

**North Pacific Fishery Management Council
Advisory Panel
October 3-7, 2005, Anchorage Hilton Hotel**

The following members were present for all or part of the meeting:

John Bruce	Bob Jacobson
Al Burch	Simon Kinneen
Joe Childers	Kent Leslie
Cora Crome	Matt Moir
Craig Cross	John Moller
Tom Enlow	Jeb Morrow
Duncan Fields	Ed Poulsen
Dave Fraser	Jim Preston
John Henderschedt	Michelle Ridgway
Jan Jacobs	Jeff Stephan

The AP unanimously approved the minutes of the previous meeting.

C-1 Halibut Guideline Harvest Level

The AP recommends the council initiate an analysis for implementation of a management action consistent with the GHL preferred alternative approved by the Council in 2000.

The AP further recommends establishing a charter industry GHL committee. This committee will review the amendment package and the following points and make recommendations to the Council as appropriate.

- Eliminate the poundage ceiling and allow the GHL to rise, as a percentage, with increased TAC just as it currently falls with decreased TAC. Allow the GHL to float with the TAC upward as well as downward.
- Manage the GHL by sub-regions within 2C and 3A
- Establish a moratorium on new entrants. Establish a fully transferable moratorium permit system. Establish a control date, starting date, and ending date. Use this moratorium period to develop a charter halibut management system as appropriate to the industry and to the level of harvest.

The AP also recommends implementation of a NMFS harvest accounting system for charter halibut in order to establish an accurate database for charter halibut harvest. This accounting system could be similar to the one developed by NMFS for the Charter Halibut IFQ proposed rule.

Motion passed 19/1.

C-2 CDQ

The AP recommends the following alternatives for analysis:

(Changes noted are differences from the Action memo)

Alternative 1: Status Quo. Do not amend CDQ fishery management regulations. CDQ and PSQ transfers between CDQ groups would not be allowed to account for in-season quota overages; CDQ groups would not be allowed to form cooperatives and pool their CDQ allocations; each BSAI TAC category allocated to the CDQ Program would be allocated among CDQ groups; all CDQ group allocations would be managed as hard caps; and changes to those TAC categories allocated to CDQ groups would continue to be made through rulemaking.

Alternative 2: Amend regulations to remove the prohibition disallowing the transfer of CDQ from one CDQ group to another CDQ group to cover overages of groundfish CDQ allocations.

~~Alternative 3: Amend regulations to: (1) remove the prohibition disallowing the transfer of CDQ from one CDQ group to another CDQ group to cover harvest overages of groundfish CDQ allocations, and (2) allow CDQ groups to form cooperatives and pool their groundfish CDQ allocations for purposes of quota management and monitoring.~~

Alternative 4: Amend regulations to: (1) remove the prohibition disallowing the transfer of CDQ from one CDQ group to another CDQ group to cover in-season harvest overages of groundfish CDQ allocations, ~~(2) allow CDQ groups to form cooperatives and pool their groundfish CDQ allocations for purposes of quota management and monitoring,~~ and (3) only allocate target species CDQ reserves among CDQ groups. CDQ target species allocations would be managed as hard caps and unallocated CDQ reserves would be managed as soft caps.

Option 1: Amend regulations to allow the Council to make future modifications to the suite of TAC categories allocated among CDQ groups during the annual groundfish harvest specifications process, rather than through rulemaking.

Motion passed 20/0

C-3 IRIU

The AP recommends the Council adopt the Amendment 80 elements and options as outlined in the document, with the following options/alternatives considered as the preliminary preferred alternative (*new/changed text is noted in bold italic or strikeout*):

Component 2 (CDQ)

Option 2.2 10%

Suboption 2.2 10% *Motion passed 18/0/1*

Component 3 (Sector Allocation Calculation)

Option 3.2 Retained over retained

Suboption: Allocations would be managed as a hard *cap for the H&G sector, and for the NON-H&G sector, an ICA would be taken off the top to accommodate incidental bycatch by the non-H&G sector. Staff should include tables that show anticipated ICA amounts in the non-H&G fisheries sand actual catch of non-Amendment 80 sector be added to table 3.2.*

Suboption: Target species and PSC rollover *Motion passed 18/0/1*

Limited Access Fishery

Referencing Table 3-29, a vessel must have landed at least 150 mt of all groundfish species during the qualifying years to be eligible to participate in any Bering Sea trawl catcher vessel fisheries. Qualifying requirement is license-based (not steel based). Motion passes 17/2

Component 4 (Catch history years)

Option 4.4 1998-2004 *Motion passed 18/0/1*

Component 6 (PSC Allocation to Sector)

Option 6.1.1 Based on historical usage

Suboption 6.2.2 Reduce apportionments to 75% of calculated level.

Suboption 6.2.4 Reduced to 95% of calculated level in the third year of the program

Suboption 6.2.6 Phase in PSC reductions 5% per year for Suboptions 6.2.1–6.2.4.

Add a suboption to calculate the level in the third year of the program Motion passed 11/6

Component 6 motion passed 14/3

Component 7 (Eligible vessels)

As described in the analysis – *Add an option to restrict LLPs that are used for eligibility in Amendment 80 (either to be included in the non-AFA CP sector or to be used in Amendment 80 co-op formation) from being used outside of the amendment 80 sector) Motion passed 17/0/2*

Component 8 licenses authorized for participation in a cooperative

Option 8b.1 At least 15 % of the eligible licenses *Motion passed 18/1*

Component 9 allocation of PSC limits

Option 9.2 Catch history is based on total retained catch *Motion passed 10/9*

Component 10 (Years for allocation within the sector)

Select the following four options as a preferred alternative:

10.2 1997 – 2003 drop 2 but each license holder drops its two lowest annual catches by species during this period

10.6 1997 – 2004 drop 2

10.7 1997 – 2004 drop 3

10.8 1998 – 2004 drop 2 *Motion passes 19/0*

Component 11 (Excessive share limits)

Option 11.2.1 Apply excessive share limits in the aggregate.

Suboption 11.2 Grandfather existing entities *motion passes 19/0*

Component 12 (Sideboards)

Pacific cod: maintain existing sector apportionments with rollovers pending new sector allocations

Suboption 12.1.1 Sideboards will be allocated between cooperative and noncooperative LLP holders, based on the same formula as Component 10.

Other non-allocated species: Manage as status quo

GOA sideboards: Continue the analysis of the options to clarify the effect. For purposes of the analysis, make the following changes.

GOA sideboard provisions

Sideboard provisions for Amendment 80 qualified non-AFA trawl CP sector with valid transferable GOA LLP with appropriate area endorsements are as follows:

1. Vessels associated with LLPs that have Gulf weekly participation of greater than X weeks in the flatfish fishery during the years defined in Component 4 or 10 will be eligible to participate in the GOA flatfish fisheries.

2. Gulf-wide halibut sideboards for the deep and shallow complex fisheries would be established by season calculated based on:

Option A: Bycatch rate approach for each of the target fisheries within each of the regulatory areas (610, 620, 630, 640) for the Amendment 80 qualified non-AFA trawl sector for the years defined in Component 4 or 10

Option B: Actual usage for the Amendment 80 qualified non-AFA trawl sector for the years defined in Component 4 or 10

3. Pollock, Pacific cod, and CGOA directed rockfish species (POP, NR and PSR) sideboards for the Amendment 80 qualified non-AFA trawl CP sector would be established using the years defined in Component 4 or 10, where catch is defined as retained catch by Gulf area as a percentage of total retained catch of all sectors in that area.

While the CGOA rockfish demonstration program is in place, the CGOA rockfish demonstration program takes precedence. The demonstration program would remove the need for catch sideboards for the CGOA directed rockfish species. The amendment 80 CPs deep halibut mortality sideboard cap for the 3rd seasonal allowance (in July) will be revised by the amount of the deep complex halibut mortality allocated to the rockfish demonstration program for the Amendment 80 qualified non-AFA trawl CP sector while the demonstration program is in effect.

Sideboards apply to vessels (actual boats) and LLPs used to generate harvest shares that resulted in allocating a percentage of the amendment 80 species TACs to the non-AFA trawl CP sector.

On completion of a comprehensive rationalization program in the GOA, any sideboards from the BSAI amendment 80 plan amendment will be superseded by the allocations in the GOA rationalization program.

Examine GOA weeks-fished data to determine whether there is an Amendment 80 vessel that fishes almost exclusively in the GOA and should receive an exemption from the Amendment 80 GOA sideboards.

Motion passes 18/1

Component 13 (Yellowfin Sole Threshold)

Suboption 3 allow rollover of unharvested TAC

Threshold amount: Option 13.3 125,000 mt

Allocation of threshold reserve:

Add a suboption that allocates the yellowfin sole threshold 60% to the Amendment 80 sector and 40% to the limited access fishery. Motion passes 17/2

Additionally, the AP requests the Council have NOAA GC provide an opinion as to the legality of the Amendment 80 PSC elements considered, specifically in regards to section 313 (g) of the Magnuson Stevens Act, including any requirements to the program that would arise due to section 313 (g). *Motion passed 19/0.*

C-4 BSAI Salmon bycatch

The AP recommends the Council adopt Alternative 3, Option 2, (and suboption) with a slight modification noted in bold italics. *Motion passed 20/0.*

Alternative 3: Suspend the regulatory salmon savings area closures and allow pollock cooperatives and CDQ groups to utilize their voluntary rolling hot spot closure system to avoid salmon bycatch.

Option 2: Maintain the regulatory salmon savings area triggers and closures but participants in a cooperative voluntary rolling hotspot closure (VRHS) system would be exempted from compliance with savings area closures. ***Continuation of*** this exemption is subject to Council approval and review of the effectiveness of a VRHS system.

Suboption(applies to option 2): Extend the exemption to the chum salmon savings area closure to vessels in the trawl cod and/or flatfish targets.

The AP also noted the potential value of more precise fleet-wide water temperature monitoring and urges the fleet to work with manufacturers and vendors to establish reliable fleet-wide calibration of net temperature sensors. *Motion passed 20/0*

C-5 BSAI P cod elements and options

The AP recommends the Council adopt Attachment 2 – “Reorganized Structure for BSAI FMP Amendment 85 to Revise the BSAI Pacific Cod Allocations”. *Motion passes 19/0*

Additionally, the AP recommends the following changes to part 1 of the problem statement:

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) *along with the CDQ allocation in 1998* and 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 sectors.

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 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, *including CDQ*, are a necessary step on the path towards comprehensive rationalization. Prompt action is needed to maintain stability in the BSAI Pacific cod fisheries. *Rationalization may provide benefits beyond stability through consolidation and ending the race for fish. In this context, increasing the CDQ allocation should be considered as has been done in other rationalized fisheries.* *Motion passed 19/0*

The AP recommends adding the following option under 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. passes 16/0*

C-6 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Rationalization

After hearing staff reports and public comment, the AP voted to table GOA Groundfish Rationalization until a time certain of 8:00am on Tuesday, December 6, 2005. *Passes 20/0*

C-7 C. Bairdi Stock Split

The AP recommends the Council adopt the following alternatives for the C. *bairdi* stock split:

For harvest shares (including captains shares), separate allocations would be made for each C. *bairdi* management area based on:

Alternative 2 (as presented in the Final Review Draft) – all qualifying catch, with each eligible person receiving an allocation in each area based on all C. *bairdi* history (regardless of where the harvests were made).

For processing shares, allocations would be made based equally on qualifying history in the *C. opilio* fishery and the Bristol Bay red king crab fishery where:

Alternative 2 (as presented in the Final Review Draft) – each eligible person would receive equal allocations for both fisheries (i.e., separate PQS and IPQ allocations for each fishery).

Passes 17/0

D-1(a) Groundfish Management

BSAI

AP recommends the Council adopt proposed BSAI specs for 2006-2007 OFLs and ABCs as recommended by the plan team and 2006-2007 TACs as noted in the attachment. *Passes 19/1*

GOA

Additionally, the AP recommends the 2006 and 2007 GOA proposed specifications TAC is equal to ABC for all stocks with the following exceptions:

- The Pacific cod TAC should be reduced according to the table in order to account for the apportionment to the State waters fishery in 2006 and 2007.
- For the following species the 2005 TAC should be rolled over to 2006 and 2007:
 - Shallow water flatfish and flathead sole in the Central and Western GOA
 - Arrowtooth flounder gulfwide
 - Other slope rockfish in the EYAK/SEO

Passes 20/0

AP also recommends the Council adopt the PSC bycatch allowances for the BSAI as attached, (*motion passed 20/0*) and recommends the Council adopt the TAC setting EA/IRFA for the 2006 and 2007 groundfish fisheries. *Passes 19/1*

AP recommends the halibut PSC apportionments, annually and seasonally, for 2005 as listed in the Action Memo should be rolled over for 2006-2007. *Passes 19/1*

Advisory Panel OFL, ABC, and TAC Recommendations for the 06-07 BSAI Fisheries for Publication in the Proposed Rule

Species	Area	2005				2006			2007		
		OFL	ABC	TAC	Catch**	OFL	ABC	TAC	OFL	ABC	TAC
Pollock	EBS	2,100,000	1,960,000	1,478,500	1,362,815	1,966,100	1,636,800	1,487,756	1,487,100	1,223,200	1,223,200
	Aleutian Islands	39,100	29,400	19,000	1,460	39,100	29,400	19,000	39,100	29,400	19,000
	Bogoslof District	39,600	2,570	10	0	39,600	2,570	10	39,600	2,570	11
Pacific cod	BSAI	265,000	206,000	206,000	159,353	250,700	195,000	195,000	222,000	172,200	172,200
Sablefish	BS	2,950	2,440	2,440	888	3,085	2,556	2,310	6,000	5,000	5,000
	AI	3,170	2,620	2,620	1,404	3,315	2,744	2,480			
Yellowfin sole	BSAI	148,000	124,000	90,686	90,550	139,500	117,700	90,000	130,000	109,600	109,600
Greenland turbot	Total	19,200	3,930	3,500	2,419	18,100	11,400	3,500	16,900	10,500	10,500
	BS		2,720	2,700	2,045		7,590	2,500		7,500	7,500
	AI		1,210	800	374		3,410	1,000		3,000	3,000
Arrowtooth flounder	BSAI	132,000	108,000	12,000	12,842	128,500	104,200	12,000	125,800	102,100	39,100
Rock sole	BSAI	157,000	132,000	41,500	37,168	145,100	121,700	42,000	138,400	116,100	116,100
Flathead sole	BSAI	70,200	58,500	19,500	15,138	65,900	54,900	20,000	60,800	50,600	50,600
Alaska plaice	BSAI	237,000	189,000	8,000	11,157	231,000	183,400	10,000	224,400	178,100	65,000
Other flatfish	BSAI	28,500	21,400	3,500	4,286	28,500	21,400	3,000	28,500	21,400	21,400
Pacific Ocean perch	BSAI	17,300	14,600	12,600	8,528	17,600	14,900	12,600	17,900	15,100	15,100
	BS		2,920	1,400	625		3,000	1,400		1,678	1,678
	AI total		11,680	11,200	7,903		12,000	11,200		13,422	13,422
	WAI		5,305	5,085	3,281		5,450	5,085		6,096	6,096
	CAI		3,165	3,035	2,086		3,252	3,035		3,637	3,637
	EAI		3,210	3,080	2,536		3,298	3,080		3,689	3,689
Northern rockfish	BSAI	9,810	8,260	5,000	2,743	9,800	8,200	5,000	9,700	8,200	8,200
Shorthead	BSAI	794	596	596	154	794	596	596	794	596	596
Rougheye	BSAI	298	223	223	83	298	223	223	298	223	223
Other rockfish	BSAI	1,870	1,400	1,050	398	1,870	1,400	1,050	1,870	1,400	1,400
	BS		810	460	154		810	460		810	810
	AI		590	590	244		590	590		590	590
Atka mackerel	Total	147,000	124,000	63,000	41,171	126,700	107,000	63,000	106,900	90,800	90,800
	WAI		46,620	20,000	5,555		40,230	20,000		28,825	28,825
	CAI		52,830	35,500	29,891		45,580	35,500		51,165	51,165
	EAI/BS		24,550	7,500	5,725		21,190	7,500		10,810	10,810
Squid	BSAI	2,620	1,970	1,275	1,081	2,620	1,970	1,275	2,620	1,970	1,970
Other species	BSAI	87,920	53,860	29,000	19,460	87,920	57,870	29,200	87,920	57,870	50,000
Total	BSAI	3,509,332	3,044,769	2,000,000	1,773,098	3,306,102	2,675,929	2,000,000	2,746,602	2,196,929	2,000,000

**2005 catch is through September 17, 2005 (includes CDQ). The 2006 Pacific cod ABC and TAC is rounded from 194,800 mt to 195,000 mt to be consistent with the 2006 TAC recommended at the December 2004 NPFMC meeting.

Table 2.4-1 GOA Preferred Alternative OFL, ABC, and TAC Recommendations for the 2006-2007 Fisheries

SPECIES		OFL	ABC	TAC	Catch	OFL	ABC	TAC	OFL	ABC	TAC
		2005	2005	2005	2005**	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007
Pollock	W (61)		30,380	30,380	18,797		35,202	35,202		31,743	31,743
	C (62)		34,404	34,404	27,613		39,865	39,865		35,947	35,947
	C (63)		18,718	18,718	10,339		21,678	21,678		19,547	19,547
	WYAK		1,688	1,688	1,879		1,955	1,955		1,763	1,763
	Subtotal	144,340	85,190	85,190	56,749	133,900	98,700	98,700	119,800	89,000	89,000
	EYAK/SEO	8,690	6,520	6,520	0	8,690	6,520	6,520	8,690	6,520	6,520
	TOTAL	153,030	91,710	91,710	56,749	142,590	105,220	105,220	128,490	95,520	95,520
Pacific Cod	W		20,916	15,687	11,242		19,952	14,964		16,783	12,587
	C		33,117	25,086	19,343		31,590	23,692		26,572	19,925
	E		4,067	3,660	13		3,858	3,472		3,245	2,920
	TOTAL	86,200	58,100	44,433	30,598	82,000	55,400	42,128	68,900	46,600	35,436
Sablefish	W		2,540	2,540	1,729		2,371	2,371		2,215	2,215
	C		7,250	7,250	6,255		6,767	6,767		6,322	6,322
	WYAK		2,580	2,580	1,741		2,409	2,409		2,250	2,250
	SEO		3,570	3,570	3,009		3,333	3,333		3,113	3,113
	TOTAL	19,280	15,940	15,940	12,734	18,000	14,880	14,880	16,900	13,900	13,900
Deep water flatfish ¹	W		330	330	3		330	330		330	330
	C		3,340	3,340	394		3,340	3,340		3,340	3,340
	WYAK		2,120	2,120	4		2,120	2,120		2,120	2,120
	EYAK/SEO		1,030	1,030	3		1,030	1,030		1,030	1,030
	TOTAL	8,490	6,820	6,820	404	8,490	6,820	6,820	8,490	6,820	6,820
Rex sole	W		1,680	1,680	574		1,680	1,680		1,680	1,680
	C		7,340	7,340	1,564		7,340	7,340		7,340	7,340
	WYAK		1,340	1,340	0		1,340	1,340		1,340	1,340
	EYAK/SEO		2,290	2,290	0		2,290	2,290		2,290	2,290
	TOTAL	16,480	12,650	12,650	2,138	16,480	12,650	12,650	16,480	12,650	12,650
Shallow water flatfish ²	W		21,580	4,500	104		21,580	4,500		21,580	4,500
	C		27,250	13,000	4,514		27,250	13,000		27,250	13,000
	WYAK		2,030	2,030	0		2,030	2,030		2,030	2,030
	EYAK/SEO		1,210	1,210	6		1,210	1,210		1,210	1,210
	TOTAL	63,840	52,070	20,740	4,624	63,840	52,070	20,740	63,840	52,070	20,740

SPECIES		OFL	ABC	TAC	Catch	OFL	ABC	TAC	OFL	ABC	TAC
		2005	2005	2005	2005**	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007
Flathead sole	W		11,690	2,000	587		12,316	2,000		12,355	2,000
	C		30,020	5,000	1,833		31,617	5,000		31,721	5,000
	WYAK		3,000	3,000	0		3,149	3,149		2,336	2,336
	EYAK/SEO		390	390	0		408	408		308	308
	TOTAL	56,500	45,100	10,390	2,420	59,240	47,490	10,557	59,500	47,650	9,644
Arrowtooth flounder	W		26,250	8,000	2,345		25,790	8,000		26,935	8,000
	C		168,950	25,000	15,349		166,015	25,000		173,383	25,000
	WYAK		11,790	2,500	21		11,574	2,500		12,087	2,500
	EYAK/SEO		9,910	2,500	30		9,761	2,500		10,175	2,500
	TOTAL	253,900	216,900	38,000	17,745	249,140	213,460	38,000	260,150	222,600	38,000
Other Slope rockfish ³	W		40	40	77		40	40		40	40
	C		300	300	531		300	300		300	300
	WYAK		130	130	70		130	130		130	130
	EYAK/SEO		3,430	200	35		3,430	200		3,430	200
	TOTAL	5,150	3,900	670	713	5,150	3,900	670	5,150	3,900	670
Northern rockfish ³	W		808	808	567		752	752		704	704
	C		4,283	4,283	4,208		3,978	3,978		3,726	3,726
	E		0	0	0		0	0		0	0
	TOTAL	6,050	5,091	5,091	4,775	5,620	4,730	4,730	5,270	4,430	4,430
	Pacific Ocean perch	W	3,076	2,567	2,567	2,339	3,019	2,525	2,525	2,985	2,494	2,494
C		10,226	8,535	8,535	8,145	10,008	8,375	8,375	9,896	8,293	8,293
WYAK			841	841	872		813	813		803	803
SEO			1,632	1,632	0		1,579	1,579		1,560	1,560
E(subtotal)		2,964				2,860			2,829		
TOTAL		16,266	13,575	13,575	11,356	15,887	13,292	13,292	15,710	13,150	13,150
Shortraker	W		155	155	68		155	155		155	155
	C		324	324	220		324	324		324	324
	E		274	274	192		274	274		274	274
	TOTAL	982	753	753	480	982	753	753	982	753	753
	Rougheye	W		188	188	51		188	188		188	188
C			557	557	117		557	557		557	557
E			262	262	117		262	262		262	262
TOTAL		1,531	1,007	1,007	285	1,531	1,007	1,007	1,531	1,007	1,007

SPECIES		OFL	ABC	TAC	Catch	OFL	ABC	TAC	OFL	ABC	TAC
		2005	2005	2005	2005**	2006	2006	2006	2007	2007	2007
Pelagic shelf rockfish	W		377	377	115		366	366		366	366
	C		3,067	3,067	1,842		2,973	2,973		2,973	2,973
	WYAK		211	211	215		205	205		205	205
	EYAK/SEO		898	898	3		871	871		871	871
	TOTAL		5,680	4,553	4,553	2,175	5,510	4,415	4,415	5,510	4,415	4,415
Demersal rockfish	SEO	640	410	410	171	640	410	410	640	410	410
Thornyhead rockfish	W		410	410	182		410	410		410	410
	C		1,010	1,010	384		1,010	1,010		1,010	1,010
	E		520	520	125		520	520		520	520
	TOTAL		2,590	1,940	1,940	691	2,590	1,940	1,940	2,590	1,940	1,940
Atka mackerel	GW	6,200	600	600	869	6,200	600	600	6,200	600	600
Big Skate	W		727	727	26		727	727		727	727
	C		2,463	2,463	751		2,463	2,463		2,463	2,463
	E		809	809	60		809	809		809	809
	Total		5,332	3,999	3,999	837	5,332	3,999	3,999	5,332	3,999	3,999
Longnose skate	W		66	66	15		66	66		66	66
	C		1,972	1,972	935		1,972	1,972		1,972	1,972
	E		780	780	132		780	780		780	780
	Total		3,757	2,818	2,818	1,032	3,757	2,818	2,818	3,757	2,818
Other skates	GW	1,769	1,327	1,327	646	1,769	1,327	1,327	1,769	1,327	1,327
All skates (2003)											
Other Species	GW	NA	NA	13,871	3,115	NA	NA	14,348	NA	NA	13,411
TOTAL		713,667	539,263	291,298	154,386	694,748	547,181	301,304	677,191	536,559	281,640

**Catch through September 17, 2005

1/ Deep water flatfish includes Dover sole, Greenland turbot and deepsea sole.

2/ "Shallow water flatfish" includes rock sole, yellowfin sole, butter sole, starry flounder, English sole, Alaska plaice, and sand sole.

3/ The EGOA ABC of 2 mt for northern rockfish has been included in the WYAK ABC for other slope rockfish.

* Indicates rollover from previous year (no age-structured projection data available)

4/ The ABC for sablefish has been reduced by 5 % in the SEO and added to the WYK to allow for 5% of the EGOA TAC to be made available for trawl incidental catch

NOTE:

ABCs and TACs are rounded to nearest mt.

GW means Gulfwide.

Catch data source: NMFS Blend Reports.

Edited through 10-5-05

Advisory Panel Recommendations for PSC Bycatch Allowances for the BSAI Trawl and Non-Trawl Fisheries for 2006 and 2007 for Publication in the Proposed Rule

Trawl Fisheries	Prohibited species and zone					
	Halibut mortality (mt) BSAI	Herring (mt) BSAI	Red King Crab (animals) Zone 1 ¹	<i>C. opilio</i> (animals) COBLZ ¹	<i>C. bairdi</i> (animals)	
					Zone 1 ¹	Zone 2 ¹
Yellowfin sole	886	183	33,843	3,101,915	340,844	1,788,459
January 20 - April 1	262	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
April 1 - May 21	195	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
May 21 - July 5	49	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
July 5 - December 31	380	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rock sole/other flat/flathead sole ²	779	27	121,413	1,082,528	365,320	596,154
January 20 - April 1	448	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
April 1 - July 5	164	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
July 5 - December 31	167	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Turbot/arrowtooth/sablefish ³	.....	12	.....	44,946	.....	.....
Rockfish	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
July 5 - December 31	69	10	.....	44,945	.....	10,988
Pacific cod	1,434	27	26,563	139,331	183,112	324,176
Midwater trawl pollock	.....	1,562	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pollock/Atka mackerel/other ⁴	232	192	406	80,903	17,224	27,473
Red King Crab Savings Subarea ⁶ (non-pelagic trawl)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	42,495	.....	.....	.....
Total trawl PSC	3,400	2,012	182,225	4,494,569	906,500	2,747,250
Non-trawl Fisheries						
Pacific cod - Total	775					
January 1 - June 10	320					
June 10 - August 15	0					
August 15 - December 31	455					
Other non-trawl - Total	58					
May 1 - December 31	58					
Groundfish pot and jig	exempt					
Sablefish hook-and-line	exempt					
Total non-trawl PSC	833					
PSQ reserve ⁵	342	.....	14,775	364,424	73,500	222,750
PSC grand total	4,575	2,012	197,000	4,858,993	980,000	2,970,000

¹ Refer to § 679.2 for definitions of areas.

² "Other flatfish" for PSC monitoring includes all flatfish species, except for halibut (a prohibited species), Greenland turbot, rock sole, yellowfin sole and arrowtooth flounder.

³ Greenland turbot, arrowtooth flounder, and sablefish fishery category.

⁴ Pollock other than pelagic trawl pollock, Atka mackerel, and "other species" fishery category.

⁵ With the exception of herring, 7.5 percent of each PSC limit is allocated to the CDQ program as PSQ reserve. The PSQ reserve is not allocated by fishery, gear or season.

⁶ In December 2004, the Council recommended that red king crab bycatch for trawl fisheries within the RKCSS be limited to 35 percent of the total allocation to the rock sole/flathead sole/"other flatfish" fishery category (see § 679.21(e)(3)(ii)(B)).

Pacific Halibut Discard Mortality Rates as Implemented for the 2006 BSAI Fisheries

<u>Fishery</u>	<u>Mortality rate %</u>	<u>Fishery</u>	<u>Mortality rate %</u>
Hook-and-line gear fisheries		Pot gear fisheries	
Greenland turbot	15	Other species	8
Other species	11	Pacific cod	8
Pacific cod	11	CDQ trawl fisheries	
Rockfish	16	Atka mackerel	85
Trawl gear fisheries		Flathead sole	67
Atka mackerel	78	Non-pelagic pollock	85
Flathead sole	67	Pelagic pollock	90
Greenland turbot	72	Rockfish	74
Non-pelagic pollock	76	Yellowfin sole	84
Pelagic pollock	85	CDQ hook-and-line fisheries	
Other flatfish	71	Greenland turbot	15
Other species	67	Pacific cod	10
Pacific cod	68	CDQ pot fisheries	
Rockfish	74	Pacific cod	8
Rock sole	77	Sablefish	33
Sablefish	49		
Yellowfin sole	78		

GOA Pacific halibut PSC Limits

2006 Trawl			2006 Hook and Line		
	Jan 20 - Apr 1	550 mt	1st trimester	Jan 1 - Jun 10	250 mt
	Apr 1 - Jul 1	400 mt	2nd trimester	Jun 10 - Sep 1	5 mt
Jul 1 - Sep 1		600 mt	3rd trimester	Sept 1 - Dec 31	35 mt
	Sept 1 - Oct 1	150 mt			
	Oct 1 - Dec 31	300 mt	DSR	Jan 1 - Dec 31	10 mt
TOTAL		2,000 mt			300 mt

Season	Trawl fishery categories		
	Shallow Water	Deep Water	Total
Jan 1 - Apr 1	450 mt	100 mt	550 mt
Apr 1 - Jul 1	100 mt	300 mt	400 mt
Jul 1 - Sep 1	200 mt	400 mt	600 mt
Sep 1 - Oct 1	150 mt	any rollover	150 mt
Oct 1 - Dec 31	no apportionment		300 mt
TOTAL	900 mt	800 mt	2,000 mt

D-1 (c) Rockfish Management

The AP recommends the Council encourage the continued efforts of the Non-Target Species committee to focus on the “next steps” plan presented by staff. The AP supports the completion of the ‘Fishery Impact Assessment of Concern’ questionnaire and requests the opportunity to review the results at the February 2006 Council meeting. *Motion passed 17/0.*

D-1 (d) Groundfish Fishery management

The AP recommends the Council direct staff to develop a problem statement and alternatives for analysis in connection with an amendment that would change the start date for the BSAI pollock fishery including CDQ from January 20 to January 15th, with the hope that the new start date could be in place for the start of the 2007 "A" season. Additionally, the AP recommends staff consult with NMFS protected resources and to include a stand down option:

For each day prior to January 20th a vessel fishes pollock in an early opening, the vessel would be required to stand down for an equal number of days after completing a delivery/offload of pollock before beginning fishing for other groundfish.

Motion passed 17/0.

D-1 (e) Bering Sea Habitat Conservation

The AP recommends the Council adopt the following problem statement on BSAI habitat conservation:

The Council intends to evaluate potential new fishery management measures to protect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) in the Bering Sea. The analysis will tier off of the 2005 EFH Environmental Impact Statement and will consider a range of alternative measures such as open and closed areas and gear modifications. The purpose of the analysis is to consider practicable and precautionary management measures to reduce the potential adverse effects of fishing on EFH and to support the continued productivity of managed species.

Further, the AP recommends the Council request staff to develop a suite of draft alternatives for review. Alternatives from the previous EIS should be retained with the following modifications:

1. Exclude the rotations in the area-based measures
2. Emphasize alternatives on gear modifications
3. Incorporate new data in development of the open areas-alternative.

Development of EFH measures should be done in step with Dr. Rose's ongoing research on gear modification.

Motion passed 15/0

D-2 Staff Tasking

The AP wishes to initiate a system to generate verifiable, quantitative data to inform the analysis of crew share elements in the GOA Rationalization package as soon as possible. Toward that end, the AP recommends the Council request staff to confer with NMFS and the State of Alaska to identify means for crewmembers to legally document their participation in harvesting groundfish beginning in 2006.

Concepts to explore may include, but are not limited to:

1. Listing crewmember names, social security numbers, and/or crew license numbers on fish tickets
2. Use of crew contacts
3. Signed affidavit or other form developed expressly for crew participation documentation
4. Crewmember swipe cards or electronic reporting method.

Motion passed 17/0

The AP recommends the Council task staff with drafting a discussion paper to review changing the enforcement period for groundfish Maximum Retainable Allowances (MRA) from instantaneous during a delivery week to an offload basis. Additionally, the paper should:

1. review changes in pollock retention following implementation of regulations changing pollock MRA enforcement
2. Discussion of the feasibility of adapting the pollock analysis
3. A discussion of the timeframe for preparing the full analysis

Motion passed 17/0

