


**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Sustainable Fisheries Division  
7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Bldg. #1  
Seattle, Washington 98115-0070

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June 1, 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR: DISTRIBUTION

FROM:

  
William Stelle, Jr.  
Regional Administrator

RECEIVED  
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SUBJECT: REVISED--END OF MOTHERSHIP WHITING SEASON

On Friday, May 28, 1999, you were notified by fax that a notice was filed with the Federal Register to close the mothership fishery at 2100 hours, Tuesday, June 1, 1999. However, on May 31, we reviewed updated catch data (both observer and vessel reports) which indicated that the season could be extended another day. This letter, based on the updated information, replaces the fax sent you on May 28, 1999.

The National Marine Fisheries Service announces that the 47,900 metric ton allocation of whiting for the mothership sector in 1999 is projected to be taken by 9 p.m. (2100 hours), Wednesday, June 2, 1999. Therefore, the following action is taken in accordance with the regulations at 50 CFR 660.323(a)(4)(iii)(B):

Effective 9 p.m. local time (2100 hours) June 2, 1999--

- (1) Further receiving or at-sea processing of whiting by a mothership is prohibited. No additional unprocessed whiting may be brought on board after at-sea processing is prohibited, but a mothership may continue to process whiting that was on board before at-sea processing was prohibited; and
- (2) Whiting may not be taken and retained, possessed, or landed by a catcher vessel participating in the mothership sector. (This means no further deliveries may be made to the mothership after 9 pm June 2, 1999.)

We appreciate your efforts to keep us informed of your performance, and welcome voluntary reports of your activities to the end of the season.

This facsimile communication serves as official notice of the closure.

