



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Marine Fisheries Service

Northwest Region

7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Building. 1

Seattle, WA 98115-0070

DATE: May 20, 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR: DISTRIBUTION

FROM: D. Robert Lohn
Regional Administrator

SUBJECT: END OF PRIMARY SEASON FOR SHORE-BASED WHITING

The best available information indicates that the 4,526 mt allocation for the early season whiting fishery off California is projected to be taken by 1200 (local time) May 22, 2004. Therefore, the following action is taken in accordance with the regulations at 50 CFR 660.323(a)(4)(iii)(C):

Effective **1200 (local time) May, 22, 2004** the primary whiting season south of 42° N. lat. is temporarily closed and the 20,000-lb (9,072 kg) “per trip” limit is restored until the start of the northern primary season on June 15, 2004. For vessels that fish inshore of the 100-fm (183 m) contour in the Eureka area (43° - 40°30' N. lat.), no more than 10,000-lb (4,536 kg) of whiting may be taken and retained, possessed or landed per trip.

This communication serves as official notice.

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