



FEDERAL ACTIONS



Economic Stabilization Agency

OFFICE OF PRICE STABILIZATION

PRICE PROCEDURAL REGULATION REVISED: The second revision of Price Procedural Regulation 1 was issued by the Office of Price Stabilization on April 29.

The regulation sets forth the procedural requirements for the issuance, amendment, and interpretation of ceiling price regulations, as well as the filing of reports, protests and applications for adjustment.

OPS said the regulation was revised to bring it up-to-date and to clarify certain procedures. The revision reflects, for example, the decentralization of authority to field offices to handle applications for adjustment but allows formal review of their decisions.

The revision also clarifies the privilege of submitting rebuttal evidence in protest proceedings.

Another new provision prescribes in detail the persons authorized to sign reports required under price regulations.

For details see: Price Procedural Regulation 1, Revision 2, dated Apr. 28, 1952.

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SUSPENSION OF FATS AND OILS CEILING PRICES PROBABLY INDICATES A TREND FOR FISH OILS: Ceiling prices of crude soybean oil, crude cottonseed oil, and crude corn oil were revised downward by Amendment 13 to CPR 6 issued on April 25 by the Office of Price Stabilization. This amendment also establishes dollars-and-cents ceiling prices for processors' sales of lard, formerly covered by the GCPR; and provides for a suspension of all provisions of CPR 6 and other regulations insofar as they apply to commodities for which new ceiling prices are fixed by this amendment, and also for suspension of the provisions of CPR 6 applying to tallows and greases, animal fat waste materials, and vegetable oil soapstocks. The effective date of this amendment is April 28.

Although the new ceilings for the named oils are below those in effect before issuance of this amendment, they still are 60 to 75 percent above current market quotations for those commodities. In event control is reimposed, these new, lower ceilings will be in effect instead of the higher ceilings originally specified in CPR 6.

These suspensions are of interest to the fishing and allied industries since it is expected that OPS will in the near future take action to bring fish oil price ceilings (now 16 cents per pound) in line with the lower market prices that have prevailed for the past year, and to treat them along the same lines that soybean oil, cottonseed oil, and crude corn oil have been treated by this amendment.

For details see: Amdt. 13 (Crude Soybean Oil, Crude Cottonseed Oil, Crude Corn Oil, Lard; Suspension of Price Control), issued April 25, 1952, to CFR 6 (Fats and Oils).

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STANDARDS FOR SUSPENSION OF PRICE CONTROLS: Adoption of preliminary standards for suspension of price controls in certain soft market areas were announced by the Office of Price Stabilization Director on April 22.

Price control has been suspended on 16 commodities now selling materially below ceiling. The standards announced--which will be further tested, broadened and modified--were applied against these 16 commodities. The possibility of suspension in several other important fields is already under study.

Statements submitted by ESA and OPS to the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency emphasized that these are standards for suspension rather than decontrol, pointing out that it would be premature to dismantle the structure of price control in any important areas at this time. Nevertheless they said the stabilization agency has a positive obligation to lighten the burden of reports and record-keeping wherever possible.

Chairman Burnet Maybank and the Senate Banking and Currency Committee (which is currently considering extension of the Defense Production Act) have suggested that suspension of controls be undertaken where this could be safely done without adverse affecting the defense program or the nation's economic structure and where the commodities are well below ceilings.

The commodities on which price controls were suspended effective Monday, April 28, are:

Cattlehides	Lard	Crude Soybean Oil	Wool Top
Kips	Animal Waste Materials	Crude Corn Oil	Wool Noils
Calfskins	Vegetable Oil Soapstock	Burlap	Wool Waste
Tallow	Crude Cottonseed Oil	Wool	Alpaca

No widespread suspension action is under consideration at this time. Pointing out that three-fifths of the total wholesale trade is being carried on at peak prices and scarcely more than one-fifth at prices significantly below the post-Korean peak, the OPS Director said: "Especially in those commodities which are sought after by both manufacturers and Government procurement agencies--basic goods like steel and other metals, fuels, lumber, chemicals, paper, machinery, trucks, and buses--there are practically no soft spots."

It has been made clear that OPS has no intention of "decontrolling" any commodities at this time.

The Price Director said that instead of decontrolling important commodities where markets are "soft," OPS will suspend regulations or lighten reporting or record keeping requirements, "using standards under which we can objectively determine that such action is appropriate."

Although producers of the commodities suspended on April 22 are freed from further record-keeping at this time, they are required to retain those records they maintained heretofore in compliance with the suspended regulations. In addition to its suspension studies, the OPS committee is also developing standards and procedures for the relaxation or elimination of record-keeping and reporting requirements where sus-

pension is not considered appropriate. One member of the committee staff is now spending full time in a review of existing reporting and record-keeping requirements.

The Price Director declared that as a matter of fundamental policy, OPS will not suspend controls where such action would result in levels of prices or margins higher than permitted under existing regulations. And he stated that "we will see to it that suspension is always terminated before previous ceiling levels are reached."

Under the preliminary standards developed by the Agency, suspension action or other relaxation will not be approved unless these conditions exist:

1. Prices in an area are materially below ceilings. ("Area" refers to a range of related items and will be determined by the structure of the market and OPS regulations.)

2. There is no prospect that reimposition of controls will be necessary in the foreseeable future. This determination must be based upon a full economic analysis of market conditions and will take into account such things as current supply and demand, production capacity, inventories and volatility of prices.

Each suspension order includes a specific recontrol point which is below current ceilings but well above the current market price of each commodity. When prices of any commodity suspended from control reach this recontrol point, ceilings will be reimposed.

In addition to providing for automatic reimposition of controls under certain conditions, each suspension order announced to date also makes clear that the Price Director may reimpose controls at any time he thinks such action is necessary to carry out the aims of the stabilization program, as might be the case in the event of new international developments or for any other emergency reason. A price-watching system for each suspended commodity is established to follow the movement of prices and their relationship to ceilings.

For details see: News release OFS-O-840, dated Apr. 22, 1952.

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

ALASKA COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REGULATIONS AMENDED: On the basis of facts obtained by field representatives of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and briefs submitted by members of the fishing industries, certain changes in Alaska commercial fisheries regulations have been determined to be necessary to permit maximum utilization of the resources consistent with sound conservation principles. The amendment to the regulations appeared in the Federal Register of May 13, and becomes effective June 13.

The changes include the following:

Traps are to be inoperative within 24 hours after the close of the last season open to traps.

Personal fishing with gill net, seine, or trap shall be subject to commercial fishing regulations 48 hours before the opening and 48 hours after the close of a commercial season for such gear, with the exception that personal-use fishing will be permitted at all times on the Yukon River and any place 25 miles away from waters legally open to commercial fishing.

Bristol Bay area weekly closed period from June 25-July 31 is extended from 36 hours to a total of 84 hours.

In the Alaska Peninsula area, throughout the season in the Port Moller district and prior to July 5 in all other waters of the area, the 36-hour closed period is extended to a total of 60 hours, including a mid-week closure. On and after July 5 in all waters of the area, except the Port Moller district, the weekly closed period of 60 hours applies all to the weekend.

Fishing for Dungeness crabs in the Prince William Sound area is prohibited north of 60°22' N. latitude and east of 146°40' W. longitude from June 1-August 31. In the waters of Orca Inlet north of a line drawn at right angles across the Inlet from the Cordova Ocean dock such fishing is prohibited from June 1-October 31.

In the Copper River area, fishing for Dungeness crabs is prohibited north of 60°22' N. latitude from June 1-August 31.

In Southeastern Alaska the general early season from June 23 to July 5 has been eliminated.

A number of other minor changes are also included in the amendment.



Department of State

NORTH PACIFIC FISHERIES CONVENTION SIGNED: The International Convention for the High Seas Fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean was signed May 9, 1952, at Tokyo by representatives of the United States, Canada, and Japan. Ambassador Robert D. Murphy signed on behalf of the United States, a May 9 Department of State new release reports. The Convention will be submitted to the Senate with a view to receiving the advice and consent of that body to ratification. It will enter into force on the day upon which the contracting parties exchange ratifications.

The Convention, which was negotiated at the Tripartite Fisheries Conference held at Tokyo in late 1951, marks a further step in the conservation of international fisheries in the North Pacific Ocean. Japan now becomes a joint partner with the United States and Canada in cooperative measures to preserve and perpetuate the fish stocks of the North Pacific.

The Convention introduces a new principle in international conservation practice on the high seas. Under it special treatment is accorded to fisheries already fully utilized and fully conserved. Each signatory agrees to abstain from exploitation of specified fish stocks which are already exploited to the maximum by one or both of the other parties provided the latter are carrying out programs for the conservation of the stocks and agree to continue to carry out such programs.

The Convention establishes the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission composed of representatives of the three countries, each with equal vote. The Commission is empowered to investigate any fish stock of the North Pacific Ocean exploit

ed by two or more of the parties and, when necessary, to recommend joint conservation action to the governments concerned. Excepted from such study and recommendation, however, are fisheries already covered by agreements between the parties, such as the Pacific halibut and sockeye salmon fisheries.

In the special case of fully utilized and conserved fisheries, the Commission may recommend that the country or countries not exploiting the stock refrain from such exploitation. The convention provides, however, that no such abstentions should be requested of any parties in waters in which there has been a history of joint conservation activity by such parties, and intermingling of their fleets, and an intermingling of the stocks of fish exploited by their fleets. Accordingly, the convention stipulates that neither the United States nor Canada shall be asked to abstain from any stock in waters off the Pacific Coast of either country from the Gulf of Alaska southward.

To qualify under the abstention proviso, a fishery stock must be fully exploited and be under continuous study and regulation for conservation purposes. The convention recognizes three stocks, salmon, halibut, and herring, off the coasts of North America as meeting these conditions. Accordingly, by the terms of the convention, Japan agrees to abstain from fishing salmon, halibut, and herring in specified waters off the coasts of North America; and Canada agrees to abstain from fishing salmon in the Bering Sea east of 175 degrees west longitude.

Also signed May 9 was a protocol to the Convention, providing for further study and final determination of the lines bounding the salmon areas. These lines are tentatively set by the Convention.

Except for certain minor changes, the texts of the Convention and Protocol published by the Department of State with the announcement of the signing of these documents are the same as shown in the Commercial Fisheries Review of February 1952, pp. 66-8. Below are shown only those parts which differ from the wording shown in the issue of the Review indicated.

The changes in the text of the Convention were:

ARTICLE IV. 1. PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT NO RECOMMENDATION SHALL BE MADE FOR ABSTENTION BY A CONTRACTING PARTY CONCERNED WITH REGARD TO: ...
(3) WATERS IN WHICH THERE IS HISTORIC INTERMINGLING OF FISHING OPERATIONS OF THE PARTIES CONCERNED, INTERMINGLING OF THE STOCKS OF FISH EXPLOITED BY THESE OPERATIONS, AND A LONG ESTABLISHED HISTORY OF JOINT CONSERVATION AND REGULATION AMONG THE PARTIES CONCERNED SO THAT THERE IS CONSEQUENT IMPRACTICABILITY OF SEGREGATING THE OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTERING CONTROL...

ARTICLE VII. 1. THE ANNEX TO THIS CONVENTION SHALL BE CONSIDERED AMENDED FROM THE DATE UPON WHICH THE COMMISSION RECEIVES NOTIFICATION FROM ALL THE CONTRACTING PARTIES OF ACCEPTANCE OF A RECOMMENDATION TO AMEND THE ANNEX MADE BY THE COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE III, SECTION 1 OR OF THE PROTOCOL TO THIS CONVENTION...

ARTICLE X. 1 (B) WHEN ANY SUCH PERSON OR FISHING VESSEL IS ACTUALLY ENGAGED IN OPERATIONS IN VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS CONVENTION... PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT WHEN THE CONTRACTING PARTY WHICH RECEIVES SUCH NOTIFICATION CANNOT IMMEDIATELY ACCEPT DELIVERY AND MAKES REQUEST, THE CONTRACTING PARTY WHICH GIVES SUCH NOTIFICATION MAY KEEP SUCH PERSON OR VESSEL UNDER SURVEILLANCE WITHIN ITS OWN TERRITORY, UNDER THE CONDITIONS AGREED UPON BY BOTH OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES...

The following was added to the end of Article XI:

DONE IN TRIPLICATE, IN THE ENGLISH AND JAPANESE LANGUAGES, BOTH EQUALLY AUTHENTIC, AT TOKYO THIS TENTH DAY OF MAY ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FIFTY-TWO.

The changes in the Annex were:

2. WITH REGARD TO THE STOCKS OF FISH IN THE RESPECTIVE WATERS NAMED BELOW, CANADA AND JAPAN AGREE TO ABSTAIN FROM FISHING, AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AGREES TO CONTINUE TO CARRY OUT NECESSARY CONSERVATION MEASURES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE V, SECTION 2 OF THIS CONVENTION:...

The changes in the Protocol were:

THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CANADA, AND JAPAN, THROUGH THEIR RESPECTIVE PLENIPOTENTIARIES, AGREE UPON THE FOLLOWING STIPULATION IN REGARD TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE HIGH SEAS FISHERIES OF THE NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN, SIGNED AT TOKYO ON THIS TENTH DAY OF MAY, NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY-TWO...

THE COMMISSION TO BE ESTABLISHED UNDER THE CONVENTION SHALL AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS PRACTICABLE, INVESTIGATE THE WATERS OF THE CONVENTION AREA TO DETERMINE IF THERE ARE AREAS IN WHICH SALMON ORIGINATING IN THE RIVERS OF CANADA AND OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA INTERMINGLE WITH SALMON ORIGINATING IN THE RIVERS OF ASIA. IF SUCH AREAS ARE FOUND THE COMMISSION SHALL CONDUCT SUITABLE STUDIES TO DETERMINE A LINE OR LINES WHICH BEST DIVIDE SALMON OF ASIATIC ORIGIN AND SALMON OF CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ORIGIN, FROM WHICH CERTAIN CONTRACTING PARTIES HAVE AGREED TO ABSTAIN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE V...

The following was added to the end of the Protocol:

DONE IN TRIPPLICATE AT TOKYO THIS TENTH DAY OF MAY, ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FIFTY-TWO.



Eighty-Second Congress (Second Session)

APRIL 1952

Listed below are public bills and resolutions introduced and referred to committees, or passed by the Eighty-Second Congress (Second Session) and signed by the President. However, the more pertinent reports, hearings, or chamber actions on some of the bills shown in this section from month to month are also listed.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED:

Government Purchases of Canned California Squid and Anchovies: H. R. 7658 (Bramblett) - A bill to authorize the Director for Mutual Security to purchase canned California squid and anchovies for distribution in the general areas of China and Greece; to the Committee on Appropriations.

H. R. 7659 (Bramblett) - A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Army to purchase canned California squid and anchovies for distribution in Korea; to the Committee on Appropriations.

Income Tax Relief for Commercial Fishermen: H. R. 7522 (Sikes) - A bill to amend section 112 of the Internal Revenue Code to provide the same rules for determining gain in the case of the sale or exchange of boats used in commercial fishing as are provided in the case of the sale or exchange of residences; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Sea Lampreys: House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries: Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife approved for reporting to the full commit-

tee H. R. 6500, with respect to authorizing further appropriations for the conduct of investigations and studies thereunder (sea-lamprey work).

CONGRESSIONAL REPORTS:

Committee reports on bills reported in this section of interest to the fishery and allied industries (available only from the committee submitting the report):

Interior Department Appropriation Bill, 1953, House Report No. 1628, (March 21, 1952, 82d Congress, 2d Session), 36 p., printed, to accompany H. R. 7176, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior for fiscal year 1953. Appropriations for the Fish and Wildlife Service are included in this bill. This report submitted by the Committee on Appropriations gives the recommendations of the Committee for the various agencies of the Department.

Federal Wildlife Conservation Activities, 1951, Senate Report No. 1457 (April 16, 1952, 82d Congress, 2d Session), 298 p., illus., printed. Report of the Committee on Government Operations on the wildlife-conservation activities of the

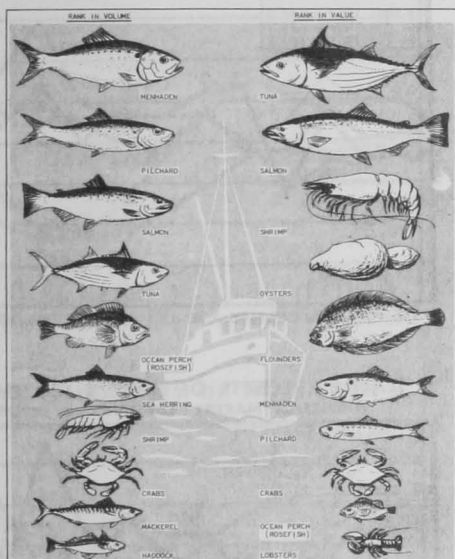
Federal Government during 1951. As well as the conservation of other wildlife resources, the conservation of commercial and recreational fisheries is reported upon in this report by the various agencies concerned. The Department of Interior's report presents the activities of the Branches of Commercial Fisheries, Fishery Biology, Alaska Fisheries, Game Fish and Hatcheries, and the Offices of River Basin Studies and Foreign Activities; and the

activities of the National Park Service regarding fish resources. The report of the Department of Agriculture gives the activities of the Soil Conservation Service regarding food and recreation from ponds. The report of the Department of the Army gives fish and wildlife data on reservoir and other projects conducted by the Office of Engineers. Included also are various letters and statement from various fish and wildlife conservation agencies.



THE RELATIVE PRODUCTIVITY AND VALUE OF THE FISHERIES OF THE UNITED STATES AND ALASKA

The commercial fisheries of the United States and Alaska rank second in the world in volume. The fisheries of the world annually yield approximately 55 billion pounds, and of this, the United States and Alaska contribute over 5.6 billion pounds¹ or 10 percent.



The period following World War II was one of great activity for the fishing fleets of the United States and Alaska. During this period the fishing industry made its transition to a peacetime basis. Production and marketing was controlled by supply, demand, and competition rather than price ceilings; shortages of supplies, labor, and transportation; lack of vessels; and other war-created difficulties.

Year	Pounds	Value	Average price per pound
1929	3,567,277,000	(1)	(1)
1930	3,286,580,000	\$109,369,000	3.33
1931	2,657,217,000	77,366,000	2.91
1932	2,616,160,000	55,532,000	2.12
1933	2,933,169,000	(1)	(1)
1934	4,958,035,000	(1)	(1)
1935	4,065,802,000	(1)	(1)
1936	4,760,180,000	(1)	(1)
1937	4,352,549,000	100,845,000	2.32
1938	4,251,145,000	93,587,000	2.20
1939	4,443,339,000	86,537,000	2.17
1940	4,059,536,000	98,957,000	2.44
1941	4,900,000,000	129,000,000	2.63
1942	3,875,000,000	270,135,000	4.36
1943	4,200,000,000	268,000,000	4.85
1944	4,500,000,000	273,000,000	4.73
1945	4,575,000,000	267,000,000	5.80
1946	4,450,000,000	310,000,000	6.96
1947	4,340,000,000	307,000,000	7.08
1948	4,575,000,000	367,000,000	8.02
1949	4,790,000,000	339,000,000	7.06

¹ NOT AVAILABLE.
NOTE: IN UNITED STATES FISHERY STATISTICS, UNVALUED AND REVALUED ARE REPORTED IN POUNDS OF MEATS INSTEAD OF IN-THE-SHELL WEIGHT, BUT ALL OTHER ITEMS INCLUDED (EXCEPT WHALE PRODUCTS) ARE REPORTED IN ROUND WEIGHT.

The table shows the United States and Alaska fisheries production, total value to the fishermen, and average prices from 1929-49. Although the total production has not varied greatly during the past ten years, the total value of the fisheries production at the fishermen's level has increased slightly over 250 percent. (The data presented include recorded production for the areas in which surveys were made and estimates for other regions.)

Ten species (or groups of species classified as one fishery) accounted for 74.6 percent of the total catch and 58.6 percent of the total value. The 10 species leading in value, however, accounted for 68.6 percent of the total value and 69.2 percent of the total volume. Menhaden, which led all other fish in respect to volume, were fourth in value, while pilchards were second in volume and seventh in value. Tuna ranked fourth in volume but first in value. Salmon followed tuna, being second in value and third in volume.

Of the total of 198 items listed in the catch records for 1949, 58 of the items accounted for 98 percent of the total production, while 61 items accounted for 99 percent of the total value.

¹ WEIGHTS OF UNIVALVES AND BIVALVES INCLUDED IN THIS TOTAL ARE BASED ON IN-THE-SHELL WEIGHTS.