be painted bright red above water and the pole on the left bright green. Serially numbered seals issued by the Fish and

Wildlife Service shall be affixed around the top rib lines and webbing of both tunnel walls next to each pole and a link of the chain must be included in one of the seals. Seals must be attached in such manner that the trap cannot be fished without breaking them.

(b) *Stationary traps.* A draw line shall be secured to the pot wall at a depth equal to that of the bottom of the tunnel and at least 12 inches from the edge of the pot gap; shall be reeved through rings fastened at intervals of 4 feet or less on the vertical rib line along the mouth end of the opposite tunnel wall; and shall be spliced at its upper end to a length of chain. The tunnel shall be pulled to one side of the pot gap sufficiently to overlap the pot wall a minimum of 12 inches and the draw line shall be pulled tight and secured by looping its chain around the capping. Serially numbered seals issued by the Fish and Wildlife Service shall be affixed, one to seal the tunnel webbing to the pot wall and another to seal the loop of chain around the capping. Seals must be attached in such manner that trap cannot be fished without breaking them. (43 Stat. 465; 48 U. S. C. 225)

2. Section 122.5 is amended to read as follows:

§ 122.5. *Open season, central, southeast, southwest, and north Behm Canal section.* Fishing, other than trolling, in the central, southeast, southwest, and north Behm Canal sections is prohibited except from 6 o'clock antemeridian August 15 to 6 o'clock postmeridian September 3: *Provided*, That this prohibition shall not apply in Cholmondeley Sound from 6 o'clock antemeridian October 5 to 6 o'clock postmeridian October 15. (44 Stat. 752; 48 U. S. C. 221)

The salmon fishing season in Alaska, as it affects certain salmon traps, opens on May 27. Accordingly, in order that a practical closure method may be made applicable to such trap operations it has been determined that the amendment to § 102.28 shall become effective on May 27, 1949. The amendment to § 122.5 shall become effective 30 days after publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(43 Stat. 465, as amended; 48 U. S. C. 221 et seq.)

Dated: May 4, 1949.

[SEAL]

J. A. KRUG,
Secretary of the Interior.

* * * * *

ALASKA HERRING CATCH QUOTAS: On April 7, 1949, the Secretary of the Interior issued 1949 catch limitations for the Alaska herring fishery. The quotas published in the Federal Register of April 14, 1949, were issued as amendments to the Alaska commercial fishery regulations, authorized by a Congressional Act of June 18, 1926. The provisions of the amendments become effective 30 days after their publication in the Federal Register.

Herring Catch Quotas for Alaska, 1949		
Area	1949	
	1949	1948
	(250-lb. bbls.)	
Southeastern Alaska ...	200,000	400,000
Kodiak Island	250,000	390,000
Prince William Sound- Resurrection Bay	150,000	180,000

The new catch limitations have been revised downward for the first time since drastic quota restrictions were imposed in 1942 to rebuild Alaska's depleted herring fishery.

Because of the reduced catch limitation for Southeastern Alaska, the Territory's oldest and most productive herring fishery, the Service believes that some reduction plants and boats will not operate this season.

The legal herring seasons run from June 10 to October 15, varying in each quota area.

Service biologists, who determine catch quotas by scientific studies of the abundance of the age groups in each year's herring catch, expect an unusually low run of mature herring in Alaskan waters this season because of several years of unsuccessful spawning.

* * * * *

LEGAL PROTECTION PARTIALLY REMOVED FOR ALASKA SEA LIONS: On April 7, 1949, the Secretary of the Interior removed the legal protection of sea lions in Alaskan waters, except in waters around Bogoslof Island in the Bering Sea. In accordance with a Congressional Act of June 16, 1934, the Secretary retained full legal protection of the sea lions in the waters around uninhabited Bogoslof Island.

The provisions of the amendment were published in the Federal Register of April 14, 1949, and read as follows:

142.1 Killing of sea lions. The killing of sea lions in the Territory of Alaska, or in any of the waters of Alaska over which the United States has jurisdiction is permitted, except on Bogoslof Island and within one statute mile of the shores of Bogoslof Island. (48 Stat. 976; 16 U.S.C.659)

The killing of sea lions in Alaskan waters has been prohibited by regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior, July 1, 1941. The old law did permit killing, however, "by natives for food or clothing, and by miners and explorers when in need of food...by anyone in the necessary protection of property, or while such animals are destroying salmon or other food fish," and by authorized scientists.

The Service will soon begin sea lion control operations in certain areas to curb the predations on commercial fishes. Although sea lions have practically no economic value now, the Service also seeks commercial uses for the animals.

Huge herds of sea lions concentrate on Alaska's important halibut fishing banks and salmon trolling grounds, causing heavy economic losses to the Territory's fishermen. According to the Service's findings, the enormous marine mammals, which have become unusually abundant in recent years, feed on commercial fishes caught in nets and on baited hooks.

The Alaskan sea lions are relatively non-migratory, and are much larger than the California sea lions which are captured for use as "trained seals."



Interstate Commerce Commission

MEANING OF "FISH (INCLUDING SHELL FISH)" IN INTERSTATE COMMERCE ACT CLARIFIED: The Interstate Commerce Commission through an order dated April 11, 1949, reopened for further consideration its Docket MC 89207, better known as the "Monark Egg Case." The Commission ordered one of its examiners to prepare a report solely with respect to the meaning of the term "fish (including shell fish)" as used in section 203 (b) (6) of the Interstate Commerce Act.

In earlier proceedings under this Docket "fish (including shell fish)" was defined by the Commission as meaning only fish dead or alive in the form that they came from the water. This meant that relatively few shipments of fishery products transported by truck could be carried by trucks unregulated by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

As the result of the order of April 11, an examiner has now filed a report which recommends "that the term fish (including shell fish) as used in section 203 (b) (6) of the act includes frozen, quick-frozen, and unfrozen fish in the various forms in which it is customarily shipped, such as live fish, fish in the round, beheaded and gutted fish, filleted fish, beheaded shrimp, and oysters, clams, crabs, and lobsters, with or without shells (including crab meat and lobster meat)." This would grant a broad exemption to shipments of fresh and frozen fishery products and allow all of these shipments to be made in unregulated trucks provided that these trucks did not carry for compensation any passengers or property other than exempt property as defined in section 203 (b) (6) of the Interstate Commerce Act and subsequent decisions of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Exceptions to this report could be filed through May 13, 1949, on which date two exceptions were received by the Commission. Replies to these exceptions could be filed until midnight May 23. The examiner's report together with the exceptions and any replies will be reviewed by the Commission and a final report issued.



Department of State

FURTHER DECLARATION OF U. S. POLICY ON TERRITORIAL WATERS:^{1/} In a letter replying to an inquiry from a private company, the United States Department of State made the following statement with reference to the United States policy towards the declarations of other nations as to the limits of and jurisdiction over territorial waters:

"One of our principal concerns in the tuna area of Latin America is to see that no impediment is placed in the way of United States fishermen participating in the harvesting of the tuna resources in this area, within the limits of the rights they have under international law as citizens of the United States.

"Under generally accepted principles of international law, the vessels of any nation have the right to fish on the high seas without interference by the public vessels of any other nation. Accordingly United States fishing vessels may freely operate off Western Latin America, so far as control by other nations is concerned, up to the limits of the territorial waters of such other nations. The United States has never recognized territorial waters jurisdiction by any country in this area beyond three marine miles from low-water mark on the coast of such country. Accordingly, under the policy of this Government concerning the extent of territorial waters, United States fishing vessels have the right to carry on operations in waters beyond three miles from land without interference from the contiguous country.

"This simple situation is somewhat complicated by the fact that this Government stands ready at all time to undertake any measures within its powers to conserve fishery resources to the end that these resources will continue to produce at the maximum level year after year. If regulation of fishing activity is necessary to accomplish this end, we are willing to place our fishermen under the same regulation as the fishermen of other nations are under on that particular fishing ground--with the provision that this Government will have an equal voice with any other Government in formulating those regulations.

"In order to determine when regulations in any particular fishery are required for conservation purposes we are willing to join in scientific investigations designed to place the regulations on a factual basis, and,

of course, to pay our share of costs of such investigations. You are acquainted with the two joint commissions we have with Canada in the Northwest, on salmon and halibut.

"We have recently signed a convention with eleven other nations to set up another such Commission to work on the fisheries of the Northwest Atlantic. On January 25 we signed a similar convention with Mexico to set up such a commission to cover the tuna fisheries common to the two countries.

"We distinguish quite clearly, however, between regulation for the purpose of conservation and regulation for the purpose of raising revenue.

"Regulation of the activities of our fishermen on the high seas by another country for the purpose of raising revenue for that country would not be acceptable to this Government.

"Sincerely yours,

"W. M. Chapman
Special Assistant to the
Under Secretary"

1/ See Commercial Fisheries Review, January 1949, page 50.



Eighty-first Congress (First Session)

APRIL 1949

PUBLIC BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

Listed below are all the public bills and joint resolutions introduced and referred to committees and passed by the Eighty-First Congress during April 1949 which affect in any way the fisheries and fishing and allied industries. The bills are listed in the order in which they were introduced:

House of Representatives:

- H. R. 4170 (Nixon) - A bill to confirm and establish the titles of the States to lands beneath navigable waters within State boundaries and natural resources within such lands and waters and to provide for the use and control of said lands and resources; to the Committee on the Judiciary.
- H. R. 4198 (Nelson) - A bill to provide for nautical education in the territories, to facilitate nautical education in the States and Territories, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.
- H. R. 4205 (King) - A bill to give effect to the convention between the United States of America and the United Mexican States for the scientific investigation of tuna, signed at Mexico City January 25, 1949, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.
- H. R. 4228 (Furcolo), (by request) - A bill to establish a Connecticut Valley Authority to provide for unified water control and resource development on the Connecticut River, its tributaries and watershed, to prevent floods, encourage agriculture, stimulate industrial expansion,

develop low-cost hydro-electric power, promote navigation, increase recreational possibilities, protect wildlife, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Public Works.

H. R. 4249 (Colmer) - A bill to transfer the trawlers Alaska and Oregon from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to the Fish and Wildlife Service; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

H. R. 4252 (Thompson) - Same as H. R. 4249; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

H. R. 4272 (Lucas) - A bill to provide for the amendment of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

H. R. 4276 (McKinnon) - Same as H. R. 4205; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

H. R. 4286 (Mitchell) - A bill to reorganize and consolidate certain Federal functions and thereby secure their more effective administration by establishing a Columbia Valley Administration to assist in the achievement of unified water control and resource conservation and development on the Columbia River, its tributaries, and the surrounding lands; to the Committee on Public Works.

H. R. 4287 (Jackson of Wash.) - Same as H. R. 4286; to the Committee on Public Works.

H. R. 4296 (Doyle) - Same as H. R. 4276; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

H. R. 4403 (Peterson) - A bill to facilitate the administration by the Secretary of the Interior, in cooperation with other Federal, State, and local agencies, of the recreational uses of lands and waters within reclamation, flood-control, power, and other Federal reservoir projects; to the Committee on Public Lands.

H. R. 4450 (Hart) - A bill to extend the requirements for fixing the minimum number of deck officers on steam vessels to certain additional vessels of the United States, and for other purposes. This bill states in part: "Nothing contained in this Act shall apply to fishing vessels of less than three hundred gross tons, or to fishing vessels of any gross tonnage which do not, in the course of their normal employment, navigate more than fifty miles from the shores of the continental United States, including Alaska," to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Senate:

S. 1545 (McCarran, for himself and 30 other Senators) - A bill to confirm and establish the titles of the States to lands beneath navigable waters within State boundaries and natural resources within such lands and waters and to provide for the use and control of said lands and resources; to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

S. 1595 (Cain) - A bill for approving plans for the development of the Columbia River Basin, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Public Works.

S. 1642 (Knowland, for himself and Downey) - A bill to give effect to the convention between the United States of America and the United Mexican States for the scientific investigation of tuna, signed at Mexico City, January 25, 1949, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. 1645 (Magnuson, for himself and 17 others) - A bill to reorganize and consolidate certain Federal functions and thereby secure their more effective administration by establishing a Columbia Valley Administration to assist in the achievement of unified water control and resource conservation and development on the Columbia River, its tributaries, and the surrounding lands; to the Committee on Public Works.

S. Res. 99 (O'Connor): Directs the Secretary of State to investigate and report to the Senate, within 60 days of the adoption of this resolution, the costs of production of producers and processors of fish and fishery products, wages, and other remuneration paid to fishermen, shore workers, and all other labor engaged in the production of fish and fishery products in each nation exporting fish and shellfish and all byproducts thereof to the United States, together with a description of the standard of living enjoyed by the persons employed in the fisheries under the jurisdiction of such governments.

The U. S. Tariff Commission to initiate an immediate investigation of the imports of fresh and frozen groundfish fillets.

The Secretary of Treasury to ascertain all subsidies, grants, and bounties of any kind whatsoever paid directly or indirectly by any foreign country or any citizen thereof presently exporting fish or fishery products to the United States, to any fishermen, producers, or processors of fish or fishery products within the territorial jurisdiction of such country.

BILLS, RESOLUTIONS, ETC. PASSED, AND OTHER ACTION:

House of Representatives:

H. Res. 147 (Thompson) - Considered, amended, and agreed to April 4, 1949. Resolved, That the Secretary of State be, and he hereby is, requested to cause an immediate study to be made of the effect on the domestic fishing industry of increasing imports of freshwater and saltwater fresh and frozen fish, especially groundfish, fillets, into the United States, and report to be submitted to the House of Representatives not later than May 15, 1949.



S. S. PACIFIC EXPLORER

An American factory ship, the Pacific Explorer, became a reality in 1945 when the War Food Administration recommended that the Defense Plants Corporation (a subsidiary of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation) should acquire and convert an ocean-going vessel to a factory ship to further the war effort by increasing the supplies of protein food. At the cessation of hostilities, the conversion of the ship was not completed, but various Governmental agencies decided that it would be to the advantage of the Government and the fishing industry to complete the conversion and to determine the feasibility of motherships to expand the scope of the American fishing effort.

—Fishery Leaflet 316