



FEDERAL ACTIONS



Department of the Treasury

U. S. COAST GUARD

REVISED RULES ON VESSEL INSPECTION EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 19, 1952: The 1948 International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea went into effect on November 19, after ratification by the United States and other leading nations, announced the Commandant of the U. S. Coast Guard. This is an important step forward in the development of minimum international safety standards at sea.

The Coast Guard's revised rules and regulations covering the design, construction, operation, and inspection of American merchant vessels were made effective at the same time. The purpose of the revision was to incorporate provisions of the 1948 Convention and to revise and bring up to date the requirements for merchant vessel inspection. However, the new Convention would not cause any great change in Coast Guard regulations, since the safety standards of American merchant vessels already surpass the prevailing international standards.

The new Convention provides for improved standards for safety of life at sea in the fields of ship construction, fire protection, lifesaving appliances, radio equipment, dangerous cargoes, and navigation generally.

Most of the changes made by the Convention have to do with lifesaving equipment. They include portable radio apparatus for vessels on international voyages having less than 20 lifeboats, and a mechanically-propelled lifeboat for each cargo vessel. Lifeboat equipment must include such items as a bilge pump, first-aid kit, two buckets instead of one, two buoyant heaving lines, one jackknife, two buoyant smoke signals, and three quarts of water per person instead of one.

The new Rules and Regulations for passenger, cargo, and miscellaneous vessels require periodic drydocking for inspection. The periods range from once a year for vessels in salt-water service to once in five years for vessels in fresh-water service. New cargo ships must be inclined to determine their stability, and masters must be furnished with sufficient information to enable them to handle their ships properly.

"The 1948 Convention represents the third great step in the development of minimum safety standards on an international basis," the Commandant said. "The first Convention was drafted in 1914 following the sinking of the British steamship Titanic, and a start was made in formulating safety standards for the protection of the travelling public.

"A second convention was held in 1929, but such subjects as stability in damaged condition, fire protection in accommodation spaces, and protection of electrical installations were not covered to the degree sought by the Coast Guard. The 1948 Convention covers these subjects for the first time and also includes certain requirements relating to stability, fire-extinguishing appliances, and life-saving equipment applicable to cargo vessels."

The Department of State has announced that the following countries, in addition to the United States, have accepted the Convention to date: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Sweden, the Union of South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Yugoslavia.

The revised Coast Guard vessel inspection regulations were printed in full in the Federal Register, Part II, of October 18, 1952. The Coast Guard has available for distribution a summary of the revised regulations and these may be obtained at any Coast Guard District Office.



Economic Stabilization Agency

OFFICE OF PRICE STABILIZATION

CANNED SALMON CEILING PRICE REGULATION EXTENDED TO COVER 1952 PACK: Specific dollars-and-cents ceiling prices for sales of the 1952 pack by canners of canned salmon have been retained by Amendment 2 to Ceiling Price Regulation 65. This amendment was issued by the Office of Price Stabilization on November 17 and became effective on November 22, 1952. These same prices were established for sales of the 1951 pack by CPR 65 as amended and when originally established superseded those established by the General Ceiling Price Regulation.

This amendment also provides for the processing of applications for special ceiling prices (for varieties, container sizes, and styles of pack for which specific dollars-and-cents prices are not provided in the regulation) by the Regional Director of the Office of Price Stabilization, Region 13, Seattle, Washington. Previously such prices could be established only by the Director of Price Stabilization in Washington, D. C. Retention of the 1951 ceiling price levels preserves the differentials by species and grades.

The full text of Amendment 2 to Ceiling Price Regulation 65 follows:

CPR 65—CEILING PRICES FOR CANNED SALMON

EXTENDS COVERAGE OF REGULATION TO INCLUDE 1952 PACK

Pursuant to the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, Executive Order 10161 (15 F. R. 6105), and Economic Stabilization Agency General Order No. 2 (16 F. R. 738), this Amendment 2 to Ceiling Price Regulation 65 is hereby issued.

STATEMENT OF CONSIDERATIONS

This amendment retains the specific dollars-and-cents ceiling prices, for sales by canners of canned salmon of the 1952 pack, which were established for sales of the 1951 pack by Ceiling Price Regulation 65, as amended. It also provides for the processing of applications for special ceiling prices by the Regional Director of Office of Price Stabilization, Region 13, Seattle, Washington, rather than by the National Office.

The retention of the 1951 ceiling price levels of course preserves the differentials by species and grades. The bases for these differentials and for the pricing technique in general are explained in the

Statements of Considerations to Ceiling Price Regulation 65 and to Amendment 1 thereof, and those explanations are incorporated herein by reference. This Statement of Considerations will discuss only the reasons for applying to the 1952 pack the ceiling prices established for the 1951 pack.

Projection of the statistics now available for 1952 indicates a total catch approximating that of 1951, though for any particular species the catch may be higher or lower than in 1951. The total catch of salmon as of September 13, 1952, was 3,383,101 cases compared with 3,399,819 cases as of September 15, 1951. The fishing season for salmon is practically completed in the middle of September. Indications are that over-all cost and production changes in 1952 will be such as to result in no substantial differences from over-all cost and production in 1951.

In view of these circumstances, and since the 1951 level of ceiling prices for different species has been found by the industry to be reasonable, it is felt that the continuance of these 1951 ceiling price levels for the 1952 pack is a fair basis for setting the ceiling price level for the 1952 pack.

Besides the continuance of the 1951 ceiling price level for the 1952 pack, this amendment makes an important change in section 4 (d). Instead of applying to the National Office of the Office of Price Stabilization for ceiling prices for varieties, container sizes, or types and styles of pack not listed in section 4 (a), the seller now will apply to the Regional Office of Region 13 of the Office of Price Stabilization at Seattle, Washington. This change is in accordance with the policy of decentralization wherever it can be accomplished without impairing service by the Office of Price Stabilization. The head offices of all the large salmon packers are in Region 13, and hence it is thought that this change in procedure will in some cases obviate the necessity of voluminous correspondence. Processing of such applications in Region 13 will also, it is felt, facilitate clarification of questions of fact which arise from time to time in such cases.

In the formulation of this amendment, the Director of Price Stabilization has, to the extent practicable, consulted with industry representatives, including trade association representatives, and has given consideration to their recommendations. In the judgment of the Di-

rector, this amendment is generally fair and equitable, is necessary to effectuate the purposes of Title IV of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, and complies with all the applicable standards of that act.

AMENDATORY PROVISIONS

Ceiling Price Regulation 65, as amended, is further amended in the following respects:

1. Section 1 is changed so as to read as follows:

SECTION 1. *Coverage of this regulation.* This regulation establishes specific dollars-and-cents ceiling prices for the sale by canners of all canned salmon of the 1951 and 1952 packs. These ceiling prices supersede those established by the General Ceiling Price Regulation.

2. Section 4 (d) is amended so as to delete the words "Fish Branch, Office of Price Stabilization, Washington 25, D. C." and substitute therefor: "Director of Region 13 of the Office of Price Stabilization, 506 Second Avenue, Seattle, Washington."

(Sec. 704, 64 Stat. 816, as amended; 50 U. S. C. App. Sup. 2154)

Effective date. This Amendment 2 to Ceiling Price Regulation 65 is effective November 22, 1952.

NOTE: The record-keeping and reporting requirements of this regulation have been approved by the Bureau of the Budget in accordance with the Federal Reports Act of 1942.

TIGHE E. WOODS,
Director of Price Stabilization.

NOTE: FULL TEXTS OF PRICE ORDERS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICE OF PRICE STABILIZATION, WASHINGTON 25, D. C., OR FROM THE REGIONAL OPS OFFICE IN YOUR AREA.



Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

HADDOCK FISHING REGULATIONS FOR GEORGES BANK PROPOSED: Proposed regulations affecting the taking of haddock (Melanogrammus aeglefinus) in Subarea 5 (which includes the Georges Bank area) of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Convention waters were published by the Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, in the December 30 Federal Register. The regulations would prohibit the taking of haddock in the northwest Atlantic Ocean north of 39°00' N. latitude and west of 42°00' W. longitude by trawl nets or nets having a diagonally-stretched mesh size less than 4½ inches when wet. Employment of devices to reduce the mesh size is prohibited. Possession or transportation on any vessel at any one time of both a trawl net or nets, parts of nets or netting, the use of which is prohibited by the regulations, and haddock in amounts in excess of 5,000 pounds or 10 percent of all fish on board a vessel (whichever is larger) is prohibited. Exempted from the regulations are vessels possessing haddock in amounts less than 5,000 pounds or 10 percent of all fish on board (whichever is larger) taken incidentally to fishing for other species of fish; and vessels duly authorized by the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Services to engage in haddock fishing for scientific purposes.

The Secretary of the Interior intends to adopt these proposed regulations on March 15, 1953, and they will be effective during the calendar year 1953 only.

All persons who desire to submit written data, views, or arguments in connection with the proposed regulations may do so by filing them with Albert M. Day, Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., not later than February 28.

The full text of the proposed regulations as it appeared in the Federal Register follows:

At its meeting held in St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada, June 30-July 9, 1952, the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, a body created pursuant to Article II of the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries signed at Washington under date of February 8, 1949, adopted a proposal recommending that the Contracting Governments, in the interest of permitting an adequate escapement of immature haddock, take appropriate action to prohibit the taking

of haddock in Sub-area 5 of the Convention waters with a trawl net having a mesh size of less than four and one-half inches. The proposal recommended further the adoption of a specific method of measuring mesh size and the exemption of vessels taking haddock for purposes of scientific investigation from the proposed mesh restrictions. In its letter of July 15, 1952, which submitted the proposal to the Contracting Governments pursuant to Article VIII of the Convention, the Commission drew at-

tention to the experimental nature of the proposed mesh size regulation and outlined a suggested research program to determine the effectiveness of the regulation following its adoption.

In accordance with section 4 (a) of the Administrative Procedure Act of June 11, 1946 (60 Stat. 237), notice is hereby given that in order to give effect to the Commission's proposal, the Secretary of the Interior intends to adopt or about March 15, 1953, the regulations set out below affecting the taking of

haddock in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean. These regulations are to be adopted under the authority contained in section 7 (a) of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Act of 1950 (64 Stat. 1067, 16 U. S. C., 1946 ed., Supp. V, 981) and it is proposed that such regulations shall be effective during the calendar year 1953 only. In accordance with section 4 (a) of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Act of 1950 the proposed regulations were submitted to the Advisory Committee to the United States Commissioners of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries on December 2, 1952, at which time the proposed regulations received the unanimous approval of the members of the Advisory Committee in attendance.

The proposed regulations, to constitute new Subchapter I—Northwest Atlantic Commercial Fisheries, Part 155—Haddock Provisions, are as follows:

DEFINITIONS

Sec.	
155.1	Meaning of terms.
155.2	Vessel.
155.3	Haddock.
155.4	Haddock fishing.
155.5	Trawl net.
155.7	Period of application.
155.9	Restriction on fishing gear.
155.10	Measurement of mesh size.
155.11	Employment of devices to reduce mesh size prohibited.
155.15	Illegal possession of haddock.
155.16	Certain vessels exempted.

DEFINITIONS

§ 155.1 *Meaning of terms.* When used in the regulations in this part, unless the content otherwise requires, terms shall have the meanings ascribed hereinafter in this part.

§ 155.2 *Vessel.* The word "vessel" denotes every kind, type, or description of watercraft, aircraft, or other contrivance, subject to the jurisdiction of

the United States, used, or capable of being used, as a means of transportation on water.

§ 155.3 *Haddock.* The word "haddock" denotes any fish of the species *Melanogrammus aeglefinus*.

§ 155.4 *Haddock fishing.* The words "haddock fishing" mean the catching, taking, or fishing for, or the attempted catching, taking, or fishing for any fish of the species *Melanogrammus aeglefinus*.

§ 155.5 *Trawl net.* The words "trawl net" mean any large bag net dragged in the sea by a vessel or vessels for the purpose of taking fish.

§ 155.7 *Period of application.* The regulations in this part shall cease to have effect at midnight, December 31, 1953.

§ 155.9 *Restriction on fishing gear.* The use, for the purpose of taking haddock in the northwest Atlantic Ocean north of 39°00' north latitude and west of 42°00' west longitude, of a trawl net or nets, parts of nets or netting having in any part thereof a mesh size less than four and one-half inches is prohibited.

§ 155.10 *Measurement of mesh size.* For the purpose of § 155.9 mesh size shall be deemed to be the average of any ten consecutive meshes of the trawl net selected at the discretion of the enforcement officer and measured individually stretched diagonally while wet, with a flat wedge-shaped gauge having a taper of two inches in nine inches and a thickness of three thirty-seconds of an inch, inserted into the mesh under a pressure of twelve pounds.

§ 155.11 *Employment of devices to reduce mesh size prohibited.* The use from any vessel engaged in haddock fishing in the area described in § 155.9 of

any device or method which will obstruct the meshes of the trawl net or which will otherwise, in effect, diminish the size of said meshes is prohibited: *Provided*, That a protective covering may be attached to the underside only of the cod end alone of the net to reduce and prevent damage thereto.

§ 155.15 *Illegal possession of haddock.* The possession or transportation on any vessel at any one time of both a trawl net or nets, parts of nets or netting, the use of which is prohibited by § 155.9, and haddock in amounts in excess of five thousand pounds or ten percent of all the fish on board such vessel, whichever is larger, is prohibited.

§ 155.16 *Certain vessels exempted.* Nothing contained in the regulations in this part shall apply to:

(a) Any vessel having in possession haddock in amount less than five thousand pounds or ten percent of all the fish on board such vessel, whichever is larger, taken incidentally to fishing for other species of fish.

(b) Any vessel duly authorized by the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service to engage in haddock fishing for scientific purposes.

(c) Any vessel documented as a common carrier by the Government of the United States for the carriage of freight.

All persons who desire to submit written data, views or arguments in connection with the proposed regulations may do so by filing them with Albert M. Day, Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C., not later than 60 days from the publication of this notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

Dated: December 20, 1952.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Secretary of the Interior.



Department of State

GATT SEVENTH SESSION HANDLED MANY ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND COMPLAINTS: The seventh session of the 34 contracting countries to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) promptly handled a number of highly significant economic problems and arrived at a solution for several items under the complaints procedure, reported the U. S. Department of State on November 10. This seventh session opened on October 2 and concluded in less than the usual time on November 10. This early completion of the session was attributed largely to preparatory work done under the intersessional machinery which the contracting parties had set up tentatively last year and which they have extended and strengthened for the period between the seventh and eighth sessions.

Among the most significant actions taken in the seventh session were:

(1). Granting of a waiver of certain obligations in the General Agreement, particularly the most-favored-nation provisions, in order to permit the six countries participating in the European Coal and Steel Community to fulfill their responsibilities under their treaty without violating the GATT;

- (2). Provisional settlement of the dispute between the United States and Belgium concerning import restrictions imposed by Belgium against United States products;
- (3). Approval of a text of an International Convention to ease the import of commercial samples and advertising matter and of a code of standards to reduce documentary requirements for the importation of goods;
- (4). Consultation with a number of countries on import restrictions imposed for balance-of-payment reasons;
- (5). Consideration of an application by Japan for accession to GATT;
- (6). Successful settlement through a panel on complaints of a number of disputes among countries involving charges of violation of the General Agreement or the impairment of rights under the Agreement;
- (7). Authorization to the Netherlands to reduce its imports of wheat flour from the United States as an offset to restrictions against Netherlands dairy products imposed by the United States under Section 104 of the Defense Production Act.

Norway's Complaint: The contracting parties considered Norway's complaint concerning discriminatory treatment by Germany of Norwegian-type sardines. Germany was requested to consider ways and means of removing inequality of treatment accorded this product and to consult with Norway, reporting back to the contracting parties at the eighth session.

International Chamber of Commerce Resolutions: The International Chamber of Commerce, at its thirteenth congress, June 1951, passed a series of resolutions urging governments to enter into agreement to reduce "red tape" in import and export formalities. These resolutions were passed on to the contracting parties and action on these was begun at the sixth session. Continuing their work at this session, the contracting parties have now approved the text of an international convention providing for duty-free entry of samples and of certain advertising matter. The convention will be opened for signature February 1, 1953, and will enter into force when 15 states have accepted it. The contracting parties have also agreed to review steps taken by governments to give effect to principles of valuation contained in the GATT, and to ascertain current methods of determining the nationality of goods. A code of standards was adopted on documentary requirements for importation of goods, and the abolition of consular invoices and consular visas by the end of 1956 was recommended.

Pending such abolition, certain standard practices in this field are recommended to governments. The Contracting Parties also recommended that governments imposing or intensifying trade restrictions should authorize, to the fullest extent possible, fulfillment of contracts which were in effect at the time the restrictions were imposed.



Application of Japan: Last July the Government of Japan notified the Contracting Parties of its desire to negotiate for accession to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. The Contracting Parties at the seventh session approved a resolution recognizing that Japan should take its rightful place in the community of trading nations and to that end should be admitted to appropriate international arrangements. An intersessional committee is directed to make a detailed examination of matters involved, discussing this with Japanese officials. Two meetings with Japanese officials were held during the seventh session, and the Contracting Parties decided the intersessional committee meeting on Japan should be February 2, 1953. Some contracting parties have indicated that they may enter into bilateral tariff negotiations with Japan immediately, with the intention of incorporating the results of such bilateral negotiations into later, multilateral negotiations directed toward Japanese accession to the General Agreement.

World-Wide Tariff Reduction Plan: Work was continued at the seventh session on a plan, put forward at the sixth session by the French delegation, that tariffs should be lowered by 30 percent on a world-wide basis in three yearly stages of 10 percent. The report of the working party at the seventh session indicates that a great deal of work remains to be done before a specific plan will be available for the consideration of the contracting parties. Most countries were not prepared at this time to express a view on the principle of the proposal. Study of the problem will continue intersessionally with the possibility that several technically feasible plans of varying degrees of flexibility may be developed for further consideration.

The Council of Europe also submitted to the contracting parties a recommendation concerning the adoption of a common policy for lowering tariff barriers in Europe. This proposal was dealt with separately from the French plan, and a report on technical implications, prepared during the seventh session by a group of experts, will be submitted to the Council of Europe. Since this is an experts' report, it did not go before the contracting parties for approval.

Next Meeting: The eighth session of the contracting parties will be held September 17, 1953. The 34 contracting parties to the General Agreement are:

Australia	Dominican Republic	New Zealand
Austria	Finland	Nicaragua
Belgium	France	Norway
Brazil	Federal Republic of Germany	Pakistan
Burma	Greece	Peru
Canada	Haiti	Southern Rhodesia
Ceylon	India	Sweden
Chile	Indonesia	Turkey
Cuba	Italy	Union of South Africa
Czechoslovakia	Liberia	United Kingdom
Denmark	Luxembourg	United States
	Netherlands	



Tariff Commission

"ESCAPE CLAUSE" REPORT ON TUNA CANNED IN BRINE AND BONITO CANNED IN OIL OR BRINE: The Commission found (Commissioners Brossard and Gregg dissenting) that tuna canned in brine and bonito canned in oil or brine are not being imported into

the United States in such increased quantities as to cause or threaten serious injury to the domestic industry producing like or directly competitive products. This conclusion was contained in a report of the U. S. Tariff Commission's findings and conclusions in the "escape clause" investigation made under section 7 of the Trade Agreements Extension Act of 1951 with respect to these products. The report was made public on November 26, 1952. These articles are subject to duty at rates imposed under paragraphs 718 (a) and (b) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as modified pursuant to tariff concessions granted in the trade agreement with Iceland signed August 27, 1943, in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, and in the exclusive trade agreement with Cuba signed October 30, 1947. Tuna canned in oil and fresh and frozen tuna were not covered by the investigation.

The Commission, in view of its findings and conclusions, made no recommendation to the President for the withdrawal or modification of any of the concessions applicable to the aforementioned products.

The present rate of duty on imports from all countries of tuna canned in brine is 12½ percent ad valorem; and that on bonito canned in oil, if valued over 9 cents per pound, 15 percent ad valorem, and, if valued at not over 9 cents per pound (of which there are currently no imports), 22 percent ad valorem. The rate on bonito canned in brine is 10 percent ad valorem on imports from Cuba and 12½ percent ad valorem on imports from other countries.

The Commission's report (Bonito, Canned in Oil; and Tuna and Bonito Canned, Not in Oil--Report on Escape-Clause Investigation Under Section 7 of the Trade Agreements Extension Act of 1951) includes statements of the majority and minority views.



ALASKA FISHERIES

DO YOU KNOW THAT:

For years fisheries have ranked first in economic activities in Alaska. Production in 1950, including fur-seal byproducts, totaled 260,122,531 pounds with a wholesale value of \$100,156,141. Salmon is the most important product in the commercial fisheries. An estimated 27,544 persons were engaged in commercial fisheries in 1950. The leading fishery products by value during that year were:

Canned salmon	-	\$82,346,644
Frozen salmon	-	2,354,466
Halibut	-	5,802,381
Herring	-	3,819,994
Crab	-	1,603,688

Management of the fisheries resources of Alaska, including fur seals, is vested in the Branch of Alaska Fisheries, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Service is also responsible for the issuance of fishing regulations and their enforcement. The recently created Territorial Department of Fisheries has continued its cooperative program with the Fish and Wildlife Service in enforcement activities, and has also expanded its biological research program.

NOTE: ABSTRACTED FROM "INFORMATION ON THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1951," TRANSMITTED BY THE UNITED STATES TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ... AS PREPARED IN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.