

Council Motion
C-5 Trawl Bycatch Management
6/13/16

Overarching Goal and Objective *(To be inserted after the Purpose and Need Statement and before the Goals and Objectives)*

The overarching goal of the Gulf of Alaska Trawl Bycatch Management program is to provide the fleet tools for the effective management and reduction of PSC and bycatch, and promote increased utilization of both target and secondary species while avoiding creation of new economic assets, and limiting the duration of harvest privileges that may be allocated (target species and/or prohibited species) in order to maintain opportunity for entry into the GOA trawl fisheries.

Goals and Objectives

4. Authorize fair and equitable access privileges that take into consideration the value of assets and investments in the fishery and dependency on and participation in the fishery for harvesters, processors, and communities

Alternative 3 clarifications

4. Voluntary inshore cooperative structure

- b. PSC species allocated to the cooperative are halibut and Chinook salmon, divided first by area (WG and CG/WY) based on historical PSC use (*options: 2003 – 2012; 2007 – 2012; 2008 - 2012*). Once in the cooperative, PSC can be used to support any target fisheries within the cooperative in that area at any time (no seasonal PSC apportionments). PSC would be apportioned to the cooperatives as follows (a different option may be selected for each area, WG and CG/WY):

Option 1. Equal shares. Annually apportion PSC limits to each cooperative on an equal share basis relative to the number of member vessels in the cooperative.

~~Suboption: The non-pollock Chinook salmon PSC limit and halibut PSC limit would first be divided between cod and flatfish landings, before allocating equal shares per vessel to each cooperative~~

Option 2. Vessel dependency. Apportion (Option: 10% - 50%) halibut PSC and Chinook salmon PSC limits to each cooperative on a pro rata basis relative to the dependency on GOA trawl groundfish by species (pollock, flatfish, and Pacific cod) and area (WG and CG/WY) of the vessel assigned to the cooperative member's ~~LLP~~ vessels the 3 prior years. The remaining PSC would be distributed based on equal shares. The vessel's dependency on GOA trawl groundfish, by species and area, is established by affidavit at the time of filing intent to join a cooperative or participate in the Limited Access fishery. Dependency on GOA groundfish is based on a threshold of (Option: 25% - 75%) of total pounds landed, by species and area, in GOA trawl groundfish fisheries.

5. Transferability and consolidation limits

(Annually) Allow transferability of PSC cooperative quota for annual use within the cooperative. Limit the amount of each PSC species of annual PSC cooperative quota PSC limit a ~~person can~~ vessel may use in the cooperative to (options: 110% - 150%) of what ~~they~~ it brought into the cooperative.

Cooperatives can engage in inter-cooperative transfers of PSC to other cooperatives on an annual basis. Inter-cooperative transfers must be processed and approved by NMFS. Limit the amount of annual PSC cooperative quota a cooperative can transfer to another cooperative to no more than (option: 10% - 50%) of the initial cooperative allocation.

~~(Long-term) LLPs are transferable. PSC cannot be permanently transferred separately from a license or vessel.~~

6. Limited Access trawl CV fishery

If a license holder chooses not to join a cooperative, it may fish in the limited access fishery with an eligible FFP and LLP endorsed for GOA trawl. Vessels must pre-register to operate in the limited access fishery by ~~November~~ October 1 of the previous year.

ALTERNATIVE 4. Gulf of Alaska Trawl Bycatch Management Program (Alternative 2 ~~and Alternative 3~~) with a Community Fisheries Association allocation or Adaptive Management Program. (*Options 1 and 2 are mutually exclusive.*)