

Council motion on BSAI Amendment 85 – Pacific cod sector allocations

October 9, 2005

The Council adopts Attachment 2 to the October 2005 Pacific cod discussion paper: “Reorganized structure for BSAI FMP Amendment 85 to revise the BSAI Pacific cod allocations.”

Additionally, the Council adopts the following changes to Part I of the BSAI Amendment 85 problem statement (additions are in bold and deletions are stricken):

Part I: BSAI Pacific Cod Sector Allocations

The BSAI Pacific cod fishery is fully utilized and has been allocated among gear groups and to sectors within gear groups. The current allocations among trawl, jig, and fixed gear were implemented in 1997 (Amendment 46) and **the CDQ allocation was implemented in 1998.** **These allocations** are overdue for review. Harvest patterns have varied significantly among the sectors resulting in annual inseason reallocations of TAC. As a result, the current allocations do not correspond with actual dependency and use by sector.

Participants in the BSAI Pacific cod fishery who have made significant investments and have a long-term dependence on the resource need stability in the allocations to ~~their~~ **the trawl, jig, fixed gear, and CDQ** sectors. To reduce uncertainty and provide stability, allocations should be adjusted to better reflect historic use by sector. The basis for determining sector allocations will be catch history as well as consideration of socio-economic **and community** factors.

As other fisheries in the BSAI and GOA are incrementally rationalized, historical participants in the BSAI Pacific cod fishery may be put at a disadvantage. Each sector in the BSAI Pacific cod fishery currently has different degrees of license requirements and levels of participation. Allocations to the sector level are a necessary step on the path towards comprehensive rationalization. Prompt action is needed to maintain stability in the BSAI Pacific cod fisheries.

The Council also adds the following option under Alternative 2, Component 7:

Option 7.2 PSC apportioned to the cod trawl sectors will be based on the average bycatch rate of the trawl cod sectors applied to the cod allocation percentages used in the directed cod fishery by each sector under Part A.