

Council Motion: BSAI and GOA Trawl LLP Recency, February, 2007

At the February, 2007 meeting, the Council made passed two motions on Agenda item C-5 – BSAI & GOA Trawl LLP Recency. Both motions provide direction to NPFMC staff and NOAA Fisheries staff to prepare discussion papers for the March/April meeting. The first motion also provides changes to Component 5 of the proposed amendment. The first motion provided the following direction:

Request the Council staff to develop a discussion paper that evaluates how the elimination of endorsements under this program will impact access to allocations and sideboard amounts under AFA/Amendment 80/Rockfish Pilot Program.

The Council noted that this information will be necessary for the Council to make choices among the various alternatives and components in the proposed amendment.

Component 5 in the current alternatives will increase the number of non-AFA trawl LLPs in the AI, based upon groundfish harvests in the parallel waters fishery and also the 2006 State waters Pacific cod fishery. The new motion makes the following changes to Component 5:

A – Retain Component 5 within the trawl recency analysis

B – Narrow the options within Component 5 as follows:

- 1) For non-AFA vessels < 60 feet in length to receive an AI trawl endorsement, consider landing thresholds in the AI parallel cod fishery between 2000-2005 of at least:
 - a. 50 metric tons*
 - b. 250 metric tons*
 - c. 500 metric tons**
- 2) For non-AFA vessels > 60 feet in length to receive an AI trawl endorsement, consider landing thresholds of at least one landing in the AI parallel (groundfish fishery) or State water cod fishery between 2000 and 2006 **plus** landings in the BSAI cod fishery between 2000 and 2006 of at least: (a) 500 metric tons, or (b) 1,000 metric tons*

A second motion was passed by the Council to:

“Request NMFS staff to develop a discussion paper on effects of different alternatives for gear/area endorsements criteria on LLP program; the process necessary to provide the data necessary to support the alternatives under consideration; and a preliminary assessment of implementation issues.”

The two discussion papers described in the Council amendments are to be reviewed at the March/April Council meeting.