

## **C-4(a) Bering Sea Chum Salmon Bycatch Analysis Council Motion June 2009**

The Council recommends staff develop an extended discussion paper with the recommendations included below, and including a look at the interactions that might be expected between the Chinook salmon program and these options and those recommended in the discussion paper; additionally the discussion paper shall be provided to the Salmon Bycatch Workgroup and the results of that review be submitted to the Council.

### **Alternative 1 – Status Quo**

Alternative 1 retains the current program of the Chum Salmon Savings Area (SSA) closures triggered by separate non-CDQ and CDQ caps with the fleet's exemption to these closures per regulations for Amendment 84 and as modified by the Amendment 91 Chinook bycatch action.

### **Alternative 2 – Hard Cap**

#### **Component 1: Hard Cap Formulation (with CDQ allocation of 10.7%)**

- a) 58,000
- b) 206,000
- c) 353,000
- d) 488,000

#### **Component 2: Sector Allocation**

- a) No sector allocation
- b) Allocations to Inshore, Catcher Processor, Mothership, and CDQ
  - 1) Pro-rata to pollock AFA pollock sector allocation
  - 2) Historical average
    - i. 2004-2006
    - ii. 2002-2006
    - iii. 1997-2006
  - 3) Allocation based on 75% pro-rata and 25% historical
  - 4) Allocation based on 50% pro-rata and 50% historical
  - 5) Allocation based on 25% pro-rata and 75% historical

#### **Component 3: Sector Transfer**

- a) No transfers or rollovers
- b) Allow NMFS-approved transfers between sectors
  - Suboption: Limit transfers to the following percentage of salmon that is available to the transferring entity at the time of transfer:
    - 1) 50%
    - 2) 70%
    - 3) 90%
- c) Allow NMFS to roll-over unused bycatch allocation to sectors that are still fishing

Component 4: Cooperative Provision

- a) Allow allocation at the co-op level for the inshore sector, and apply transfer rules (Component 3) at the co-op level for the inshore sector.  
Suboption: Limit transfers to the following percentage of salmon that is available to the transferring entity at the time of transfer:
  - 1) 50%
  - 2) 70%
  - 3) 90%

**Alternative 3 – Trigger Closure**

Component 1: Trigger Cap Formulation

- a) 45,000
- b) 58,000
- c) 206,000
- d) 353,000
- e) 488,000

Application of Trigger Caps

- a) Apply trigger to all chum bycatch
- b) Apply trigger to all chum bycatch in the CVOA
- c) Apply trigger to all chum bycatch between specific dates

Component 2: Sector allocation

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- b) Allocations to Inshore, Catcher Processor, Mothership, and CDQ
  - 1) Pro-rata to pollock AFA pollock sector allocation
  - 2) Historical average
    - i. 2004-2006
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  - 3) Allocation based on 75% pro-rata and 25% historical
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Component 5: Area Option

- a) Area identified in October, 2008 discussion paper
- b) Existing Chum Salmon Savings Area (differs from status quo with application of other components)

Component 6: Timing Option – Dates of Area Closure

- a) Existing closure dates (August 1 – August 31 and September 1 through October 14 if trigger is reached.)
- b) New closure dates

Component 7: Rolling Hot Spot (RHS) Exemption – Similar to status quo, participants in a vessel-level (platform level for Mothership fleet) RHS would be exempt from regulatory triggered closure(s).

- a) Sub-option: RHS regulations would contain an ICA provision that the regulatory trigger closure (as adopted in Component 5) apply to participants that do not maintain a certain level of rate-based chum salmon bycatch performance.

Further recommendations for the discussion paper include: (a) compile available data on recent bycatch rates; and (b) use a blended rate of CDQ and CDQ partners' bycatch for calculating historical bycatch rates.