

Final Report
SOK
Rockfish Cooperative

2014

December 15, 2014

Prepared by:
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I. INTRODUCTION

In Section 802 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004, the U.S. Congress included a Directive to the Secretary of Commerce to establish, in consultation with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (the Council), a pilot program for management of three primary rockfish species in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA): Pacific Ocean perch (POP), northern rockfish (NR), and pelagic shelf rockfish fisheries (PSR)¹. The ensuing catcher vessel Rockfish Pilot Program (RPP) allowed each catcher vessel/harvester to join a cooperative in association with the processor to which it delivered the most pounds of CGOA rockfish during the processor qualifying period. Each cooperative receives an annual harvest share allocation based on the qualified harvest history of its members (combined vessel quota shares or QS). In addition to the allocation of target rockfish, catcher vessel cooperatives also receive allocations of secondary species, which include Sablefish, Pacific cod, and Thornyhead rockfish along with an allocation of Halibut PSC mortality. Allocations to the catcher vessel sector are based on the average percentage of retained secondary catch or Halibut PSC mortality in the target rockfish fisheries during the qualifying period. These allocations are distributed to the cooperative members based on the amount of primary rockfish that the cooperative member holds.

The 5-year RPP ended in 2011 and was rolled over into a new, modified, catch share program in June 2010 under Amendment 88 of the GOA Fisheries Management Plan (FMP). This Rockfish Program (RP) went into effect in 2012 and is scheduled to sunset after 10 years in 2022.

As in the RPP, the primary RP objective is to stabilize the residential processing work force by filling times of year with low processing volumes, particularly May and June, and to remove the processing conflict with salmon. Additionally, the RP reduces the competition for fish among harvesters thereby promoting safety, high quality seafood production, and increased economic performance and stability for co-op members, fishermen and processors. The extended, non-derby style season allows co-op members to improve harvesting efficiency in the target fisheries while minimizing incidental bycatch of prohibited species through better fishing practices and efficient fleet monitoring and information distribution.

The SOK Rockfish Cooperative is one of 7 inshore cooperatives (compared to five co-ops in the RPP) formed in March 2012 in accordance with Amendment 88 of the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska. 2014 marked the third year of the new Rockfish Program and, in compliance with Amendment 88, this Final Report is submitted to NMFS and the Council as a summary of allocations, harvests, transfers and cooperative performance during the 2014 rockfish fishing season in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA). Catch figures and statistics were provided by the cooperative's manager and representative, Alaska Groundfish Data Bank, Inc. (AGDB) and cross-checked with NMFS Co-op catch data accessed through the NMFS Co-op ledger website (efish).

II. COOPERATIVE MEMBERSHIP

In 2014, as in 2013, the SOK Rockfish Cooperative consisted of eleven member licenses with ten member vessels (Table 1) of which seven actively fished during the 2014 RP season: Marcy J, Rosella, Cape Kiwanda, Arctic Ram, Excalibur II, Michelle Renee and Peggy Jo. Trident Seafoods /Star of Kodiak

¹As of 2012, Pelagic shelf rockfish consists only of dusky rockfish

(SOK) in Kodiak, Alaska served as the primary purchasing and processing facility for the SOK Rockfish Cooperative.

Table 1. LLPs, LLP owners and member vessels of the SOK Rockfish Cooperative 2014.

LLP No.	LLP Owner	Member Vessel	ADFG No.
2278	FANNING'S DENALI, INC	MARCY J	00055
2364	ROSELLA INC	ROSELLA	21732
2567	TRIDENT SEAFOODS CORPORATION	ARCTIC RAM	57117
2636	ROYAL VIKING, INC.	CAPE KIWANDA	61432
3658	OCEAN STORM FISHERIES, INC.	OCEAN STORM	64667
3144	TRIDENT SEAFOODS CORPORATION	PACIFIC RAM	61792
3521	EXCALIBUR II, LLC	EXCALIBUR II	54653
3594	B & N FISHERIES COMPANY	PEGGY JO	09200
2550	BLACK SEA FISHERIES, INC.	MICHELLE RENEE	61244
2319	DAVID DAHL		21665
3463	TRAVELER FISHERIES LLC	TRAVELER	49108

III. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT

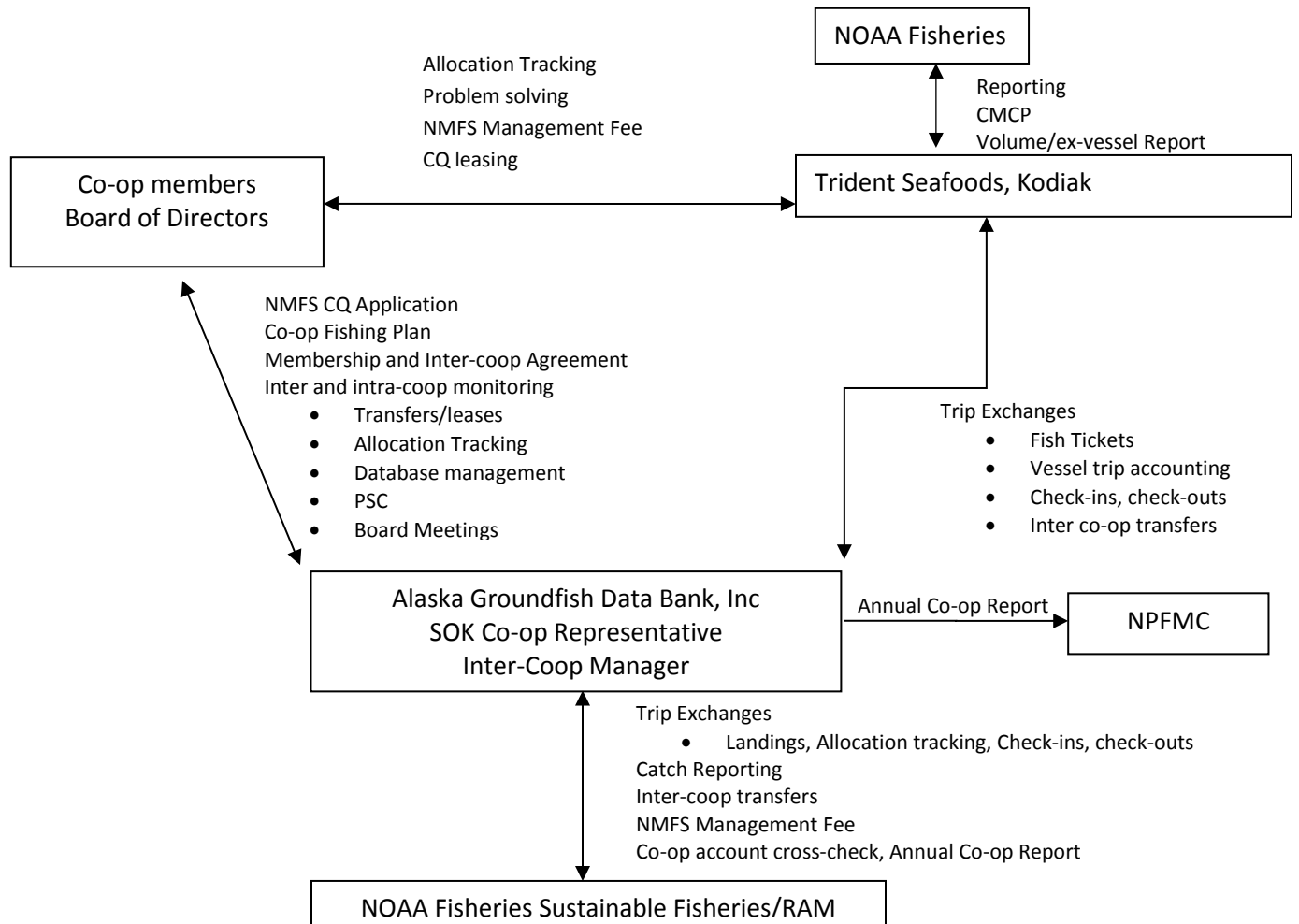
The SOK Rockfish Cooperative was represented and managed by Alaska Groundfish Data Bank, Inc in collaboration and coordination with the co-op president, Jerry Downing, the SOK plant manager, Paul Lumsden, and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Fishing plans were devised to harvest the allocations efficiently while minimizing the amount of prohibited and non-marketable species. Harvest numbers, observer data and fish ticket information were analyzed, updated and distributed to the appropriate parties in a timely manner to ensure proper management. Figure 1 shows the schematic outlining the Co-op’s operations and flow of information among the contributing parties.

A. Monitoring

- (1) **Check-ins and Check-outs:** To facilitate moving into and out of non-RP fisheries during the rockfish season, NMFS instituted “Check-ins” and “Check-outs” with no limits to the number of check ins as was the case for the RPP. Co-op vessels were required to check into the RP fishery 48 hours prior to starting a trip and to check out of the program before participating in other fisheries.
- (2) **Observer Coverage:** 100% Observer coverage was required by all participating vessels.
- (3) **CMCP Monitor:** For the new Rockfish Program, NMFS hired a Catch Monitoring and Control Plan (CMCP) specialist to monitor each Processor’s CMCP. RP Processors are required to file with NMFS their CMCP prior to the start of the RP season. This plan details how the processor monitors the deliveries and complies with monitoring requirements. This is in lieu of 200% observer coverage at the plants required during the RPP.
- (4) **NOAA Fisheries/Restricted Access Management:** NOAA RAM’s Co-op ledger web site was used to perform transfers, conduct cross-checks, check co-op balances and detect missing database information.

Figure 1. Schematic of SOK Rockfish Cooperative Operations and Management



IV. COOPERATIVE PERFORMANCE

A. Co-op Allocations, Transfers and Harvests

The SOK Rockfish Cooperative’s allocations and harvests for the 2014 season are summarized by species and vessel in Table 5. Note that cooperative fishing allowed individual vessel overages to be offset by quota not harvested by other member vessels. Inter-coop transfers (Table 2) were arranged by the Inter-coop manager to maximize harvesting of the allocations among the seven catcher vessel cooperatives, adhere to cooperative agreements and to cover overages.

Table 2. SOK Rockfish Co-op allocations and inter-coop transfer summary (weights are in pounds).

	POP	NR	Dusky	Sablefish	P. cod	Thornyhead	Halibut
Initial SOK Allocation:	3,948,853	1,622,112	1,444,266	197,191	942,756	42,623	72,881
Transfers (Global):	3,042			(1,925)			
Total Transfers	3,042	0	0	(1,925)	0	0	0
Final SOK Allocation:	3,951,895	1,622,112	1,444,266	195,266	942,756	42,623	72,881
Total CV Coops*:	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	705,945	3,345,142	156,493	258,602
SOK % CV Allocation:	25.31%	32.21%	31.36%	27.66%	28.18%	27.24%	28.18%

*Includes CP CQ transferred onshore

B. Vessel Use, Co-op CQ and Processing Caps

- (1) **Vessel harvests:** A vessel harvest cap of 8% of total primary rockfish quota allocated to the CV sector is one of the new changes to the RP. In 2014, this amounted to 2,020,578 lbs of primary rockfish in the aggregate. During the 2014 season, no vessel exceeded this limit (see figure 2).
- (2) **Co-op QS:** Control of harvest shares by a CV cooperative shall be capped at 30% of aggregate POP, northern rockfish and Dusky rockfish allocated to the CV sector. Final quota share allocated to the SOK co-op in 2014 amounted to 27.8% of the aggregate CV rockfish cooperative quota (Table 4).
- (3) **Processing limits:** For the Rockfish Program, a provision was approved that states no processor shall process or receive more than 30% of: (1) primary rockfish in the aggregate; (2) sablefish; (3) Pacific cod allocated to the CV sector. During the 2014 season, Trident Seafoods, Kodiak did not exceed these caps. See Table 3. Note: CQ harvested by the SOK rockfish cooperative may not equal the amount processed by SOK because deliveries to other City of Kodiak processors are allowed by the co-op in the new Rockfish Program.

Table 3. LBS and % of CV allocations by CQ species received and processed by SOK Seafoods in 2014.

Species	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Primary RF	Sablefish	Cod	% RF	% Sable	% Cod
Processed SOK	3,951,894	1,150,112	1,049,615	6,151,621	193,989	825,513	24.36%	27.73%	24.68%
CV Allocation	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	25,257,221	705,945	3,345,142			

Table 4. Primary rockfish CQ (POP, Northern Rockfish, Dusky rockfish): % of Final CV sector allocations by species and co-op

CV Co-op CQ	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Rockfish
NP	17.6%	18.1%	21.1%	18.4%
SOK	25.3%	32.2%	31.4%	27.8%
WAF	13.6%	10.0%	7.8%	11.8%
OBSI	17.3%	24.9%	26.2%	20.4%
ISA	15.6%	8.8%	9.3%	13.1%
Global	6.4%	1.3%	1.8%	4.5%
Pacific	4.2%	4.8%	2.5%	4.0%
Final Allocation	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Figure 2. Harvests of primary rockfish by SOK member vessels (% of aggregate CV primary rockfish). Vessel harvest cap is 8%

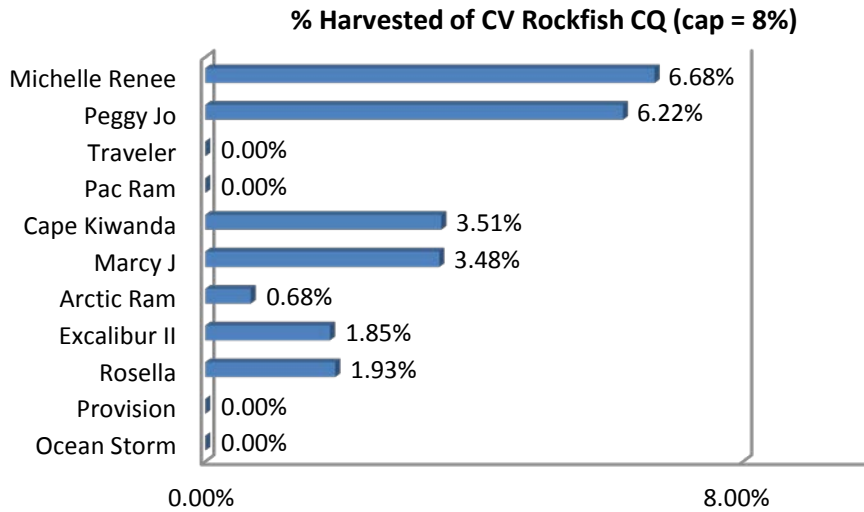


Table 5. SOK Rockfish Cooperative 2014 allocations and harvests by species and co-op member. Weights are in pounds. CQ totals from ADF&G Fish Tickets (includes dock and at-sea discards). Halibut mortality PSC is from NMFS/RAM Co-op ledger website <https://www.fakr.noaa.gov/webapps/coopaccounts> (as of December 11, 2014).

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/overage
POP	OCEAN STORM	2%	80,934	0	80,934
	PROVISION	6%	252,722	0	252,722
	ROSELLA	4%	177,229	421,561	(244,332)
	EXCALIBUR II	12%	472,673	466,605	6,068
	ARCTIC RAM	5%	191,925	167,814	24,111
	MARCY J	9%	371,662	336,580	35,082
	CAPE KIWANDA	8%	318,689	685,795	(367,106)
	PACIFIC RAM	1%	56,450	0	56,450
	TRAVELER	10%	397,649	0	397,649
	PEGGY JO	24%	942,350	1,174,270	(231,920)
	MICHELLE RENEE	17%	686,571	699,269	(12,698)
	Total	100%	3,948,853	3,951,894	(3,041)
		Transfers:		3,042	
	Final Total:		3,951,895	Net:	1
NR	OCEAN STORM	0%	497	0	497
	PROVISION	1%	13,331	0	13,331
	ROSELLA	3%	52,258	13,632	38,626
	EXCALIBUR II	8%	129,792	36	129,756
	ARCTIC RAM	5%	86,370	422	85,948
	MARCY J	11%	184,262	199,337	(15,075)
	CAPE KIWANDA	9%	142,629	108,553	34,076
	PACIFIC RAM	0%	4,263	0	4,263
	TRAVELER	1%	13,427	0	13,427
	PEGGY JO	21%	346,106	206,336	139,770
	MICHELLE RENEE	40%	649,177	621,796	27,381
	Total	100%	1,622,112	1,150,112	472,000
		Transfers:		0	
	Final Total:		1,622,112	Net:	472,000

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/overage
Dusky	OCEAN STORM	1%	17,277	0	17,277
	PROVISION	2%	21,878	0	21,878
	ROSELLA	10%	141,097	53,138	87,959
	EXCALIBUR II	6%	87,961	1,807	86,154
	ARCTIC RAM	7%	94,432	2,261	92,171
	MARCY J	19%	275,999	343,445	(67,446)
	CAPE KIWANDA	8%	118,545	92,456	26,089
	PACIFIC RAM	1%	15,360	0	15,360
	TRAVELER	0%	3,003	0	3,003
	PEGGY JO	17%	238,916	189,174	49,742
	MICHELLE RENEE	30%	429,797	367,334	62,463
Total	100%	1,444,266	1,049,615	394,651	
	Transfers:	-			
	Final Total:		1,444,266	Net:	394,651
Sablefish	OCEAN STORM	1%	2,524	-	2,524
	PROVISION	4%	7,419	-	7,419
	ROSELLA	5%	10,217	17,197	(6,979)
	EXCALIBUR II	10%	18,944	29,292	(10,348)
	ARCTIC RAM	5%	10,524	402	10,122
	MARCY J	12%	23,563	24,225	(662)
	CAPE KIWANDA	8%	16,390	20,496	(4,106)
	PACIFIC RAM	1%	1,992	-	1,992
	TRAVELER	5%	10,534	-	10,534
	PEGGY JO	22%	42,664	52,438	(9,774)
	MICHELLE RENEE	27%	52,420	49,940	2,480
Total	100%	197,191	193,989	3,202	
	Transfers:	(1,925)			
	Final Total:		195,266	Net:	1,277
P. cod	OCEAN STORM	1%	12,066	0	12,066
	PROVISION	4%	35,467	0	35,467
	ROSELLA	5%	48,849	6,829	42,020
	EXCALIBUR II	10%	90,572	16,113	74,459
	ARCTIC RAM	5%	50,314	37,696	12,619
	MARCY J	12%	112,651	126,612	(13,961)
	CAPE KIWANDA	8%	78,361	123,760	(45,399)
	PACIFIC RAM	1%	9,526	0	9,526
	TRAVELER	5%	50,361	0	50,361
	PEGGY JO	22%	203,973	221,028	(17,055)
	MICHELLE RENEE	27%	250,616	293,476	(42,860)
Total	100%	942,756	825,513	117,243	
	Transfers:	-			
	Final Total:		942,756	Net:	117,243
Thornyhead	OCEAN STORM	1%	546	-	546
	PROVISION	4%	1,604	-	1,604
	ROSELLA	5%	2,208	5,058	(2,850)
	EXCALIBUR II	10%	4,095	1,478	2,617
	ARCTIC RAM	5%	2,275	-	2,275
	MARCY J	12%	5,093	2,244	2,849
	CAPE KIWANDA	8%	3,543	1,101	2,442
	PACIFIC RAM	1%	431	-	431

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/overage
Thornyhead	TRAVELER	5%	2,277	-	2,277
	PEGGY JO	22%	9,222	14,543	(5,321)
	MICHELLE RENEE	27%	11,331	2,781	8,550
	Total	100%	42,623	27,205	15,418
	Transfers:		-		
	Final Total:		42,623	Net:	15,418
Halibut PSC	OCEAN STORM	1%	933	0	933
	PROVISION	4%	2,742	0	2,742
	ROSELLA	5%	3,776	716	3,060
	EXCALIBUR II	10%	7,002	4,342	2,660
	HAZEL LORRAINE	5%	3,890	8,617	(4,727)
	MARCY J	12%	8,709	4,136	4,573
	CAPE KIWANDA	8%	6,058	1,118	4,940
	PACIFIC RAM	1%	736	0	736
	TRAVELER	5%	3,893	0	3,893
	PEGGY JO	22%	15,768	3,873	11,895
	MICHELLE RENEE	27%	19,374	3,177	16,197
	Total	100%	72,881	25,980	46,902
	Transfers:		-		
	Final Total:		72,881	Net:	46,902

C. *Retained and Discarded Catch of CQ*

Federal regulations require the RP participants to retain all Cooperative Quota (CQ) species: at-sea discards of Pacific Ocean Perch, Northern Rockfish, Dusky Rockfish, Pacific cod, Thornyheads, and Sablefish are not allowed. During the 2014 SOK Rockfish Cooperative's fishing season (May 1–November 15, 2014), there was one occurrence of at-sea discards of CQ species: the Excalibur II discarded 174 lbs of shortspine thornyheads during his August 16 rockfish trip. The amount was deducted from the vessel and co-op accounts.

D. *Sideboard limits and rockfish sideboard fishery harvests*

The Rockfish Program established sideboard limits and/or prohibitions that limit LLP holders participating in the Program from expanding their harvests in other fisheries. These sideboard restrictions apply only in July, historically the most active month for rockfish fishing. For the CV sector, the sideboard limits established in the RPP have been removed for ease of management. The following prohibitions remain in place during the month of July:

- (1) For the month of July, limit all CVs to the shallow water complex fisheries (fishing in the deep complex is prohibited)
- (2) Directed fishing for WYAK and WGOA primary rockfish species in the month of July is prohibited

V. COOPERATIVE PROHIBITED SPECIES CATCH

A. *Halibut:* The cooperative's fishing plan instituted a management scheme to discourage high halibut bycatch rates since the co-op's RP fishing would cease once its halibut PSC mortality cap was reached. Standards were set and enforced by the co-op members to abide by the halibut PSC mortality rate limits (Table 6). These standards were set based on what the co-op members thought were

achievable and acceptable bycatch rates while assuring that there would be sufficient halibut available to harvest the co-op’s quota of CQ species. If a vessel approached or exceeded these pre-set rates during a trip, the co-op members would convene to discuss possible actions. Fishing practices were adopted to aid in reducing halibut bycatch: (1) more frequent use of pelagic (off-bottom or “flying bottom”) gear, (2) temporal distribution of catches to avoid high halibut bycatch time frames.

The SOK Rockfish Co-op used 25,980 lbs or 36% of its final halibut PSC allocation of 72,881 lbs.

Table 6. Halibut bycatch standards adopted by the SOK Rockfish Cooperative.

Inter-coop standard		Red Light Standard		Yellow Light Standard	
<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>
POP	0.50%	POP	0.45%	POP	0.38%
NR/Dusky	2.20%	NR/Dusky	1.98%	NR/Dusky	1.65%
Sable/cod	4.00%	Sable/cod	3.60%	Sable/cod	3.00%

B. Chinook Salmon: All Shoreside Cooperatives agreed to the newly adopted 2014 Chinook Salmon Bycatch Avoidance Plan. The plan included three parts: i) Individual vessel Chinook salmon bycatch standards for the months of May, June, July, and August; ii) Chinook salmon hotspot reporting requirements; and iii) full retention of all bycaught Chinook salmon for monitoring purposes and genetic sampling. Fish ticket data were used to monitor the cooperative vessel’s bycatch performance. Vessels had to wait until their offload was complete and bycatch rate available prior to starting their next fishing trip. If a Cooperative member’s bycatch rate was at the red standard, the vessel agreed to stand down from targeted rockfish trips for four days from the date of that delivery. If the bycatch rate was at the yellow standard for two consecutive trips, the vessel agreed to stand down from targeted rockfish trips for four days from the date of the second delivery.

All operators were required to provide detailed information for the Chinook bycatch hotspot reports including target, set and haul times and locations, depth and gear type.

Operators agreed to promptly self-report Chinook salmon hotspot areas from the grounds to AGDB and/or their Cooperative’s affiliated processor. These “hot-spot” alerts were sent out to all co-op members, affiliated processors and vessel operators. Twenty Chinook was the trigger for a hot spot alert.

These measures proved effective for 2014: According to CAS (per Steve Whitney, NMFS), there were a total of 520 Chinook taken by the seven CV co-ops over the 2014 rockfish season. This compares to 1,271 Chinook taken during the 2013 season (see Table 7). Three hot spot alerts were issued in 2014 compared to eight in 2013.

Table 7. Chinook PSC, total CV rockfish harvests and Chinook PSC rate for the RPP (2007-2011) and the first three years of the new Rockfish Program (2012-2014). Catcher vessel co-ops only. Source: Steve Whitney, NMFS.

Year	Chinook (no.)	Rockfish Harvest (mt)	Rate (Chinook/mt)
2007	840	7,748	0.108
2008	1,683	7,440	0.226
2009	892	6,874	0.130
2010	1,017	7,992	0.127
2011	396	7,071	0.056
2012	817	10,067	0.081
2013	1,271	8,820	0.144
2014	520	10,100	0.051
Average	930	8,264	0.112

Rockfish Genetics Project: In June 2013, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council implemented a new hard cap for the non-pollock trawl fisheries in the GOA (7,500 Chinook) with 1,200 Chinook of that limit allocated to the Rockfish Program catcher vessel co-ops. This hard cap is expected to go into effect in 2015. Whereas there is ample information on stock of origin of Chinook taken in the Bering Sea pollock fishery, data is still lacking on the origins of Chinook taken in the GOA trawl fisheries. Also uncertain is the proportion of Chinook bycatch that are of hatchery origin. To that end, the Rockfish Genetics project started in 2013 continued into 2014 with 2015 expected to be the final data collection year. The genetic collections could continue beyond 2015 if additional industry funding becomes available or if NMFS takes over the Chinook salmon data collection.

The Project goals are:

1. Collect tissue samples from all landed Chinook salmon for DNA and stock of origin analysis.
2. Collect biological data (weight, length, sex) at the plant from all landed salmon.
3. Scan all landed Chinook salmon for the presence or absence of adipose fin clips and Coded Wire Tags (CWT). This will allow for an estimation of Chinook bycatch that originate from hatcheries.
4. Collect CWT's (snouts) from all salmon with positive CWT signal.

Over the 2014 season, DNA samples from 468 landed Chinook as well as snouts from 25 tagged salmon were collected and sent to NMFS Auke Bay Lab for processing. Preliminary results are expected Spring 2015. Results from the 2013 Rockfish fishery are shown in Table 8 (<http://www.npfmc.org/salmon-bycatch-overview/gulf-of-alaska-salmon-bycatch/>).

Table 8. Stock of Origin results, 2013 CGOA CV Rockfish fishery.

Area	2013 Rockfish
Russia	0.0%
Coast W AK	0.0%
Mid Yukon	0.0%
Up Yukon	0.0%
N AK Pen	0.0%
NW GOA	2.3%
Copper	0.3%
NE GOA	0.0%

Area	2013 Rockfish
Coast SE AK	6.6%
BC	31.3%
West Coast US	59.4%
SE, BC,WC combined	97.3%
Total	99.9%

C. *Other Prohibited Species Catch:* The following were attributed to the combined in-shore catcher vessel cooperative catch accounts by NMFS CAS during the 2014 RP fishing season (May 1st – November 15th): 1 non-Chinook salmon, 72 Bairdi tanner crab, 52 Golden king crab and 1.54 Kg. Pacific Herring (source: Steve Whitney, NMFS as of Dec. 4, 2014).

VI. PENALTIES/CIVIL ACTIONS

The multispecies aspect of the RP precludes harvesting the co-op’s allocation exactly on a vessel-by-vessel basis: such is the advantage of fishing the quota cooperatively where the vessels can balance out each other’s catches with no penalty incurred on the group as a whole. However, individuals who exceed their individual co-op quota share (except by prior agreement – e.g. leases and clean up trips) are penalized monetarily as a disincentive for future occurrences. As per the SOK Co-op Member Agreement, 100% of the ex-vessel revenue of the overage is paid by the offender directly to the member vessel that covers the overage. This discourages future excessive overage events. There were no civil actions taken against any co-op member.

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North Pacific Seafoods in Kodiak, Alaska served as the primary purchasing and processing facility for the NP Rockfish Cooperative.

Table 1. LLPs, LLP owners and member vessels of the NP Rockfish Cooperative 2014.

LLP No.	LLP Owner	Member Vessel	ADFG No.
1590	ALASKA BEAUTY LLC	ALASKA BEAUTY	22011
3764	PELAGIC RESOURCES, INC.	ALASKAN	3734
2148	THOMAS TORMALA	CAPT'N ART	40967
2973	GOLDEN WEST FISHERIES, INC.	CARAVELLE	57634
2487	ALVIN BURCH	DAWN	9206
2165	ALVIN BURCH	DUSK	21636
1755	ENTERPRISE FISHERIES, LLC	ENTERPRISE	20339
1541	MAGIC FISH CO.	SEA MAC	6151
3785	SEA MAC SEAFOODS, LLC	SEA MAC	6151
3496	M/V DEFIANT, INC.	ANTHEM	76842
2653	ALASKA WIND, LLC	ALASKA WIND	55523
2535	CHANDLER FISHERIES, INC.	TOPAZ	40250

III. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT

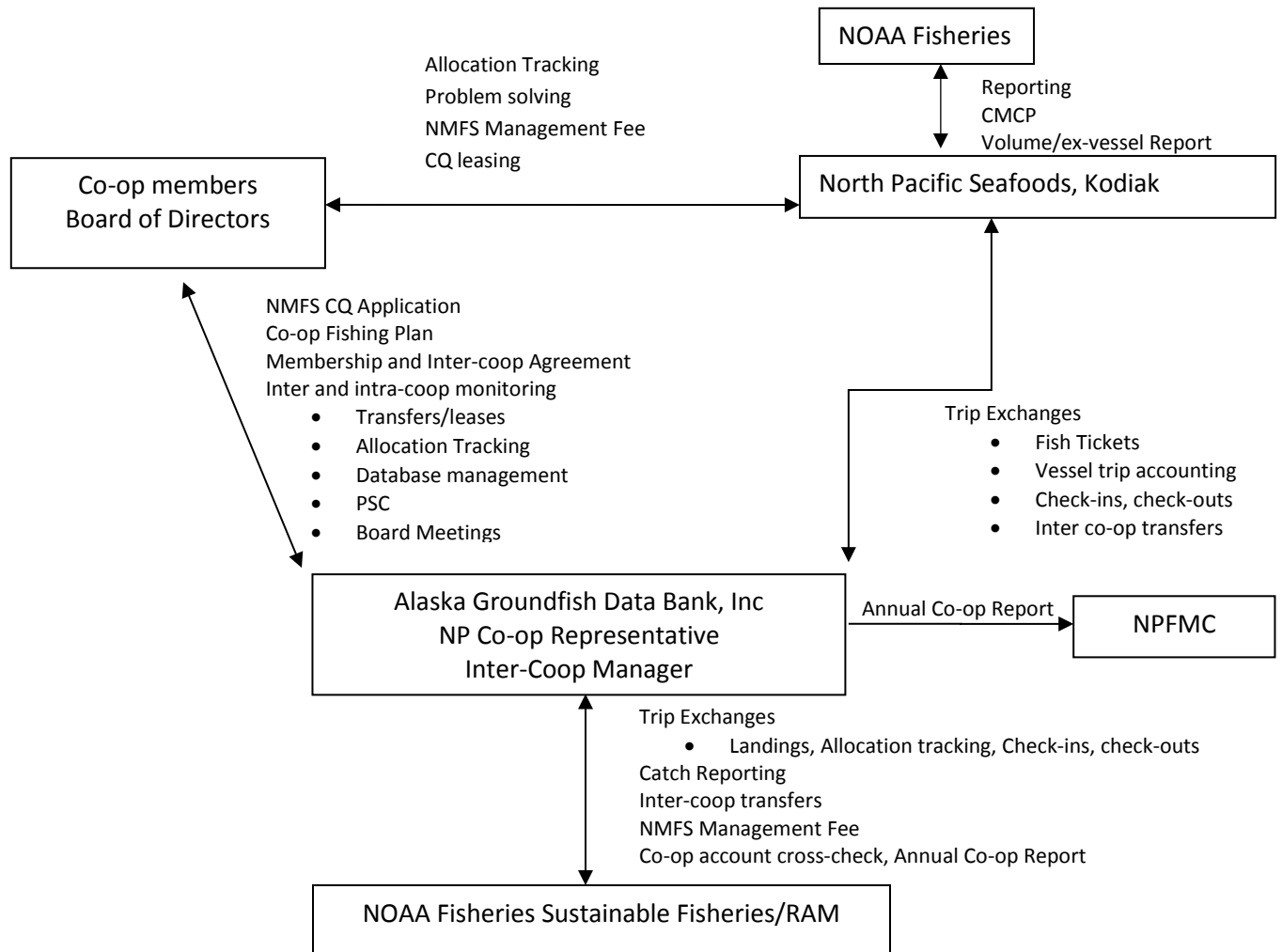
The NP Rockfish Cooperative was represented and managed by Alaska Groundfish Data Bank, Inc in collaboration and coordination with the co-op president, Patrick O'Donnell, the North Pacific Seafoods plant manager, Matt Moir and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Fishing plans were devised to harvest the allocations efficiently while minimizing the amount of prohibited and non-marketable species. Harvest numbers, observer data and fish ticket information were analyzed, updated and distributed to the appropriate parties in a timely manner to ensure proper management. Figure 1 shows the schematic outlining the Co-op's operations and flow of information among the contributing parties.

A. *Monitoring*

- (1) **Check-ins and Check-outs:** To facilitate moving into and out of non-RP fisheries during the rockfish season, NMFS instituted "Check-ins" and "Check-outs" with no limits to the number of check ins as was the case for the RPP. Co-op vessels were required to check into the RP fishery 48 hours prior to starting a trip and to check out of the program before participating in other fisheries.
- (2) **Observer Coverage:** 100% Observer coverage was required by all participating vessels.
- (3) **CMCP Monitor:** For the new Rockfish Program, NMFS hired a Catch Monitoring and Control Plan (CMCP) specialist to monitor each Processor's CMCP. RP Processors are required to file with NMFS their CMCP prior to the start of the RP season. This plan details how the processor monitors the deliveries and complies with monitoring requirements. This is in lieu of 200% observer coverage at the plants required during the RPP.
- (4) **NOAA Fisheries/Restricted Access Management:** NOAA RAM's Co-op ledger web site was used to perform transfers, conduct cross-checks, check co-op balances and detect missing database information.

Figure 1. Schematic of NP Rockfish Cooperative Operations and Management



IV. COOPERATIVE PERFORMANCE

A. Co-op Allocations, Transfers and Harvests

The NP Rockfish Cooperative’s allocations and harvests for the 2014 season are summarized by species and vessel in Table 5. Note that cooperative fishing allowed individual vessel overages to be offset by quota not harvested by other member vessels. Inter-coop transfers (Table 2) were arranged by the Inter-coop manager to maximize harvesting of the allocations among the seven catcher vessel cooperatives, adhere to cooperative agreements and to cover overages.

Table 2. NP Rockfish Co-op allocations and inter-coop transfer summary (weights are in pounds).

	POP	NR	Dusky	Sablefish	P. cod	Thornyhead	Halibut
Initial NP Allocation:	2,751,074	911,345	970,901	128,539	614,534	27,784	47,508
Transfers (Global):				(10,246)			
Transfers (Pacific):					(5,512)		
Transfers (ISA):	(7,306)						
Transfers (OBSI):	8,700						
Total Transfers	1,394	-	-	(10,246)	(5,512)	-	-
Final NP Allocation:	2,752,468	911,345	970,901	118,293	609,023	27,784	47,508
Total CV Coops*:	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	705,945	3,345,142	156,493	258,602
NP % CV Allocation:	17.63%	18.10%	21.08%	16.76%	18.21%	17.75%	18.37%

*Includes CP CQ transferred onshore

B. Vessel Use, Co-op CQ and Processing Caps

- (1) **Vessel harvests:** A vessel harvest cap of 8% of total primary rockfish quota allocated to the CV sector is one of the new changes to the RP. In 2014, this amounted to 2,020,578 lbs of primary rockfish in the aggregate. During the 2014 season, no vessel exceeded this limit (see figure 2).
- (2) **Co-op QS:** Control of harvest shares by a CV cooperative shall be capped at 30% of aggregate POP, northern rockfish and Dusky rockfish allocated to the CV sector. Final quota share allocated to the NP co-op in 2014 amounted to 18.4% of the aggregate CV rockfish cooperative quota (Table 4).
- (3) **Processing limits:** For the Rockfish Program, a provision was approved that states no processor shall process or receive more than 30% of: (1) primary rockfish in the aggregate; (2) sablefish; (3) Pacific cod allocated to the CV sector. During the 2014 season, North Pacific Seafoods, Kodiak did not exceed these caps. See Table 3. Note: CQ harvested by the North Pacific rockfish cooperative may not equal the amount processed by North Pacific Seafoods because deliveries to other City of Kodiak processors are allowed by the co-op in the new Rockfish Program.

Table 3. LBS and % of CV allocations by CQ species received and processed by North Pacific Seafoods in 2014.

Species	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Primary RF	Sablefish	Cod	% RF	% Sable	% Cod
Processed APS	2,752,456	566,558	664,403	3,983,417	127,790	556,976	15.77%	18.10%	16.65%
CV Allocation	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	25,257,221	705,945	3,345,142			

Table 4. Primary rockfish CQ (POP, Northern Rockfish, Dusky rockfish): % of Final CV sector allocations by species and co-op

CV Co-op CQ	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Rockfish
NP	17.6%	18.1%	21.1%	18.4%
SOK	25.3%	32.2%	31.4%	27.8%
WAF	13.6%	10.0%	7.8%	11.8%
OBSI	17.3%	24.9%	26.2%	20.4%
ISA	15.6%	8.8%	9.3%	13.1%
Global	6.4%	1.3%	1.8%	4.5%
Pacific	4.2%	4.8%	2.5%	4.0%
Final Allocation	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Figure 2. Harvests of primary rockfish by NP member vessels (% of aggregate CV primary rockfish). Vessel harvest cap is 8%

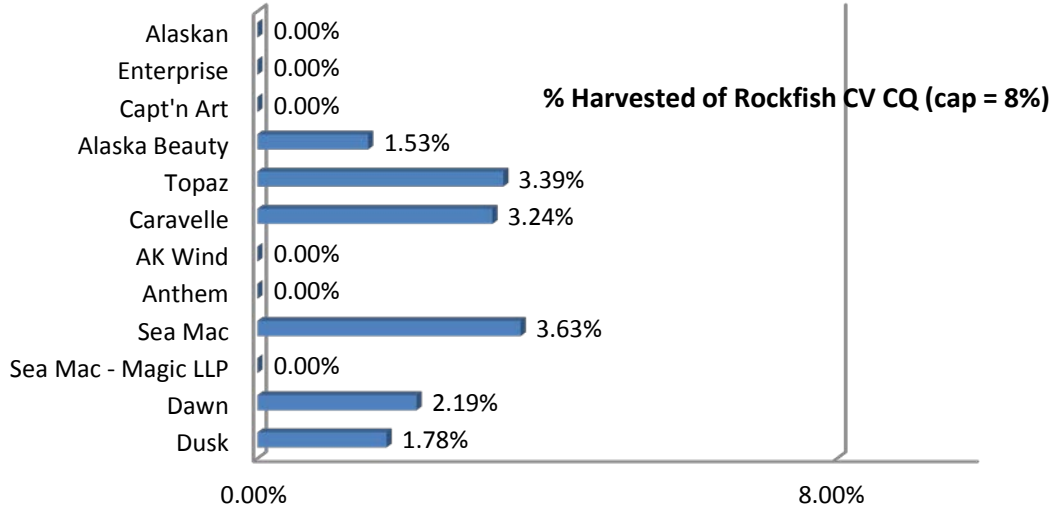


Table 5. NP Rockfish Cooperative 2014 allocations and harvests by species and co-op member. Weights are in pounds. CQ totals from ADF&G Fish Tickets (includes dock and at-sea discards). Halibut mortality PSC is from NMFS/RAM Co-op ledger website <https://www.fakr.noaa.gov/webapps/coopaccounts> (as of December 11, 2014).

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/overage
POP	DUSK	12%	327,196	325,502	1,694
	DAWN	13%	350,287	343,526	6,761
	SEA MAC/MAGIC LLP	11%	289,277	0	289,277
	SEA MAC	5%	132,813	728,980	(596,167)
	ANTHEM	9%	253,032	0	253,032
	ALASKA WIND	2%	50,703	0	50,703
	CARAVELLE	12%	328,416	409,134	(80,718)
	TOPAZ	19%	515,887	667,072	(151,185)
	ALASKA BEAUTY	10%	267,840	278,242	(10,402)
	CAPT'N ART	3%	87,791	0	87,791
	ENTERPRISE	2%	43,478	0	43,478
	ALASKAN	4%	104,352	0	104,352
	Total	100%	2,751,074	2,752,456	(1,382)
		Transfers:		1,394	
	Final Total:		2,752,468	Net:	12
NR	DUSK	6%	55,826	11,891	43,935
	DAWN	16%	144,580	122,080	22,500
	SEA MAC - MAGIC LLP	2%	17,606	0	17,606
	SEA MAC	5%	43,349	113,938	(70,589)
	ANTHEM	19%	173,617	0	173,617
	ALASKA WIND	0%	42	0	42
	CARAVELLE	17%	158,197	223,491	(65,294)
	TOPAZ	27%	243,747	55,355	188,392
	ALASKA BEAUTY	7%	61,080	39,803	21,277
	CAPT'N ART	0%	859	0	859
	ENTERPRISE	1%	11,092	0	11,092
ALASKAN	0%	1,349	0	1,349	

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/overage
NR	Total	100%	911,345	566,558	344,787
		Transfers:	-		
	Final Total:		911,345	Net:	344,787
Dusky	DUSK	8%	80,213	112,404	(32,191)
	DAWN	20%	193,858	88,731	105,127
	SEA MAC - MAGIC LLP	2%	18,703	0	18,703
	SEA MAC	4%	38,095	74,565	(36,470)
	ANTHEM	16%	156,845	0	156,845
	ALASKA WIND	0%	1,798	0	1,798
	CARAVELLE	15%	146,154	186,378	(40,224)
	TOPAZ	26%	250,570	134,190	116,380
	ALASKA BEAUTY	8%	73,463	68,135	5,328
	CAPT'N ART	0%	1,230	0	1,230
	ENTERPRISE	1%	5,564	0	5,564
	ALASKAN	0%	4,408	0	4,408
		Total	100%	970,901	664,403
		Transfers:	-		
	Final Total:		970,901	Net:	306,498
Sablefish	DUSK	10%	12,424	14,730	(2,306)
	DAWN	15%	19,332	6,367	12,965
	SEA MAC - MAGIC LLP	7%	8,401	-	8,401
	SEA MAC	5%	5,940	30,104	(24,164)
	ANTHEM	13%	16,916	-	16,916
	ALASKA WIND	1%	1,322	-	1,322
	CARAVELLE	14%	17,956	21,765	(3,809)
	TOPAZ	22%	28,615	31,653	(3,038)
	ALASKA BEAUTY	9%	10,939	13,371	(2,432)
	CAPT'N ART	2%	2,266	-	2,266
	ENTERPRISE	1%	1,642	-	1,642
	ALASKAN	2%	2,786	-	2,786
		Total	100%	128,539	117,990
		Transfers:	(10,246)		
	Final Total:		118,293	Net:	302
P. cod	DUSK	10%	59,398	59,534	(135)
	DAWN	15%	92,425	42,053	50,371
	SEA MAC - MAGIC LLP	7%	40,164	0	40,164
	SEA MAC	5%	28,398	177,625	(149,227)
	ANTHEM	13%	80,875	0	80,875
	ALASKA WIND	1%	6,321	0	6,321
	CARAVELLE	14%	85,848	124,690	(38,843)
	TOPAZ	22%	136,805	149,014	(12,209)
	ALASKA BEAUTY	9%	52,297	4,060	48,237
	CAPT'N ART	2%	10,831	0	10,831
	ENTERPRISE	1%	7,852	0	7,852
	ALASKAN	2%	13,320	0	13,320
		Total	100%	614,534	556,976
		Transfers:	(5,512)		
	Final Total:		609,023	Net:	52,047
Thornyhead	DUSK	10%	2,685	8,278	(5,593)

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/overage
Thornyhead	DAWN	15%	4,179	4,304	(125)
	SEA MAC - MAGIC LLP	7%	1,816	0	1,816
	SEA MAC	5%	1,284	26	1,258
	ANTHEM	13%	3,656	0	3,656
	ALASKA WIND	1%	286	0	286
	CARAVELLE	14%	3,881	3,184	697
	TOPAZ	22%	6,185	3,716	2,469
	ALASKA BEAUTY	9%	2,364	1,131	1,233
	CAPT'N ART	2%	490	0	490
	ENTERPRISE	1%	355	0	355
	ALASKAN	2%	602	0	602
	Total	100%	27,784	20,639	7,145
	Transfers:		0		
	Final Total:		27,784	Net:	7,145
Halibut PSC	DUSK	10%	4,592	2,919	1,673
	DAWN	15%	7,145	1,792	5,353
	SEA MAC - MAGIC LLP	7%	3,105	0	3,105
	SEA MAC	5%	2,195	11,060	(8,865)
	ANTHEM	13%	6,252	0	6,252
	ALASKA WIND	1%	489	0	489
	CARAVELLE	14%	6,637	509	6,127
	TOPAZ	22%	10,576	2,809	7,767
	ALASKA BEAUTY	9%	4,043	189	3,854
	CAPT'N ART	2%	837	0	837
	ENTERPRISE	1%	607	0	607
ALASKAN	2%	1,030	0	1,030	
	Total	100%	47,508	19,279	28,229
	Transfers:		-		
	Final Total:		47,508	Net:	28,229

C. *Retained and Discarded Catch of CQ*

Federal regulations require the RP participants to retain all Cooperative Quota (CQ) species: at-sea discards of Pacific Ocean Perch, Northern Rockfish, Dusky Rockfish, Pacific cod, Thornyheads, and Sablefish are not allowed. During the 2014 NP Rockfish Cooperative's fishing season (May 1– November 15, 2014), there were no occurrences of at-sea discards of CQ species.

D. *Sideboard limits and rockfish sideboard fishery harvests*

The Rockfish Program established sideboard limits and/or prohibitions that limit LLP holders participating in the Program from expanding their harvests in other fisheries. These sideboard restrictions apply only in July, historically the most active month for rockfish fishing. For the CV sector, the sideboard limits established in the RPP have been removed for ease of management. The following prohibitions remain in place during the month of July:

- (1) For the month of July, limit all CVs to the shallow water complex fisheries (fishing in the deep complex is prohibited)
- (2) Directed fishing for WYAK and WGOA primary rockfish species in the month of July is prohibited

V. COOPERATIVE PROHIBITED SPECIES CATCH

A. *Halibut:* The cooperative’s fishing plan instituted a management scheme to discourage high halibut bycatch rates since the co-op’s RP fishing would cease once its halibut PSC mortality cap was reached. Standards were set and enforced by the co-op members to abide by the halibut PSC mortality rate limits (Table 6). These standards were set based on what the co-op members thought were achievable and acceptable bycatch rates while assuring that there would be sufficient halibut available to harvest the co-op’s quota of CQ species. If a vessel approached or exceeded these pre-set rates during a trip, the co-op members would convene to discuss possible actions. Fishing practices were adopted to aid in reducing halibut bycatch: (1) more frequent use of pelagic (off-bottom or “flying bottom”) gear, (2) temporal distribution of catches to avoid high halibut bycatch time frames.

The NP Rockfish Co-op used 19,279 lbs or 41% of its final halibut PSC allocation of 47,508 lbs.

Table 6. Halibut bycatch standards adopted by the NP Rockfish Cooperative.

Inter-coop standard		Red Light Standard		Yellow Light Standard	
<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>
POP	0.50%	POP	0.45%	POP	0.38%
NR/Dusky	2.20%	NR/Dusky	1.98%	NR/Dusky	1.65%
Sable/cod	4.00%	Sable/cod	3.60%	Sable/cod	3.00%

B. *Chinook Salmon:* All Shoreside Cooperatives agreed to the newly adopted 2014 Chinook Salmon Bycatch Avoidance Plan. The plan included three parts: i) Individual vessel Chinook salmon bycatch standards for the months of May, June, July, and August; ii) Chinook salmon hotspot reporting requirements; and iii) full retention of all bycaught Chinook salmon for monitoring purposes and genetic sampling. Fish ticket data were used to monitor the cooperative vessel’s bycatch performance. Vessels had to wait until their offload was complete and bycatch rate available prior to starting their next fishing trip. If a Cooperative member’s bycatch rate was at the red standard, the vessel agreed to stand down from targeted rockfish trips for four days from the date of that delivery. If the bycatch rate was at the yellow standard for two consecutive trips, the vessel agreed to stand down from targeted rockfish trips for four days from the date of the second delivery.

All operators were required to provide detailed information for the Chinook bycatch hotspot reports including target, set and haul times and locations, depth and gear type.

Operators agreed to promptly self-report Chinook salmon hotspot areas from the grounds to AGDB and/or their Cooperative’s affiliated processor. These “hot-spot” alerts were sent out to all co-op members, affiliated processors and vessel operators. Twenty Chinook was the trigger for a hot spot alert.

These measures proved effective for 2014: According to CAS (per Steve Whitney, NMFS), there were a total of 520 Chinook taken by the seven CV co-ops over the 2014 rockfish season. This compares to 1,271 Chinook taken during the 2013 season (see Table 7). Three hot spot alerts were issued in 2014 compared to eight in 2013.

Table 7. Chinook PSC, total CV rockfish harvests and Chinook PSC rate for the RPP (2007-2011) and the first three years of the new Rockfish Program (2012-2014). Catcher vessel co-ops only. Source: Steve Whitney, NMFS.

Year	Chinook (no.)	Rockfish Harvest (mt)	Rate (Chinook/mt)
2007	840	7,748	0.108
2008	1,683	7,440	0.226
2009	892	6,874	0.130
2010	1,017	7,992	0.127
2011	396	7,071	0.056
2012	817	10,067	0.081
2013	1,271	8,820	0.144
2014	520	10,100	0.051
Average	930	8,264	0.112

Rockfish Genetics Project: In June 2013, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council implemented a new hard cap for the non-pollock trawl fisheries in the GOA (7,500 Chinook) with 1,200 Chinook of that limit allocated to the Rockfish Program catcher vessel co-ops. This hard cap is expected to go into effect in 2015. Whereas there is ample information on stock of origin of Chinook taken in the Bering Sea pollock fishery, data is still lacking on the origins of Chinook taken in the GOA trawl fisheries. Also uncertain is the proportion of Chinook bycatch that are of hatchery origin. To that end, the Rockfish Genetics project started in 2013 continued into 2014 with 2015 expected to be the final data collection year. The genetic collections could continue beyond 2015 if additional industry funding becomes available or if NMFS takes over the Chinook salmon data collection.

The Project goals are:

1. Collect tissue samples from all landed Chinook salmon for DNA and stock of origin analysis.
2. Collect biological data (weight, length, sex) at the plant from all landed salmon.
3. Scan all landed Chinook salmon for the presence or absence of adipose fin clips and Coded Wire Tags (CWT). This will allow for an estimation of Chinook bycatch that originate from hatcheries.
4. Collect CWT's (snouts) from all salmon with positive CWT signal.

Over the 2014 season, DNA samples from 468 landed Chinook as well as snouts from 25 tagged salmon were collected and sent to NMFS Auke Bay Lab for processing. Preliminary results are expected Spring 2015. Results from the 2013 Rockfish fishery are shown in Table 8 (<http://www.npfmc.org/salmon-bycatch-overview/gulf-of-alaska-salmon-bycatch/>).

Table 8. Stock of Origin results, 2013 CGOA CV Rockfish fishery.

Area	2013 Rockfish
Russia	0.0%
Coast W AK	0.0%
Mid Yukon	0.0%
Up Yukon	0.0%
N AK Pen	0.0%
NW GOA	2.3%
Copper	0.3%
NE GOA	0.0%

Area	2013 Rockfish
Coast SE AK	6.6%
BC	31.3%
West Coast US	59.4%
SE, BC,WC combined	97.3%
Total	99.9%

C. Other Prohibited Species Catch: The following were attributed to the combined in-shore catcher vessel cooperative catch accounts by NMFS CAS during the 2014 RP fishing season (May 1st – November 15th): 1 non-Chinook salmon, 72 Bairdi tanner crab, 52 Golden king crab and 1.54 KG Pacific Herring (source: Steve Whitney, NMFS as of Dec. 4, 2014).

VI. PENALITIES/CIVIL ACTIONS

The multispecies aspect of the RP precludes harvesting the co-op's allocation exactly on a vessel-by-vessel basis: such is the advantage of fishing the quota cooperatively where the vessels can balance out each other's catches with no penalty incurred on the group as a whole. However, individuals who exceed their individual co-op quota share (except by prior agreement – e.g. leases and clean up trips) are penalized monetarily as a disincentive for future occurrences. As per the North Pacific Co-op Member Agreement, 100% of the ex-vessel revenue of the overage is paid by the offender directly to the member vessel that covers the overage. This discourages future excessive overage events. There were no civil actions taken against any co-op member.

Final Report
ISA
Rockfish Cooperative

2014

December 15, 2014

Prepared by:
Alaska Groundfish Data Bank, Inc.
P.O. Box 788
Kodiak AK 99615

I. INTRODUCTION

In Section 802 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004, the U.S. Congress included a Directive to the Secretary of Commerce to establish, in consultation with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (the Council), a pilot program for management of three primary rockfish species in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA): Pacific Ocean perch (POP), northern rockfish (NR), and pelagic shelf rockfish fisheries (PSR)¹. The ensuing catcher vessel Rockfish Pilot Program (RPP) allowed each catcher vessel/harvester to join a cooperative in association with the processor to which it delivered the most pounds of CGOA rockfish during the processor qualifying period. Each cooperative receives an annual harvest share allocation based on the qualified harvest history of its members (combined vessel quota shares or QS). In addition to the allocation of target rockfish, catcher vessel cooperatives also receive allocations of secondary species, which include Sablefish, Pacific cod, and Thornyhead rockfish along with an allocation of Halibut PSC mortality. Allocations to the catcher vessel sector are based on the average percentage of retained secondary catch or Halibut PSC mortality in the target rockfish fisheries during the qualifying period. These allocations are distributed to the cooperative members based on the amount of primary rockfish that the cooperative member holds.

The 5-year RPP ended in 2011 and was rolled over into a new, modified, catch share program in June 2010 under Amendment 88 of the GOA Fisheries Management Plan (FMP). This Rockfish Program (RP) went into effect in 2012 and is scheduled to sunset after 10 years in 2022.

As in the RPP, the primary RP objective is to stabilize the residential processing work force by filling times of year with low processing volumes, particularly May and June, and to remove the processing conflict with salmon. Additionally, the RP reduces the competition for fish among harvesters thereby promoting safety, high quality seafood production, and increased economic performance and stability for co-op members, fishermen and processors. The extended, non-derby style season allows co-op members to improve harvesting efficiency in the target fisheries while minimizing incidental bycatch of prohibited species through better fishing practices and efficient fleet monitoring and information distribution.

The ISA Rockfish Cooperative is one of 7 inshore cooperatives (compared to five co-ops in the RPP) formed in March 2012 in accordance with Amendment 88 of the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska. 2014 marked the third year of the new Rockfish Program and, in compliance with Amendment 88, this Final Report is submitted to NMFS and the Council as a summary of allocations, harvests, transfers and cooperative performance during the 2014 rockfish fishing season in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA). Catch figures and statistics were provided by the cooperative's manager and representative, Alaska Groundfish Data Bank, Inc. (AGDB) and cross-checked with NMFS Co-op catch data accessed through the NMFS Co-op ledger website (efish).

II. COOPERATIVE MEMBERSHIP

In 2014, the ISA Rockfish Cooperative consisted of six member licenses (compared to 6 LLPs in 2013) with six member vessels (Table 1) of which four actively fished during the 2014 RP season: Chellissa, Elizabeth F, Mar Del Norte, Mar Pacifico. The allocations of the Green Hope and Ocean Hope 3 were

¹As of 2012, Pelagic shelf rockfish consists only of dusky rockfish

fished by the Chellissa, Mar Del Norte and Mar Pacifico as well as the F/V Laura (Ocean Beauty Rockfish Co-op). The Elizabeth F, as per the 2014 Annual Processor Agreement, delivered all his catch to Western Alaska Fisheries.

International Seafoods of Alaska (ISA) in Kodiak, Alaska served as the primary purchasing and processing facility for the ISA Rockfish Cooperative.

Table 1. LLPs, LLP owners and member vessels of the ISA Rockfish Cooperative 2014.

LLP No.	LLP Owner	Member Vessel	ADFG No.
1554	CHELLISSA FISHERIES, LLC	CHELLISSA	70459
1273	ELIZABETH F, INC.	ELIZABETH F	14767
2188	GREEN HOPE LLC	GREEN HOPE	47790
1841	NORTHERN SEAS FISHERIES LLC	MAR DEL NORTE	21650
2696	MAR PACIFICO, INC.	MAR PACIFICO	23131
2683	MARTIN FISHERIES, INC	OCEAN HOPE 3	48173

III. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT

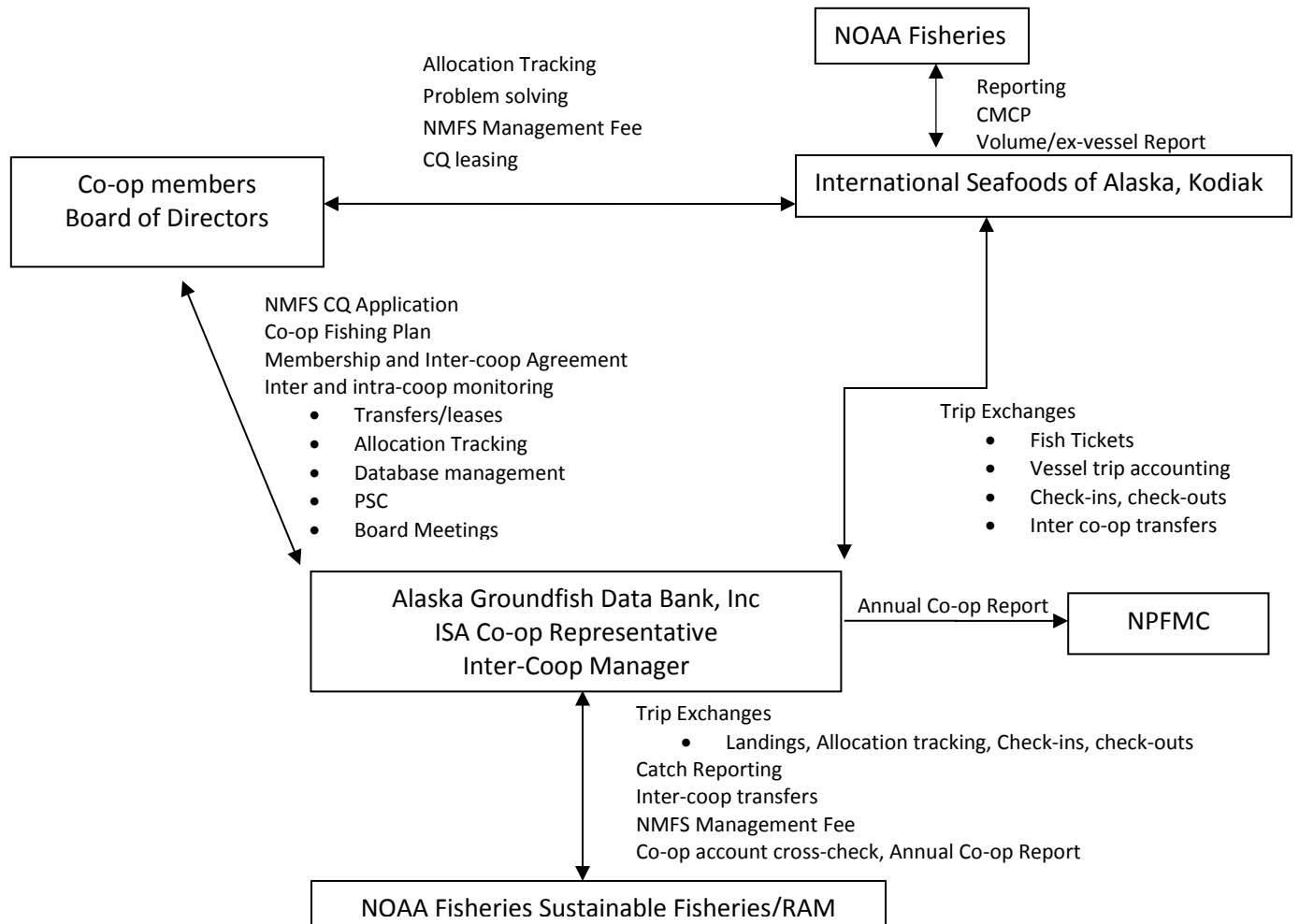
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Fishing plans were devised to harvest the allocations efficiently while minimizing the amount of prohibited and non-marketable species. Harvest numbers, observer data and fish ticket information were analyzed, updated and distributed to the appropriate parties in a timely manner to ensure proper management. Figure 1 shows the schematic outlining the Co-op’s operations and flow of information among the contributing parties.

A. *Monitoring*

- (1) **Check-ins and Check-outs:** To facilitate moving into and out of non-RP fisheries during the rockfish season, NMFS instituted “Check-ins” and “Check-outs” with no limits to the number of check ins as was the case for the RPP. Co-op vessels were required to check into the RP fishery 48 hours prior to starting a trip and to check out of the program before participating in other fisheries.
- (2) **Observer Coverage:** 100% Observer coverage was required by all participating vessels.
- (3) **CMCP Monitor:** For the new Rockfish Program, NMFS hired a Catch Monitoring and Control Plan (CMCP) specialist to monitor each Processor’s CMCP. RP Processors are required to file with NMFS their CMCP prior to the start of the RP season. This plan details how the processor monitors the deliveries and complies with monitoring requirements. This is in lieu of 200% observer coverage at the plants required during the RPP.
- (4) **NOAA Fisheries/Restricted Access Management:** NOAA RAM’s Co-op ledger web site was used to perform transfers, conduct cross-checks, check co-op balances and detect missing database information.

Figure 1. Schematic of ISA Rockfish Cooperative Operations and Management



IV. COOPERATIVE PERFORMANCE

A. Co-op Allocations, Transfers and Harvests

The ISA Rockfish Cooperative’s allocations and harvests for the 2014 season are summarized by species and vessel in Table 5. Note that cooperative fishing allowed individual vessel overages to be offset by quota not harvested by other member vessels. Inter-coop transfers (Table 2) were arranged by the Inter-coop manager to maximize harvesting of the allocations among the seven catcher vessel cooperatives, adhere to cooperative agreements and to cover overages.

Table 2. ISA Rockfish Co-op allocations and inter-coop transfer summary (weights are in pounds).

	POP	NR	Dusky	Sablefish	P. cod	Thornyhead	Halibut
Initial ISA Allocation:	2,249,453	547,895	543,159	91,086	435,474	19,688	33,665
Transfers (OBSI):	25,745	(104,808)	(116,407)	(5,848)	(110,056)		
Transfers (Pacific)	34,374						
Transfers (Global)	62,926						
Transfers (NP)	7,306						
Transfers (WAF)	58,716			3,810	5,114		
Total Transfers	189,068	(104,808)	(116,407)	(2,038)	(104,942)	0	0
Final ISA Allocation:	2,438,521	443,086	426,752	89,048	330,532	19,688	33,665
Total CV Coops*:	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	705,945	3,345,142	156,493	258,602
ISA % CV Allocation:	15.62%	8.80%	9.27%	12.61%	9.88%	12.58%	13.02%

*Includes CP CQ transferred onshore

B. Vessel Use, Co-op CQ and Processing Caps

- (1) **Vessel harvests:** A vessel harvest cap of 8% of total primary rockfish quota allocated to the CV sector is one of the new changes to the RP. In 2014, this amounted to 2,020,578 lbs of primary rockfish in the aggregate. During the 2014 season, no vessel exceeded this limit (see figure 2).
- (2) **Co-op QS:** Control of harvest shares by a CV cooperative shall be capped at 30% of aggregate POP, northern rockfish and Dusky rockfish allocated to the CV sector. Final quota share allocated to the ISA co-op in 2014 amounted to 13.1% of the aggregate CV rockfish cooperative quota (Table 4).
- (3) **Processing limits:** For the Rockfish Program, a provision was approved that states no processor shall process or receive more than 30% of: (1) primary rockfish in the aggregate; (2) sablefish; (3) Pacific cod allocated to the CV sector. During the 2014 season, ISA Seafoods, Kodiak did not exceed these caps. See Table 3. Note: CQ harvested by the ISA rockfish cooperative may not equal the amount processed by ISA Seafoods because deliveries to other City of Kodiak processors are allowed by the co-op in the new Rockfish Program.

Table 3. LBS and % of CV allocations by CQ species received and processed by ISA Seafoods in 2014.

Species	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Primary RF	Sablefish	Cod	% RF	% Sable	% Cod
Processed ISA	2,546,916	675,829	466,099	3,688,844	134,794	474,994	14.61%	19.26%	14.20%
CV Allocation	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	25,257,221	705,945	3,345,142			

Table 4. Primary rockfish CQ (POP, Northern Rockfish, Dusky rockfish): % of Final CV sector allocations by species and co-op

CV Co-op CQ	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Rockfish
NP	17.6%	18.1%	21.1%	18.4%
SOK	25.3%	32.2%	31.4%	27.8%
WAF	13.6%	10.0%	7.8%	11.8%
OBSI	17.3%	24.9%	26.2%	20.4%
ISA	15.6%	8.8%	9.3%	13.1%
Global	6.4%	1.3%	1.8%	4.5%
Pacific	4.2%	4.8%	2.5%	4.0%
Final Allocation	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Figure 2. Harvests of primary rockfish by ISA member vessels (% of aggregate CV primary rockfish). Vessel harvest cap is 8%

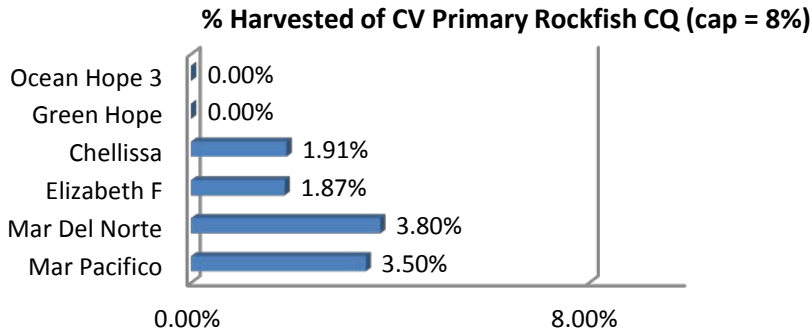


Table 5. ISA Rockfish Cooperative 2014 allocations and harvests by species and co-op member. Weights are in pounds. CQ totals from ADF&G Fish Tickets (includes dock and at-sea discards). Halibut mortality PSC is from NMFS/RAM Co-op ledger website <https://www.fakr.noaa.gov/webapps/coopaccounts> (as of December 11, 2014).

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/overage
POP	MAR PACIFICO	23%	513,636	705,816	(192,180)
	MAR DEL NORTE	17%	385,107	778,121	(393,014)
	ELIZABETH F	20%	458,598	472,844	(14,246)
	CHELLISSA	6%	132,813	481,738	(348,925)
	GREEN HOPE	5%	121,164	0	121,164
	OCEAN HOPE 3	28%	638,135	0	638,135
	Total	100%	2,249,453	2,438,519	(189,066)
	Transfers:		189,068		
	Final Total:		2,438,521	Net:	2
NR	MAR PACIFICO	42%	227,458	125,034	102,424
	MAR DEL NORTE	25%	138,859	124,335	14,524
	ELIZABETH F	3%	15,309	385	14,924
	CHELLISSA	8%	43,349	-	43,349
	GREEN HOPE	8%	44,114	-	44,114
	OCEAN HOPE 3	14%	78,805	-	78,805
	Total	100%	547,895	249,754	298,141
	Transfers:		(104,808)		
	Final Total:		443,086	Net:	193,332
Dusky	MAR PACIFICO	34%	184,400	54,246	130,154
	MAR DEL NORTE	19%	103,274	56,226	47,048
	ELIZABETH F	11%	59,046	329	58,717
	CHELLISSA	7%	38,095	860	37,235
	GREEN HOPE	16%	85,317	-	85,317
	OCEAN HOPE 3	13%	73,026	-	73,026
	Total	100%	543,159	111,661	431,498
	Transfers:		(116,407)		
	Final Total:		426,752	Net:	315,091
Sablefish	MAR PACIFICO	29%	26,146	42,429	(16,283)
	MAR DEL NORTE	19%	17,498	12,663	4,835
	ELIZABETH F	15%	13,677	17,487	(3,810)
	CHELLISSA	7%	5,940	16,405	(10,465)
	GREEN HOPE	8%	6,979	-	6,979
	OCEAN HOPE 3	23%	20,846	-	20,846

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/overage
	Total	100%	91,086	88,984	2,102
Sablefish		Transfers:	(2,038)		
	Final Total:		89,048	Net:	64
	MAR PACIFICO	29%	125,000	178,728	(53,728)
	MAR DEL NORTE	19%	83,657	74,488	9,169
	ELIZABETH F	15%	65,387	70,501	(5,114)
P. cod	CHELLISSA	7%	28,398	1,658	26,740
	GREEN HOPE	8%	33,367	-	33,367
	OCEAN HOPE 3	23%	99,665	-	99,665
	Total	100%	435,474	325,375	110,099
		Transfers:	(104,942)		
	Final Total:		330,532	Net:	5,157
	MAR PACIFICO	29%	5,651	1,221	4,430
	MAR DEL NORTE	19%	3,782	719	3,063
	ELIZABETH F	15%	2,956	2,501	455
Thornyhead	CHELLISSA	7%	1,284	1,471	(187)
	GREEN HOPE	8%	1,509	-	1,509
	OCEAN HOPE 3	23%	4,506	-	4,506
	Total	100%	19,688	5,912	13,776
		Transfers:	0		
	Final Total:		19,688	Net:	13,776
	MAR PACIFICO	29%	9,663	3,724	5,940
	MAR DEL NORTE	19%	6,467	1,857	4,610
	ELIZABETH F	15%	5,055	2,827	2,228
Halibut PSC	CHELLISSA	7%	2,195	-	2,195
	GREEN HOPE	8%	2,579	-	2,579
	OCEAN HOPE 3	23%	7,705	-	7,705
	Total	100%	33,665	8,408	25,257
		Transfers:	0		
	Final Total:		33,665	Net:	25,257

C. *Retained and Discarded Catch of CQ*

Federal regulations require the RP participants to retain all Cooperative Quota (CQ) species: at-sea discards of Pacific Ocean Perch, Northern Rockfish, Dusky Rockfish, Pacific cod, Thornyheads, and Sablefish are not allowed. During the 2014 ISA Rockfish Cooperative's fishing season (May 1– November 15, 2014), there was one occurrence of at-sea discards of CQ species: the Mar Pacifico recorded 400 lbs of cod discarded at sea during his May 23 rockfish trip. The discarded cod amount was debited from the vessel and co-op cod accounts.

D. *Sideboard limits and rockfish sideboard fishery harvests*

The Rockfish Program established sideboard limits and/or prohibitions that limit LLP holders participating in the Program from expanding their harvests in other fisheries. These sideboard restrictions apply only in July, historically the most active month for rockfish fishing. For the CV sector, the sideboard limits established in the RPP have been removed for ease of management. The following prohibitions remain in place during the month of July:

- (1) For the month of July, limit all CVs to the shallow water complex fisheries (fishing in the deep complex is prohibited)
- (2) Directed fishing for WYAK and WGOA primary rockfish species in the month of July is prohibited

V. COOPERATIVE PROHIBITED SPECIES CATCH

A. *Halibut:* The cooperative’s fishing plan instituted a management scheme to discourage high halibut bycatch rates since the co-op’s RP fishing would cease once its halibut PSC mortality cap was reached. Standards were set and enforced by the co-op members to abide by the halibut PSC mortality rate limits (Table 6). These standards were set based on what the co-op members thought were achievable and acceptable bycatch rates while assuring that there would be sufficient halibut available to harvest the co-op’s quota of CQ species. If a vessel approached or exceeded these pre-set rates during a trip, the co-op members would convene to discuss possible actions. Fishing practices were adopted to aid in reducing halibut bycatch: (1) more frequent use of pelagic (off-bottom or “flying bottom”) gear, (2) temporal distribution of catches to avoid high halibut bycatch time frames.

The ISA Rockfish Co-op used 8,408 lbs or 25% of its final halibut PSC allocation of 33,665 lbs.

Table 6. Halibut bycatch standards adopted by the ISA Rockfish Cooperative.

Inter-coop standard		Red Light Standard		Yellow Light Standard	
<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>
POP	0.50%	POP	0.45%	POP	0.38%
NR/Dusky	2.20%	NR/Dusky	1.98%	NR/Dusky	1.65%
Sable/cod	4.00%	Sable/cod	3.60%	Sable/cod	3.00%

B. *Chinook Salmon:* All Shoreside Cooperatives agreed to the newly adopted 2014 Chinook Salmon Bycatch Avoidance Plan. The plan included three parts: i) Individual vessel Chinook salmon bycatch standards for the months of May, June, July, and August; ii) Chinook salmon hotspot reporting requirements; and iii) full retention of all bycaught Chinook salmon for monitoring purposes and genetic sampling. Fish ticket data were used to monitor the cooperative vessel’s bycatch performance. Vessels had to wait until their offload was complete and bycatch rate available prior to starting their next fishing trip. If a Cooperative member’s bycatch rate was at the red standard, the vessel agreed to stand down from targeted rockfish trips for four days from the date of that delivery. If the bycatch rate was at the yellow standard for two consecutive trips, the vessel agreed to stand down from targeted rockfish trips for four days from the date of the second delivery.

All operators were required to provide detailed information for the Chinook bycatch hotspot reports including target, set and haul times and locations, depth and gear type.

Operators agreed to promptly self-report Chinook salmon hotspot areas from the grounds to AGDB and/or their Cooperative’s affiliated processor. These “hot-spot” alerts were sent out to all co-op members, affiliated processors and vessel operators. Twenty Chinook was the trigger for a hot spot alert.

These measures proved effective for 2014: According to CAS (per Steve Whitney, NMFS), there were a total of 520 Chinook taken by the seven CV co-ops over the 2014 rockfish season. This compares to

1,271 Chinook taken during the 2013 season (see Table 7). Three hot spot alerts were issued in 2014 compared to eight in 2013.

Table 7. Chinook PSC, total CV rockfish harvests and Chinook PSC rate for the RPP (2007-2011) and the first three years of the new Rockfish Program (2012-2014). Catcher vessel co-ops only. Source: Steve Whitney, NMFS.

Year	Chinook (no.)	Rockfish Harvest (mt)	Rate (Chinook/mt)
2007	840	7,748	0.108
2008	1,683	7,440	0.226
2009	892	6,874	0.130
2010	1,017	7,992	0.127
2011	396	7,071	0.056
2012	817	10,067	0.081
2013	1,271	8,820	0.144
2014	520	10,100	0.051
Average	930	8,264	0.112

Rockfish Genetics Project: In June 2013, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council implemented a new hard cap for the non-pollock trawl fisheries in the GOA (7,500 Chinook) with 1,200 Chinook of that limit allocated to the Rockfish Program catcher vessel co-ops. This hard cap is expected to go into effect in 2015. Whereas there is ample information on stock of origin of Chinook taken in the Bering Sea pollock fishery, data is still lacking on the origins of Chinook taken in the GOA trawl fisheries. Also uncertain is the proportion of Chinook bycatch that are of hatchery origin. To that end, the Rockfish Genetics project started in 2013 continued into 2014 with 2015 expected to be the final data collection year. The genetic collections could continue beyond 2015 if additional industry funding becomes available or if NMFS takes over the Chinook salmon data collection.

The Project goals are:

1. Collect tissue samples from all landed Chinook salmon for DNA and stock of origin analysis.
2. Collect biological data (weight, length, sex) at the plant from all landed salmon.
3. Scan all landed Chinook salmon for the presence or absence of adipose fin clips and Coded Wire Tags (CWT). This will allow for an estimation of Chinook bycatch that originate from hatcheries.
4. Collect CWT's (snouts) from all salmon with positive CWT signal.

Over the 2014 season, DNA samples from 468 landed Chinook as well as snouts from 25 tagged salmon were collected and sent to NMFS Auke Bay Lab for processing. Preliminary results are expected Spring 2015. Results from the 2013 Rockfish fishery are shown in Table 8 (<http://www.npfmc.org/salmon-bycatch-overview/gulf-of-alaska-salmon-bycatch/>).

Table 8. Stock of Origin results, 2013 CGOA CV Rockfish fishery.

Area	2013 Rockfish
Russia	0.0%
Coast W AK	0.0%
Mid Yukon	0.0%
Up Yukon	0.0%
N AK Pen	0.0%
NW GOA	2.3%
Copper	0.3%
NE GOA	0.0%
Coast SE AK	6.6%
BC	31.3%
West Coast US	59.4%
SE, BC,WC combined	97.3%
Total	99.9%

C. Other Prohibited Species Catch: The following were attributed to the combined in-shore catcher vessel cooperative catch accounts by NMFS CAS during the 2014 RP fishing season (May 1st – November 15th): 1 non-Chinook salmon, 72 Bairdi tanner crab, 52 Golden king crab and 1.54 Kg. Pacific Herring (source: Steve Whitney, NMFS as of Dec. 4, 2014).

VI. PENALTIES/CIVIL ACTIONS

The multispecies aspect of the RP precludes harvesting the co-op's allocation exactly on a vessel-by-vessel basis: such is the advantage of fishing the quota cooperatively where the vessels can balance out each other's catches with no penalty incurred on the group as a whole. However, individuals who exceed their individual co-op quota share (except by prior agreement – e.g. leases and clean up trips) are penalized monetarily as a disincentive for future occurrences. As per the ISA Co-op Member Agreement, 100% of the ex-vessel revenue of the overage is paid by the offender directly to the member vessel that covers the overage. This discourages future excessive overage events. There were no civil actions taken against any co-op member.

Final Report
OBSI
Rockfish Cooperative

2014

December 15, 2014

Prepared by:
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P.O. Box 788
Kodiak AK 99615

I. INTRODUCTION

In Section 802 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004, the U.S. Congress included a Directive to the Secretary of Commerce to establish, in consultation with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (the Council), a pilot program for management of three primary rockfish species in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA): Pacific Ocean perch (POP), northern rockfish (NR), and pelagic shelf rockfish fisheries (PSR)¹. The ensuing catcher vessel Rockfish Pilot Program (RPP) allowed each catcher vessel/harvester to join a cooperative in association with the processor to which it delivered the most pounds of CGOA rockfish during the processor qualifying period. Each cooperative receives an annual harvest share allocation based on the qualified harvest history of its members (combined vessel quota shares or QS). In addition to the allocation of target rockfish, catcher vessel cooperatives also receive allocations of secondary species, which include Sablefish, Pacific cod, and Thornyhead rockfish along with an allocation of Halibut PSC mortality. Allocations to the catcher vessel sector are based on the average percentage of retained secondary catch or Halibut PSC mortality in the target rockfish fisheries during the qualifying period. These allocations are distributed to the cooperative members based on the amount of primary rockfish that the cooperative member holds.

The 5-year RPP ended in 2011 and was rolled over into a new, modified, catch share program in June 2010 under Amendment 88 of the GOA Fisheries Management Plan (FMP). This Rockfish Program (RP) went into effect in 2012 and is scheduled to sunset after 10 years in 2022.

As in the RPP, the primary RP objective is to stabilize the residential processing work force by filling times of year with low processing volumes, particularly May and June, and to remove the processing conflict with salmon. Additionally, the RP reduces the competition for fish among harvesters thereby promoting safety, high quality seafood production, and increased economic performance and stability for co-op members, fishermen and processors. The extended, non-derby style season allows co-op members to improve harvesting efficiency in the target fisheries while minimizing incidental bycatch of prohibited species through better fishing practices and efficient fleet monitoring and information distribution.

The OBSI Rockfish Cooperative is one of 7 inshore cooperatives (compared to five co-ops in the RPP) formed in March 2012 in accordance with Amendment 88 of the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska. 2014 marked the third year of the new Rockfish Program and, in compliance with Amendment 88, this Final Report is submitted to NMFS and the Council as a summary of allocations, harvests, transfers and cooperative performance during the 2014 rockfish fishing season in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA). Catch figures and statistics were provided by the cooperative's manager and representative, Alaska Groundfish Data Bank, Inc. (AGDB) and cross-checked with NMFS Co-op catch data accessed through the NMFS Co-op ledger website (efish).

II. COOPERATIVE MEMBERSHIP

In 2014, the OBSI Rockfish Cooperative consisted of seven member licenses (compared to 8 LLPs in 2013) with six member vessels (Table 1) of which three actively fished during the 2014 RP season (New Life, Pacific Star, Laura). Ocean Beauty Seafoods, Inc (OBSI) in Kodiak, Alaska served as the primary

¹As of 2012, Pelagic shelf rockfish consists only of dusky rockfish

purchasing and processing facility for the OBSI Rockfish Cooperative. Per the OBSI co-op agreement, International Seafoods of Alaska, Inc received some deliveries from the Laura.

Table 1. LLPs, LLP owners and member vessels of the OBSI Rockfish Cooperative 2014.

LLP No.	LLP Owner	Member Vessel	ADFG No.
1367	NEW LIFE FISHERIES, INC	DOMINION	-
3504	BAY ISLANDER, INC.	BAY ISLANDER	49618
4465	MARATHON FISHERIES, INC.	MARATHON	49617
5201	NEW LIFE FISHERIES, INC	NEW LIFE	21845
2603	DEFIANT FISHERIES, INC.	TAASINGE	38001
4852	PAC STAR, INC.	PACIFIC STAR	55038
3665	LAURA FISHERIES JOINT VENTURE	LAURA	21591

III. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT

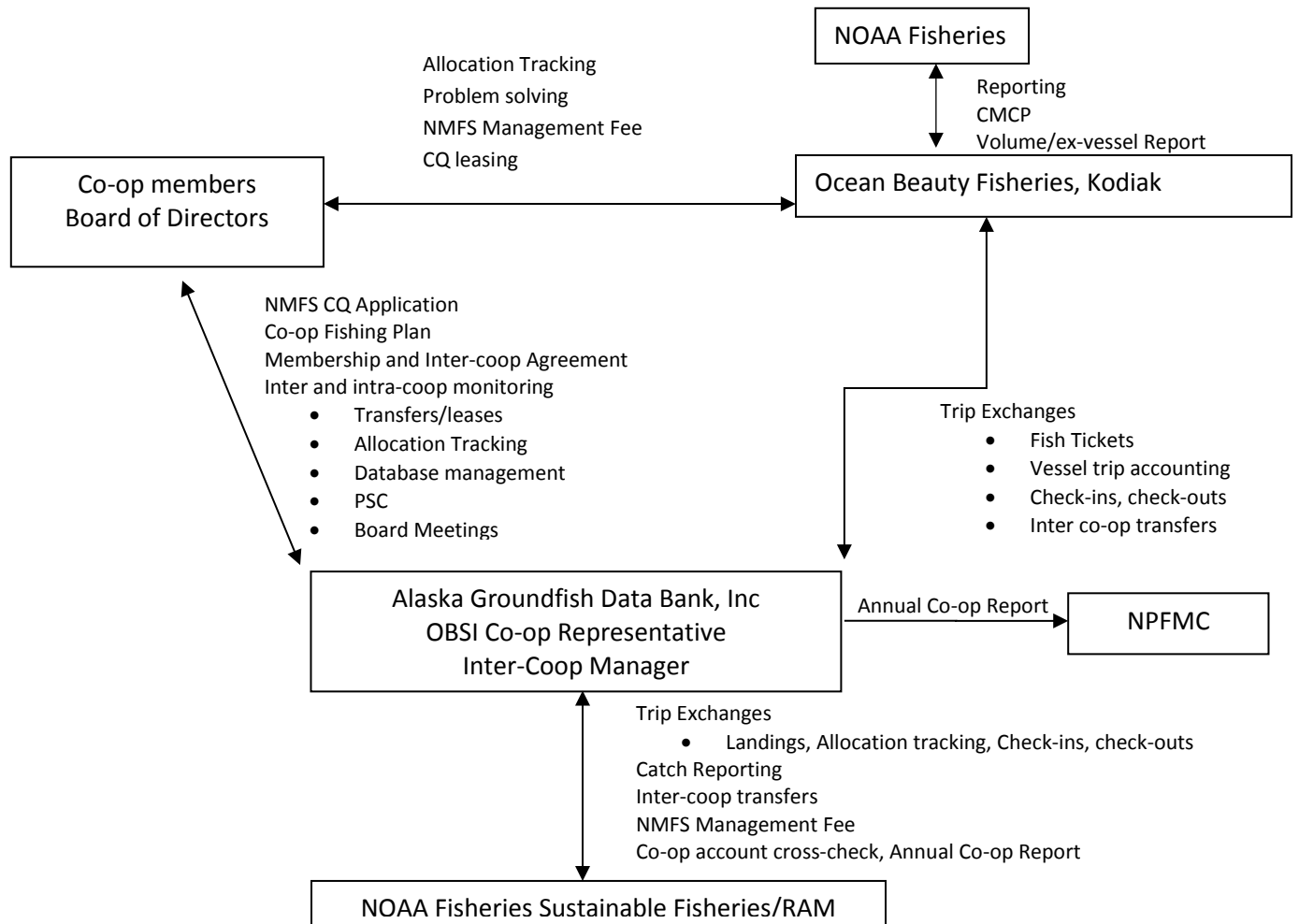
The OBSI Rockfish Cooperative was represented and managed by Alaska Groundfish Data Bank, Inc in collaboration and coordination with the co-op president, Kent Helligso, the OBSI plant managers, Tim Blott and James Turner, and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Fishing plans were devised to harvest the allocations efficiently while minimizing the amount of prohibited and non-marketable species. Harvest numbers, observer data and fish ticket information were analyzed, updated and distributed to the appropriate parties in a timely manner to ensure proper management. Figure 1 shows the schematic outlining the Co-op’s operations and flow of information among the contributing parties.

A. *Monitoring*

- (1) **Check-ins and Check-outs:** To facilitate moving into and out of non-RP fisheries during the rockfish season, NMFS instituted “Check-ins” and “Check-outs” with no limits to the number of check ins as was the case for the RPP. Co-op vessels were required to check into the RP fishery 48 hours prior to starting a trip and to check out of the program before participating in other fisheries.
- (2) **Observer Coverage:** 100% Observer coverage was required by all participating vessels.
- (3) **CMCP Monitor:** For the new Rockfish Program, NMFS hired a Catch Monitoring and Control Plan (CMCP) specialist to monitor each Processor’s CMCP. RP Processors are required to file with NMFS their CMCP prior to the start of the RP season. This plan details how the processor monitors the deliveries and complies with monitoring requirements. This is in lieu of 200% observer coverage at the plants required during the RPP.
- (4) **NOAA Fisheries/Restricted Access Management:** NOAA RAM’s Co-op ledger web site was used to perform transfers, conduct cross-checks, check co-op balances and detect missing database information.

Figure 1. Schematic of OBSI Rockfish Cooperative Operations and Management



IV. COOPERATIVE PERFORMANCE

A. Co-op Allocations, Transfers and Harvests

The OBSI Rockfish Cooperative’s allocations and harvests for the 2014 season are summarized by species and vessel in Table 5. Note that cooperative fishing allowed individual vessel overages to be offset by quota not harvested by other member vessels. Inter-coop transfers (Table 2) were arranged by the Inter-coop manager to maximize harvesting of the allocations among the seven catcher vessel cooperatives, adhere to cooperative agreements and to cover overages.

Table 2. OBSI Rockfish Co-op allocations and inter-coop transfer summary (weights are in pounds).

	POP	NR	Dusky	Sablefish	P. cod	Thornyhead	Halibut
Initial OBSI Allocation:	2,738,214	1,146,927	1,029,292	138,299	661,200	29,893	51,115
Transfers (ISA):	(25,745)	104,808	116,407	5,848	110,056		
Transfers (NP):	(8,700)						
Transfers (Pacific):			61,486	(1,208)	5,512		
Transfers (BUC):						5,256	
Total Transfers	(34,445)	104,808	177,893	4,640	115,568	5,256	0
Final OBSI Allocation:	2,703,769	1,251,735	1,207,185	142,939	776,767	35,149	51,115
Total CV Coops*:	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	705,945	3,345,142	156,493	258,602
OBSI % CV Allocation:	17.31%	24.86%	26.22%	20.25%	23.22%	22.46%	19.77%

*Includes CP CQ transferred onshore

B. Vessel Use, Co-op CQ and Processing Caps

- (1) **Vessel harvests:** A vessel harvest cap of 8% of total primary rockfish quota allocated to the CV sector is one of the new changes to the RP. In 2014, this amounted to 2,020,578 lbs of primary rockfish in the aggregate. During the 2014 season, no vessel exceeded this limit (see figure 2).
- (2) **Co-op QS:** Control of harvest shares by a CV cooperative shall be capped at 30% of aggregate POP, northern rockfish and Dusky rockfish allocated to the CV sector. Final quota share allocated to the OBSI co-op in 2014 amounted to 20.4% of the aggregate CV rockfish cooperative quota (Table 4).
- (3) **Processing limits:** For the Rockfish Program, a provision was approved that states no processor shall process or receive more than 30% of: (1) primary rockfish in the aggregate; (2) sablefish; (3) Pacific cod allocated to the CV sector. During the 2014 season, Ocean Beauty Seafoods, Kodiak did not exceed these caps. See Table 3. Note: CQ harvested by the OBSI rockfish cooperative may not equal the amount processed by OBSI because deliveries to other City of Kodiak processors are allowed by the co-op in the new Rockfish Program.

Table 3. LBS and % of CV allocations by CQ species received and processed by OBSI Seafoods in 2014.

Species	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Primary RF	Sablefish	Cod	% RF	% Sable	% Cod
Processed OBSI	2,164,102	889,349	563,080	3,616,531	99,920	720,310	14.32%	14.28%	21.53%
CV Allocation	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	25,257,221	705,945	3,345,142			

Table 4. Primary rockfish CQ (POP, Northern Rockfish, Dusky rockfish): % of Final CV sector allocations by species and co-op

CV Co-op CQ	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Rockfish
NP	17.6%	18.1%	21.1%	18.4%
SOK	25.3%	32.2%	31.4%	27.8%
WAF	13.6%	10.0%	7.8%	11.8%
OBSI	17.3%	24.9%	26.2%	20.4%
ISA	15.6%	8.8%	9.3%	13.1%
Global	6.4%	1.3%	1.8%	4.5%
Pacific	4.2%	4.8%	2.5%	4.0%
Final Allocation	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Figure 2. Harvests of primary rockfish by OBSI member vessels (% of aggregate CV primary rockfish). Vessel harvest cap is 8%

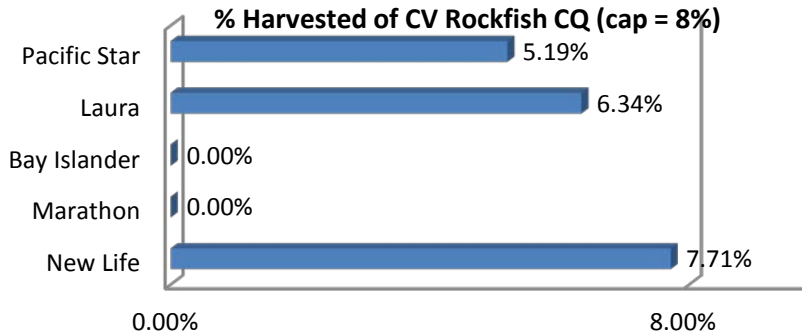


Table 5. OBSI Rockfish Cooperative 2014 allocations and harvests by species and co-op member. Weights are in pounds. CQ totals from ADF&G Fish Tickets (includes dock and at-sea discards). Halibut mortality PSC is from NMFS/RAM Co-op ledger website <https://www.fakr.noaa.gov/webapps/coopaccounts> (as of December 11, 2014).

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/overage
POP	DOMINION	8%	218,805	0	218,805
	NEW LIFE	12%	338,091	1,031,581	(693,490)
	MARATHON	18%	493,817	0	493,817
	BAY ISLANDER	0%	0	0	0
	LAURA	24%	652,266	837,862	(185,596)
	PACIFIC STAR	26%	714,093	834,326	(120,233)
	TAASINGE	12%	321,142	0	321,142
	Total	100%	2,738,214	2,703,769	34,445
	Transfers:	(34,445)			
	Final Total:	2,703,769	Net:	0	
NR	DOMINION	10%	119,561	-	119,561
	NEW LIFE	12%	142,603	410,753	(268,150)
	MARATHON	16%	185,749	-	185,749
	BAY ISLANDER	3%	30,253	-	30,253
	LAURA	21%	235,219	395,065	(159,846)
	PACIFIC STAR	27%	310,863	442,469	(131,606)
	TAASINGE	11%	122,678	-	122,678
	Total	100%	1,146,927	1,248,287	(101,360)
	Transfers:	104,808			
	Final Total:	1,251,735	Net:	3,448	
Dusky	DOMINION	11%	114,593	-	114,593
	NEW LIFE	15%	151,609	506,187	(354,578)
	MARATHON	17%	173,503	-	173,503
	BAY ISLANDER	1%	10,412	-	10,412
	LAURA	18%	183,345	367,308	(183,963)
	PACIFIC STAR	24%	246,505	34,764	211,741
	TAASINGE	15%	149,326	-	149,326
	Total	100%	1,029,292	908,259	121,033
	Transfers:	177,893			
	Final Total:	1,207,185	Net:	298,926	
Sablefish	DOMINION	9%	12,948	-	12,948
	NEW LIFE	13%	17,789	52,003	(34,215)
	MARATHON	17%	23,848	-	23,848

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/ overage
Sablefish	BAY ISLANDER	1%	1,375	-	1,375
	LAURA	22%	29,871	43,545	(13,674)
	PACIFIC STAR	26%	35,884	47,262	(11,378)
	TAASINGE	12%	16,584	-	16,584
	Total	100%	138,299	142,810	(4,511)
	Transfers:	4,640			
	Final Total:		142,939	Net:	129
P. cod	DOMINION	9%	61,903	-	61,903
	NEW LIFE	13%	85,046	277,992	(192,946)
	MARATHON	17%	114,017	-	114,017
	BAY ISLANDER	1%	6,575	-	6,575
	LAURA	22%	142,810	290,255	(147,445)
	PACIFIC STAR	26%	171,561	207,199	(35,638)
	TAASINGE	12%	79,288	-	79,288
	Total	100%	661,200	775,446	(114,246)
	Transfers:	115,568			
	Final Total:		776,767	Net:	1,321
Thornyhead	DOMINION	9%	2,799	-	2,799
	NEW LIFE	13%	3,845	17,352	(13,507)
	MARATHON	17%	5,155	-	5,155
	BAY ISLANDER	1%	297	-	297
	LAURA	22%	6,457	5,077	1,380
	PACIFIC STAR	26%	7,756	9,215	(1,459)
	TAASINGE	12%	3,585	-	3,585
	Total	100%	29,893	31,644	(1,751)
	Transfers:	5,256			
	Final Total:		35,149	Net:	3,505
Halibut PSC	DOMINION	9%	4,786	-	4,786
	NEW LIFE	13%	6,575	1,403	5,172
	MARATHON	17%	8,814	-	8,814
	BAY ISLANDER	1%	508	-	508
	LAURA	22%	11,040	7,579	3,461
	PACIFIC STAR	26%	13,263	1,495	11,768
	TAASINGE	12%	6,130	-	6,130
	Total	100%	51,115	10,477	40,638
	Transfers:	0			
	Final Total:		51,115	Net:	40,638

C. *Retained and Discarded Catch of CQ*

Federal regulations require the RP participants to retain all Cooperative Quota (CQ) species: at-sea discards of Pacific Ocean Perch, Northern Rockfish, Dusky Rockfish, Pacific cod, Thornyheads, and Sablefish are not allowed. During the 2014 OBSI Rockfish Cooperative's fishing season (May 1–November 15, 2014), there were no occurrences of at-sea discards of CQ species.

D. *Sideboard limits and rockfish sideboard fishery harvests*

The Rockfish Program established sideboard limits and/or prohibitions that limit LLP holders participating in the Program from expanding their harvests in other fisheries. These sideboard

restrictions apply only in July, historically the most active month for rockfish fishing. For the CV sector, the sideboard limits established in the RPP have been removed for ease of management. The following prohibitions remain in place during the month of July:

- (1) For the month of July, limit all CVs to the shallow water complex fisheries (fishing in the deep complex is prohibited)
- (2) Directed fishing for WYAK and WGOA primary rockfish species in the month of July is prohibited

V. COOPERATIVE PROHIBITED SPECIES CATCH

A. Halibut: The cooperative’s fishing plan instituted a management scheme to discourage high halibut bycatch rates since the co-op’s RP fishing would cease once its halibut PSC mortality cap was reached. Standards were set and enforced by the co-op members to abide by the halibut PSC mortality rate limits (Table 6). These standards were set based on what the co-op members thought were achievable and acceptable bycatch rates while assuring that there would be sufficient halibut available to harvest the co-op’s quota of CQ species. If a vessel approached or exceeded these pre-set rates during a trip, the co-op members would convene to discuss possible actions. Fishing practices were adopted to aid in reducing halibut bycatch: (1) more frequent use of pelagic (off-bottom or “flying bottom”) gear, (2) temporal distribution of catches to avoid high halibut bycatch time frames.

The OBSI Rockfish Co-op used 10,477 lbs or 20% of its final halibut PSC allocation of 51,115 lbs.

Table 6. Halibut bycatch standards adopted by the OBSI Rockfish Cooperative.

Inter-coop standard		Red Light Standard		Yellow Light Standard	
<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>
POP	0.50%	POP	0.45%	POP	0.38%
NR/Dusky	2.20%	NR/Dusky	1.98%	NR/Dusky	1.65%
Sable/cod	4.00%	Sable/cod	3.60%	Sable/cod	3.00%

B. Chinook Salmon: All Shoreside Cooperatives agreed to the newly adopted 2014 Chinook Salmon Bycatch Avoidance Plan. The plan included three parts: i) Individual vessel Chinook salmon bycatch standards for the months of May, June, July, and August; ii) Chinook salmon hotspot reporting requirements; and iii) full retention of all bycaught Chinook salmon for monitoring purposes and genetic sampling. Fish ticket data were used to monitor the cooperative vessel’s bycatch performance. Vessels had to wait until their offload was complete and bycatch rate available prior to starting their next fishing trip. If a Cooperative member’s bycatch rate was at the red standard, the vessel agreed to stand down from targeted rockfish trips for four days from the date of that delivery. If the bycatch rate was at the yellow standard for two consecutive trips, the vessel agreed to stand down from targeted rockfish trips for four days from the date of the second delivery.

All operators were required to provide detailed information for the Chinook bycatch hotspot reports including target, set and haul times and locations, depth and gear type.

Operators agreed to promptly self-report Chinook salmon hotspot areas from the grounds to AGDB and/or their Cooperative’s affiliated processor. These “hot-spot” alerts were sent out to all co-op members, affiliated processors and vessel operators. Twenty Chinook was the trigger for a hot spot alert.

These measures proved effective for 2014: According to CAS (per Steve Whitney, NMFS), there were a total of 520 Chinook taken by the seven CV co-ops over the 2014 rockfish season. This compares to 1,271 Chinook taken during the 2013 season (see Table 7). Three hot spot alerts were issued in 2014 compared to eight in 2013.

Table 7. Chinook PSC, total CV rockfish harvests and Chinook PSC rate for the RPP (2007-2011) and the first three years of the new Rockfish Program (2012-2014). Catcher vessel co-ops only. Source: Steve Whitney, NMFS.

Year	Chinook (no.)	Rockfish Harvest (mt)	Rate (Chinook/mt)
2007	840	7,748	0.108
2008	1,683	7,440	0.226
2009	892	6,874	0.130
2010	1,017	7,992	0.127
2011	396	7,071	0.056
2012	817	10,067	0.081
2013	1,271	8,820	0.144
2014	520	10,100	0.051
Average	930	8,264	0.112

Rockfish Genetics Project: In June 2013, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council implemented a new hard cap for the non-pollock trawl fisheries in the GOA (7,500 Chinook) with 1,200 Chinook of that limit allocated to the Rockfish Program catcher vessel co-ops. This hard cap is expected to go into effect in 2015. Whereas there is ample information on stock of origin of Chinook taken in the Bering Sea pollock fishery, data is still lacking on the origins of Chinook taken in the GOA trawl fisheries. Also uncertain is the proportion of Chinook bycatch that are of hatchery origin. To that end, the Rockfish Genetics project started in 2013 continued into 2014 with 2015 expected to be the final data collection year. The genetic collections could continue beyond 2015 if additional industry funding becomes available or if NMFS takes over the Chinook salmon data collection.

The Project goals are:

1. Collect tissue samples from all landed Chinook salmon for DNA and stock of origin analysis.
2. Collect biological data (weight, length, sex) at the plant from all landed salmon.
3. Scan all landed Chinook salmon for the presence or absence of adipose fin clips and Coded Wire Tags (CWT). This will allow for an estimation of Chinook bycatch that originate from hatcheries.
4. Collect CWT's (snouts) from all salmon with positive CWT signal.

Over the 2014 season, DNA samples from 468 landed Chinook as well as snouts from 25 tagged salmon were collected and sent to NMFS Auke Bay Lab for processing. Preliminary results are expected Spring 2015. Results from the 2013 Rockfish fishery are shown in Table 8 (<http://www.npfmc.org/salmon-bycatch-overview/gulf-of-alaska-salmon-bycatch/>).

Table 8. Stock of Origin results, 2013 CGOA CV Rockfish fishery.

Area	2013 Rockfish
Russia	0.0%
Coast W AK	0.0%
Mid Yukon	0.0%
Up Yukon	0.0%
N AK Pen	0.0%
NW GOA	2.3%
Copper	0.3%
NE GOA	0.0%
Coast SE AK	6.6%
BC	31.3%
West Coast US	59.4%
SE, BC,WC combined	97.3%
Total	99.9%

C. Other Prohibited Species Catch: The following were attributed to the combined in-shore catcher vessel cooperative catch accounts by NMFS CAS during the 2014 RP fishing season (May 1st – November 15th): 1 non-Chinook salmon, 72 Bairdi tanner crab, 52 Golden king crab and 1.54 Kg Pacific Herring (source: Steve Whitney, NMFS as of Dec. 4, 2014).

VI. PENALTIES/CIVIL ACTIONS

The multispecies aspect of the RP precludes harvesting the co-op's allocation exactly on a vessel-by-vessel basis: such is the advantage of fishing the quota cooperatively where the vessels can balance out each other's catches with no penalty incurred on the group as a whole. However, individuals who exceed their individual co-op quota share (except by prior agreement – e.g. leases and clean up trips) are penalized monetarily as a disincentive for future occurrences. As per the OBSI Co-op Member Agreement, 100% of the ex-vessel revenue of the overage is paid by the offender directly to the member vessel that covers the overage. This discourages future excessive overage events. There were no civil actions taken against any co-op member.

Final Report
WAF
Rockfish Cooperative

2014

December 15, 2014

Prepared by:
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P.O. Box 788
Kodiak AK 99615

I. INTRODUCTION

In Section 802 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004, the U.S. Congress included a Directive to the Secretary of Commerce to establish, in consultation with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (the Council), a pilot program for management of three primary rockfish species in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA): Pacific Ocean perch (POP), northern rockfish (NR), and pelagic shelf rockfish fisheries (PSR)¹. The ensuing catcher vessel Rockfish Pilot Program (RPP) allowed each catcher vessel/harvester to join a cooperative in association with the processor to which it delivered the most pounds of CGOA rockfish during the processor qualifying period. Each cooperative receives an annual harvest share allocation based on the qualified harvest history of its members (combined vessel quota shares or QS). In addition to the allocation of target rockfish, catcher vessel cooperatives also receive allocations of secondary species, which include Sablefish, Pacific cod, and Thornyhead rockfish along with an allocation of Halibut PSC mortality. Allocations to the catcher vessel sector are based on the average percentage of retained secondary catch or Halibut PSC mortality in the target rockfish fisheries during the qualifying period. These allocations are distributed to the cooperative members based on the amount of primary rockfish that the cooperative member holds.

The 5-year RPP ended in 2011 and was rolled over into a new, modified, catch share program in June 2010 under Amendment 88 of the GOA Fisheries Management Plan (FMP). This Rockfish Program (RP) went into effect in 2012 and is scheduled to sunset after 10 years in 2022.

As in the RPP, the primary RP objective is to stabilize the residential processing work force by filling times of year with low processing volumes, particularly May and June, and to remove the processing conflict with salmon. Additionally, the RP reduces the competition for fish among harvesters thereby promoting safety, high quality seafood production, and increased economic performance and stability for co-op members, fishermen and processors. The extended, non-derby style season allows co-op members to improve harvesting efficiency in the target fisheries while minimizing incidental bycatch of prohibited species through better fishing practices and efficient fleet monitoring and information distribution.

The WAF Rockfish Cooperative is one of 7 inshore cooperatives (compared to five co-ops in the RPP) formed in March 2012 in accordance with Amendment 88 of the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska. 2014 marked the third year of the new Rockfish Program and, in compliance with Amendment 88, this Final Report is submitted to NMFS and the Council as a summary of allocations, harvests, transfers and cooperative performance during the 2014 rockfish fishing season in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA). Catch figures and statistics were provided by the cooperative's manager and representative, Alaska Groundfish Data Bank, Inc. (AGDB) and cross-checked with NMFS Co-op catch data accessed through the NMFS Co-op ledger website (efish).

II. COOPERATIVE MEMBERSHIP

In 2014, the WAF Rockfish Cooperative consisted of five member licenses (compared to 6 LLPs in 2013) with five member vessels (Table 1) all of which actively fished during the 2014 RP season. Western

¹As of 2012, Pelagic shelf rockfish consists only of dusky rockfish

Alaska Fisheries (WAF) in Kodiak, Alaska served as the primary purchasing and processing facility for the WAF Rockfish Cooperative.

Table 1. LLPs, LLP owners and member vessels of the WAF Rockfish Cooperative 2014.

LLP No.	LLP Owner	Member Vessel	ADFG No.
1271	ELIZABETH F, INC.	WALTER N	34919
1523	COLLIER BROS LLC	COLLIER BROS	54648
3600	EVENING STAR, INC.	HICKORY WIND	47795
3896	PROGRESS FISHING, LLC ET AL.	PROGRESS	6
3987	F/V GOLD RUSH FISHERIES LLC	GOLD RUSH	40309

III. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT

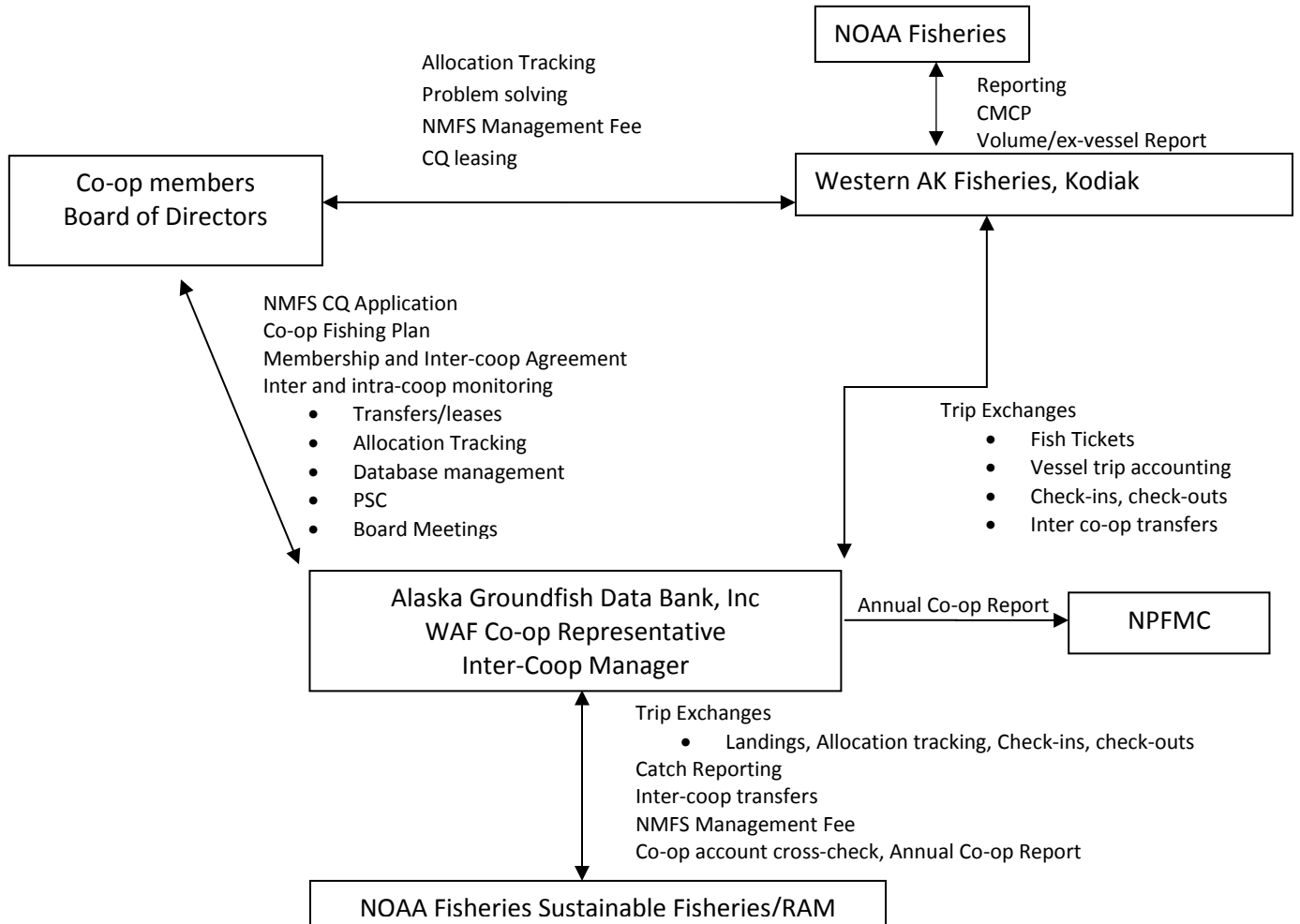
The WAF Rockfish Cooperative was represented and managed by Alaska Groundfish Data Bank, Inc in collaboration and coordination with the co-op president, Don Ashley, the WAF plant manager, Sune Forsman, and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Fishing plans were devised to harvest the allocations efficiently while minimizing the amount of prohibited and non-marketable species. Harvest numbers, observer data and fish ticket information were analyzed, updated and distributed to the appropriate parties in a timely manner to ensure proper management. Figure 1 shows the schematic outlining the Co-op’s operations and flow of information among the contributing parties.

A. *Monitoring*

- (1) **Check-ins and Check-outs:** To facilitate moving into and out of non-RP fisheries during the rockfish season, NMFS instituted “Check-ins” and “Check-outs” with no limits to the number of check ins as was the case for the RPP. Co-op vessels were required to check into the RP fishery 48 hours prior to starting a trip and to check out of the program before participating in other fisheries.
- (2) **Observer Coverage:** 100% Observer coverage was required by all participating vessels.
- (3) **CMCP Monitor:** For the new Rockfish Program, NMFS hired a Catch Monitoring and Control Plan (CMCP) specialist to monitor each Processor’s CMCP. RP Processors are required to file with NMFS their CMCP prior to the start of the RP season. This plan details how the processor monitors the deliveries and complies with monitoring requirements. This is in lieu of 200% observer coverage at the plants required during the RPP.
- (4) **NOAA Fisheries/Restricted Access Management:** NOAA RAM’s Co-op ledger web site was used to perform transfers, conduct cross-checks, check co-op balances and detect missing database information.

Figure 1. Schematic of WAF Rockfish Cooperative Operations and Management



IV. COOPERATIVE PERFORMANCE

A. Co-op Allocations, Transfers and Harvests

The WAF Rockfish Cooperative’s allocations and harvests for the 2014 season are summarized by species and vessel in Table 5. Note that cooperative fishing allowed individual vessel overages to be offset by quota not harvested by other member vessels. Inter-coop transfers (Table 2) were arranged by the Inter-coop manager to maximize harvesting of the allocations among the seven catcher vessel cooperatives, adhere to cooperative agreements and to cover overages.

Table 2. WAF Rockfish Co-op allocations and inter-coop transfer summary (weights are in pounds).

	POP	NR	Dusky	Sablefish	P. cod	Thornyhead	Halibut
Initial WAF Allocation:	2,178,366	503,615	360,351	82,664	395,212	17,868	30,553
Transfers (ISA)	(58,716)			(3,810)	(5,114)		
Transfers (Global)				(2,324)			
Total Transfers	(58,716)	0	0	(6,134)	(5,114)	0	0
Final WAF Allocation:	2,119,650	503,615	360,351	76,530	390,098	17,868	30,553
Total CV Coops*:	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	705,945	3,345,142	156,493	258,602
WAF % CV Allocation:	13.57%	10.00%	7.83%	10.84%	11.66%	11.42%	11.81%

*Includes CP CQ transferred onshore

B. Vessel Use, Co-op CQ and Processing Caps

- (1) **Vessel harvests:** A vessel harvest cap of 8% of total primary rockfish quota allocated to the CV sector is one of the new changes to the RP. In 2014, this amounted to 2,020,578 lbs of primary rockfish in the aggregate. During the 2014 season, no vessel exceeded this limit (see figure 2).
- (2) **Co-op QS:** Control of harvest shares by a CV cooperative shall be capped at 30% of aggregate POP, northern rockfish and Dusky rockfish allocated to the CV sector. Final quota share allocated to the WAF co-op in 2014 amounted to 11.8% of the aggregate CV rockfish cooperative quota (Table 4).
- (3) **Processing limits:** For the Rockfish Program, a provision was approved that states no processor shall process or receive more than 30% of: (1) primary rockfish in the aggregate; (2) sablefish; (3) Pacific cod allocated to the CV sector. During the 2014 season, Western Alaska Fisheries, Kodiak did not exceed these caps. See Table 3. Note: CQ harvested by the WAF rockfish cooperative may not equal the amount processed by WAF because deliveries to other City of Kodiak processors are allowed by the co-op in the new Rockfish Program.

Table 3. LBS and % of CV allocations by CQ species received and processed by WAF Seafoods in 2014.

Species	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Primary RF	Sablefish	Cod	% RF	% Sable	% Cod
Processed WAF	2,512,184	278,374	302,552	3,093,110	75,305	236,835	12.25%	10.76%	7.08%
CV Allocation	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	25,257,221	705,945	3,345,142			

Table 4. Primary rockfish CQ (POP, Northern Rockfish, Dusky rockfish): % of Final CV sector allocations by species and co-op

CV Co-op CQ	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Rockfish
NP	17.6%	18.1%	21.1%	18.4%
SOK	25.3%	32.2%	31.4%	27.8%
WAF	13.6%	10.0%	7.8%	11.8%
OBSI	17.3%	24.9%	26.2%	20.4%
ISA	15.6%	8.8%	9.3%	13.1%
Global	6.4%	1.3%	1.8%	4.5%
Pacific	4.2%	4.8%	2.5%	4.0%
Final Allocation	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Figure 2. Harvests of primary rockfish by WAF member vessels (% of aggregate CV primary rockfish). Vessel harvest cap is 8%

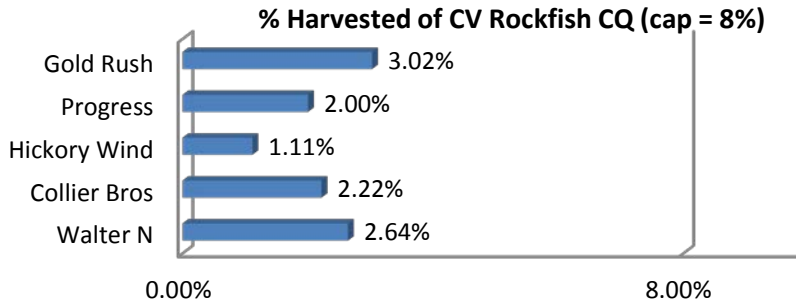


Table 5. WAF Rockfish Cooperative 2014 allocations and harvests by species and co-op member. Weights are in pounds. CQ totals from ADF&G Fish Tickets (includes dock and at-sea discards). Halibut mortality PSC is from NMFS/RAM Co-op ledger website <https://www.fakr.noaa.gov/webapps/coopaccounts> (as of December 11, 2014).

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/overage
POP	Walter N	26%	577,100	666,844	(89,744)
	Collier Bros	13%	289,627	304,792	(15,165)
	Hickory Wind	10%	215,438	212,255	3,183
	Progress	23%	508,222	470,207	38,015
	Gold Rush	27%	587,979	465,544	122,435
	Total	100%	2,178,366	2,119,642	58,724
	Transfers:		(58,716)		
	Final Total:		2,119,650	Net:	8
NR	Walter N	10%	50,417	64	50,353
	Collier Bros	27%	134,784	230,038	(95,254)
	Hickory Wind	10%	49,317	41,627	7,690
	Progress	23%	113,581	6,106	107,475
	Gold Rush	31%	155,517	67,676	87,841
	Total	100%	503,615	345,511	158,104
	Transfers:		-		
	Final Total:		503,615	Net:	158,104
Dusky	Walter N	22%	77,866	191	77,675
	Collier Bros	20%	70,951	24,925	46,026
	Hickory Wind	9%	32,113	27,044	5,069
	Progress	26%	93,462	29,049	64,413
	Gold Rush	24%	85,960	230,617	(144,657)
	Total	100%	360,351	311,826	48,525
	Transfers:		-		
	Final Total:		360,351	Net:	48,525
Sablefish	Walter N	22%	18,429	15,070	3,359
	Collier Bros	17%	14,066	19,470	(5,404)
	Hickory Wind	10%	8,060	0	8,060
	Progress	23%	19,404	20,310	(906)
	Gold Rush	27%	22,704	21,051	1,654
	Total	100%	82,664	75,901	6,763
	Transfers:		(6,134)		
	Final Total:		76,530	Net:	629

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/overage
P. cod	Walter N	22%	88,109	49,601	38,508
	Collier Bros	17%	67,247	813	66,434
	Hickory Wind	10%	38,536	111,893	(73,356)
	Progress	23%	92,771	1,836	90,935
	Gold Rush	27%	108,549	167,175	(58,626)
	Total	100%	395,212	331,317	63,894
		Transfers:	(5,114)		
		Final Total:	390,098	Net:	58,780
Thornyhead	Walter N	22%	3,983	1,623	2,360
	Collier Bros	17%	3,040	3,507	(467)
	Hickory Wind	10%	1,742	0	1,742
	Progress	23%	4,194	2,079	2,115
	Gold Rush	27%	4,908	2,992	1,916
	Total	100%	17,868	10,201	7,667
		Transfers:	-		
		Final Total:	17,868	Net:	7,667
Halibut PSC	Walter N	22%	6,811	2,413	4,398
	Collier Bros	17%	5,199	346	4,853
	Hickory Wind	10%	2,979	8,951	(5,972)
	Progress	23%	7,172	42	7,130
	Gold Rush	27%	8,392	1,233	7,158
	Total	100%	30,553	12,985	17,567
		Transfers:	-		
		Final Total:	30,553	Net:	17,567

C. *Retained and Discarded Catch of CQ*

Federal regulations require the RP participants to retain all Cooperative Quota (CQ) species: at-sea discards of Pacific Ocean Perch, Northern Rockfish, Dusky Rockfish, Pacific cod, Thornyheads, and Sablefish are not allowed. During the 2014 WAF Rockfish Cooperative's fishing season (May 1–November 15, 2014), there were no occurrences of at-sea discards of CQ species.

D. *Sideboard limits and rockfish sideboard fishery harvests*

The Rockfish Program established sideboard limits and/or prohibitions that limit LLP holders participating in the Program from expanding their harvests in other fisheries. These sideboard restrictions apply only in July, historically the most active month for rockfish fishing. For the CV sector, the sideboard limits established in the RPP have been removed for ease of management. The following prohibitions remain in place during the month of July:

- (1) For the month of July, limit all CVs to the shallow water complex fisheries (fishing in the deep complex is prohibited)
- (2) Directed fishing for WYAK and WGOA primary rockfish species in the month of July is prohibited

V. COOPERATIVE PROHIBITED SPECIES CATCH

A. Halibut: The cooperative’s fishing plan instituted a management scheme to discourage high halibut bycatch rates since the co-op’s RP fishing would cease once its halibut PSC mortality cap was reached. Standards were set and enforced by the co-op members to abide by the halibut PSC mortality rate limits (Table 6). These standards were set based on what the co-op members thought were achievable and acceptable bycatch rates while assuring that there would be sufficient halibut available to harvest the co-op’s quota of CQ species. If a vessel approached or exceeded these pre-set rates during a trip, the co-op members would convene to discuss possible actions. Fishing practices were adopted to aid in reducing halibut bycatch: (1) more frequent use of pelagic (off-bottom or “flying bottom”) gear, (2) temporal distribution of catches to avoid high halibut bycatch time frames.

The WAF Rockfish Co-op used 12,985 lbs or 43% of its final halibut PSC allocation of 30,553 lbs.

Table 6. Halibut bycatch standards adopted by the WAF Rockfish Cooperative.

Inter-coop standard		Red Light Standard		Yellow Light Standard	
<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>
POP	0.50%	POP	0.45%	POP	0.38%
NR/Dusky	2.20%	NR/Dusky	1.98%	NR/Dusky	1.65%
Sable/cod	4.00%	Sable/cod	3.60%	Sable/cod	3.00%

B. Chinook Salmon: All Shoreside Cooperatives agreed to the newly adopted 2014 Chinook Salmon Bycatch Avoidance Plan. The plan included three parts: i) Individual vessel Chinook salmon bycatch standards for the months of May, June, July, and August; ii) Chinook salmon hotspot reporting requirements; and iii) full retention of all bycaught Chinook salmon for monitoring purposes and genetic sampling. Fish ticket data were used to monitor the cooperative vessel’s bycatch performance. Vessels had to wait until their offload was complete and bycatch rate available prior to starting their next fishing trip. If a Cooperative member’s bycatch rate was at the red standard, the vessel agreed to stand down from targeted rockfish trips for four days from the date of that delivery. If the bycatch rate was at the yellow standard for two consecutive trips, the vessel agreed to stand down from targeted rockfish trips for four days from the date of the second delivery.

All operators were required to provide detailed information for the Chinook bycatch hotspot reports including target, set and haul times and locations, depth and gear type.

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Final Report
Global
Rockfish Cooperative

2014

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The 5-year RPP ended in 2011 and was rolled over into a new, modified, catch share program in June 2010 under Amendment 88 of the GOA Fisheries Management Plan (FMP). This Rockfish Program (RP) went into effect in 2012 and is scheduled to sunset after 10 years in 2022.

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The Global Rockfish Cooperative is one of 7 inshore cooperatives (compared to five co-ops in the RPP) formed in March 2012 in accordance with Amendment 88 of the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska. 2014 marked the third year of the new Rockfish Program and, in compliance with Amendment 88, this Final Report is submitted to NMFS and the Council as a summary of allocations, harvests, transfers and cooperative performance during the 2014 rockfish fishing season in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA). Catch figures and statistics were provided by the cooperative's manager and representative, Alaska Groundfish Data Bank, Inc. (AGDB) and cross-checked with NMFS Co-op catch data accessed through the NMFS Co-op ledger website (efish).

II. COOPERATIVE MEMBERSHIP

In 2014, the Global Rockfish Cooperative consisted of three member licenses with three member vessels (Table 1) of which two actively fished during the 2014 RP season: Leslie Lee and Vanguard. Global

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Table 1. LLPs, LLP owners and member vessels of the Global Rockfish Cooperative 2014.

LLP No.	LLP Owner	Member Vessel	ADFG No.
1183	LESLIE LEE, INC	LESLIE LEE	56119
2882	PACIFIC STORM FISHERIES, LLC.	PACIFIC STORM	76731
2565	FUTURA FISHERIES, INC.	VANGUARD	39946

III. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT

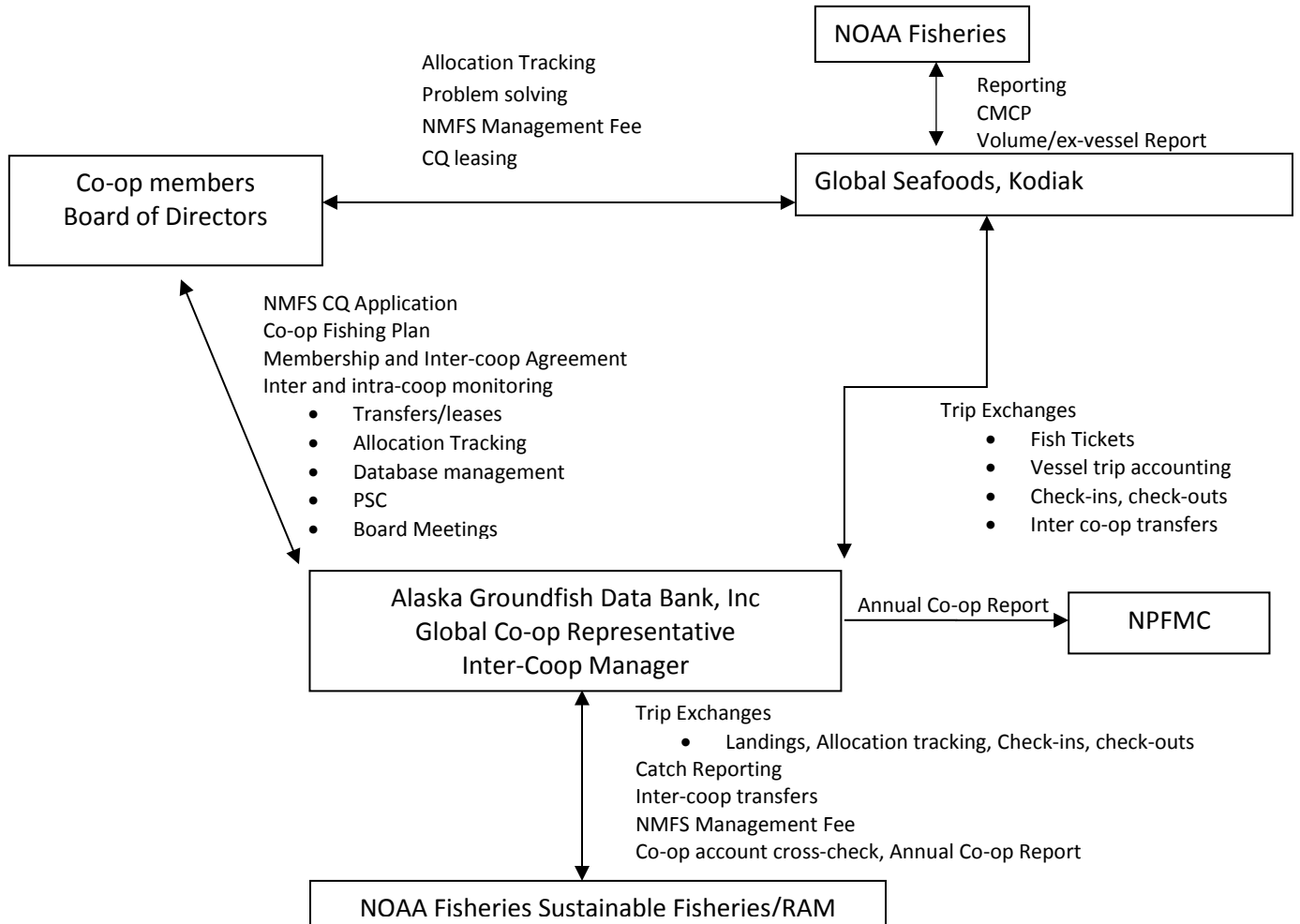
The Global Rockfish Cooperative was represented and managed by Alaska Groundfish Data Bank, Inc in collaboration and coordination with the co-op president, Lee Woodard, the Global Seafoods assistant plant manager, Nik Morozov, and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Fishing plans were devised to harvest the allocations efficiently while minimizing the amount of prohibited and non-marketable species. Harvest numbers, observer data and fish ticket information were analyzed, updated and distributed to the appropriate parties in a timely manner to ensure proper management. Figure 1 shows the schematic outlining the Co-op’s operations and flow of information among the contributing parties.

A. *Monitoring*

- (1) **Check-ins and Check-outs:** To facilitate moving into and out of non-RP fisheries during the rockfish season, NMFS instituted “Check-ins” and “Check-outs” with no limits to the number of check ins as was the case for the RPP. Co-op vessels were required to check into the RP fishery 48 hours prior to starting a trip and to check out of the program before participating in other fisheries.
- (2) **Observer Coverage:** 100% Observer coverage was required by all participating vessels.
- (3) **CMCP Monitor:** For the new Rockfish Program, NMFS hired a Catch Monitoring and Control Plan (CMCP) specialist to monitor each Processor’s CMCP. RP Processors are required to file with NMFS their CMCP prior to the start of the RP season. This plan details how the processor monitors the deliveries and complies with monitoring requirements. This is in lieu of 200% observer coverage at the plants required during the RPP.
- (4) **NOAA Fisheries/Restricted Access Management:** NOAA RAM’s Co-op ledger web site was used to perform transfers, conduct cross-checks, check co-op balances and detect missing database information.

Figure 1. Schematic of Global Rockfish Cooperative Operations and Management



IV. COOPERATIVE PERFORMANCE

A. Co-op Allocations, Transfers and Harvests

The Global Rockfish Cooperative’s allocations and harvests for the 2014 season are summarized by species and vessel in Table 5. Note that cooperative fishing allowed individual vessel overages to be offset by quota not harvested by other member vessels. Inter-coop transfers (Table 2) were arranged by the Inter-coop manager to maximize harvesting of the allocations among the seven catcher vessel cooperatives, adhere to cooperative agreements and to cover overages.

Table 2. Global Rockfish Co-op allocations and inter-coop transfer summary (weights are in pounds).

	POP	NR	Dusky	Sablefish	P. cod	Thornyhead	Halibut
Initial Global Allocation:	1,065,517	63,670	81,032	31,237	149,340	6,752	11,545
Transfers (WAF):				2,324			
Transfers (NP):				10,246			
Transfers (ISA):	(62,926)						
Transfers (SOK):	(3,042)			1,925			
Transfers (CP BUC):				6,261			
Total Transfers	(65,968)	0	0	20,756	0	0	0
Final Global Allocation:	999,549	63,670	81,032	51,992	149,340	6,752	11,545
Total CV Coops*:	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	705,945	3,345,142	156,493	258,602
Global % CV Allocation:	6.40%	1.26%	1.76%	7.36%	4.46%	4.31%	4.46%

*Includes CP CQ transferred onshore

B. Vessel Use, Co-op CQ and Processing Caps

- (1) **Vessel harvests:** A vessel harvest cap of 8% of total primary rockfish quota allocated to the CV sector is one of the new changes to the RP. In 2014, this amounted to 2,020,578 lbs of primary rockfish in the aggregate. During the 2014 season, no vessel exceeded this limit (see figure 2).
- (2) **Co-op QS:** Control of harvest shares by a CV cooperative shall be capped at 30% of aggregate POP, northern rockfish and Dusky rockfish allocated to the CV sector. Final quota share allocated to the Global co-op in 2014 amounted to 4.5% of the aggregate CV rockfish cooperative quota (Table 4).
- (3) **Processing limits:** For the Rockfish Program, a provision was approved that states no processor shall process or receive more than 30% of: (1) primary rockfish in the aggregate; (2) sablefish; (3) Pacific cod allocated to the CV sector. During the 2014 season, Global Seafoods, Kodiak did not exceed these caps. See Table 3. Note: CQ harvested by the Global rockfish cooperative may not equal the amount processed by Global because deliveries to other City of Kodiak processors are allowed by the co-op in the new Rockfish Program.

Table 3. LBS and % of CV allocations by CQ species received and processed by Global Seafoods in 2014.

Species	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Primary RF	Sablefish	Cod	% RF	% Sable	% Cod
Processed Global	945,305	16,194	10,218	971,717	39,868	65,708	3.85%	5.70%	1.96%
CV Allocation	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	25,257,221	705,945	3,345,142			

Table 4. Primary rockfish CQ (POP, Northern Rockfish, Dusky rockfish): % of Final CV sector allocations by species and co-op

CV Co-op CQ	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Rockfish
NP	17.6%	18.1%	21.1%	18.4%
SOK	25.3%	32.2%	31.4%	27.8%
WAF	13.6%	10.0%	7.8%	11.8%
OBSI	17.3%	24.9%	26.2%	20.4%
ISA	15.6%	8.8%	9.3%	13.1%
Global	6.4%	1.3%	1.8%	4.5%
Pacific	4.2%	4.8%	2.5%	4.0%
Final Allocation	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Figure 2. Harvests of primary rockfish by Global member vessels (% of aggregate CV primary rockfish). Vessel harvest cap is 8%

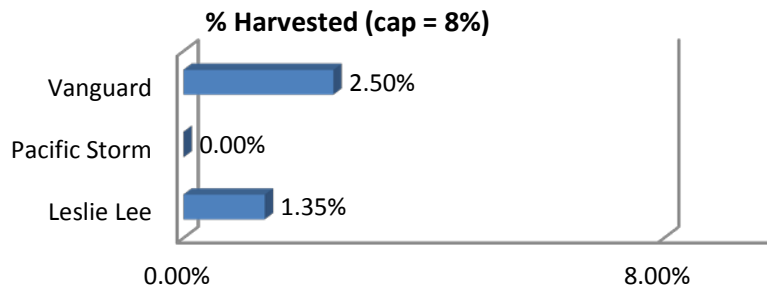


Table 5. Global Rockfish Cooperative 2014 allocations and harvests by species and co-op member. Weights are in pounds. CQ totals from ADF&G Fish Tickets (includes dock and at-sea discards). Halibut mortality PSC is from NMFS/RAM Co-op ledger website <https://www.fakr.noaa.gov/webapps/coopaccounts> (as of December 11, 2014).

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/overage
POP	LESLIE LEE	43%	456,443	340,734	115,709
	PACIFIC STORM	0%	26	0	26
	VANGUARD	57%	609,047	604,571	4,476
	Total	100%	1,065,517	945,305	120,212
	Transfers:		(65,968)		
	Final Total:		999,549	Net:	54,244
NR	LESLIE LEE	69%	43,654	-	43,654
	PACIFIC STORM	0%	18	-	18
	VANGUARD	31%	19,998	16,194	3,804
	Total	100%	63,670	16,194	47,476
	Transfers:		0		
	Final Total:		63,670	Net:	47,476
Dusky	LESLIE LEE	30%	24,547	638	23,909
	PACIFIC STORM	0%	24	-	24
	VANGUARD	70%	56,461	9,580	46,881
	Total	100%	81,032	10,218	70,814
	Transfers:		0		
	Final Total:		81,032	Net:	70,814
Sablefish	LESLIE LEE	44%	13,689	34,418	(20,728)
	PACIFIC STORM	0%	2	-	2
	VANGUARD	56%	17,545	17,574	(29)
	Total	100%	31,237	51,992	(20,755)
	Transfers:		20,756		
	Final Total:		51,992	Net:	1
P. Cod	LESLIE LEE	44%	65,448	603	64,844
	PACIFIC STORM	0%	9	-	9
	VANGUARD	56%	83,883	65,104	18,778
	Total	100%	149,340	65,708	83,632
	Transfers:		0		
	Final Total:		149,340	Net:	83,632
Thornyheads	LESLIE LEE	44%	2,959	-	2,959
	PACIFIC STORM	0%	0	-	0

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Thornyheads	VANGUARD	56%	3,792	472	
	Total	100%	6,752	472	2,959
	Transfers:		0		
	Final Total:		6,752	Net:	6,280
Halibut	LESLIE LEE	44%	5,060	-	5,060
	PACIFIC STORM	0%	1	-	1
	VANGUARD	56%	6,485	4,014	
	Total	100%	11,545	4,014	5,060
	Transfers:		0		
	Final Total:		11,545	Net:	7,531

C. *Retained and Discarded Catch of CQ*

Federal regulations require the RP participants to retain all Cooperative Quota (CQ) species: at-sea discards of Pacific Ocean Perch, Northern Rockfish, Dusky Rockfish, Pacific cod, Thornyheads, and Sablefish are not allowed. During the 2014 Global Rockfish Cooperative's fishing season (May 1–November 15, 2014), there were no occurrences of at-sea discards of CQ species.

D. *Sideboard limits and rockfish sideboard fishery harvests*

The Rockfish Program established sideboard limits and/or prohibitions that limit LLP holders participating in the Program from expanding their harvests in other fisheries. These sideboard restrictions apply only in July, historically the most active month for rockfish fishing. For the CV sector, the sideboard limits established in the RPP have been removed for ease of management. The following prohibitions remain in place during the month of July:

- (1) For the month of July, limit all CVs to the shallow water complex fisheries (fishing in the deep complex is prohibited)
- (2) Directed fishing for WYAK and WGOA primary rockfish species in the month of July is prohibited

V. COOPERATIVE PROHIBITED SPECIES CATCH

A. *Halibut:* The cooperative's fishing plan instituted a management scheme to discourage high halibut bycatch rates since the co-op's RP fishing would cease once its halibut PSC mortality cap was reached. Standards were set and enforced by the co-op members to abide by the halibut PSC mortality rate limits (Table 6). These standards were set based on what the co-op members thought were achievable and acceptable bycatch rates while assuring that there would be sufficient halibut available to harvest the co-op's quota of CQ species. If a vessel approached or exceeded these pre-set rates during a trip, the co-op members would convene to discuss possible actions. Fishing practices were adopted to aid in reducing halibut bycatch: (1) more frequent use of pelagic (off-bottom or "flying bottom") gear, (2) temporal distribution of catches to avoid high halibut bycatch time frames.

The Global Rockfish Co-op used 4,014 lbs or 35% of its final halibut PSC allocation of 11,545 lbs.

Table 6. Halibut bycatch standards adopted by the Global Rockfish Cooperative.

Inter-coop standard		Red Light Standard		Yellow Light Standard	
<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>
POP	0.50%	POP	0.45%	POP	0.38%
NR/Dusky	2.20%	NR/Dusky	1.98%	NR/Dusky	1.65%
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1619	LOUGHBEG FISHERIES, INC	Stella	71208

III. COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT

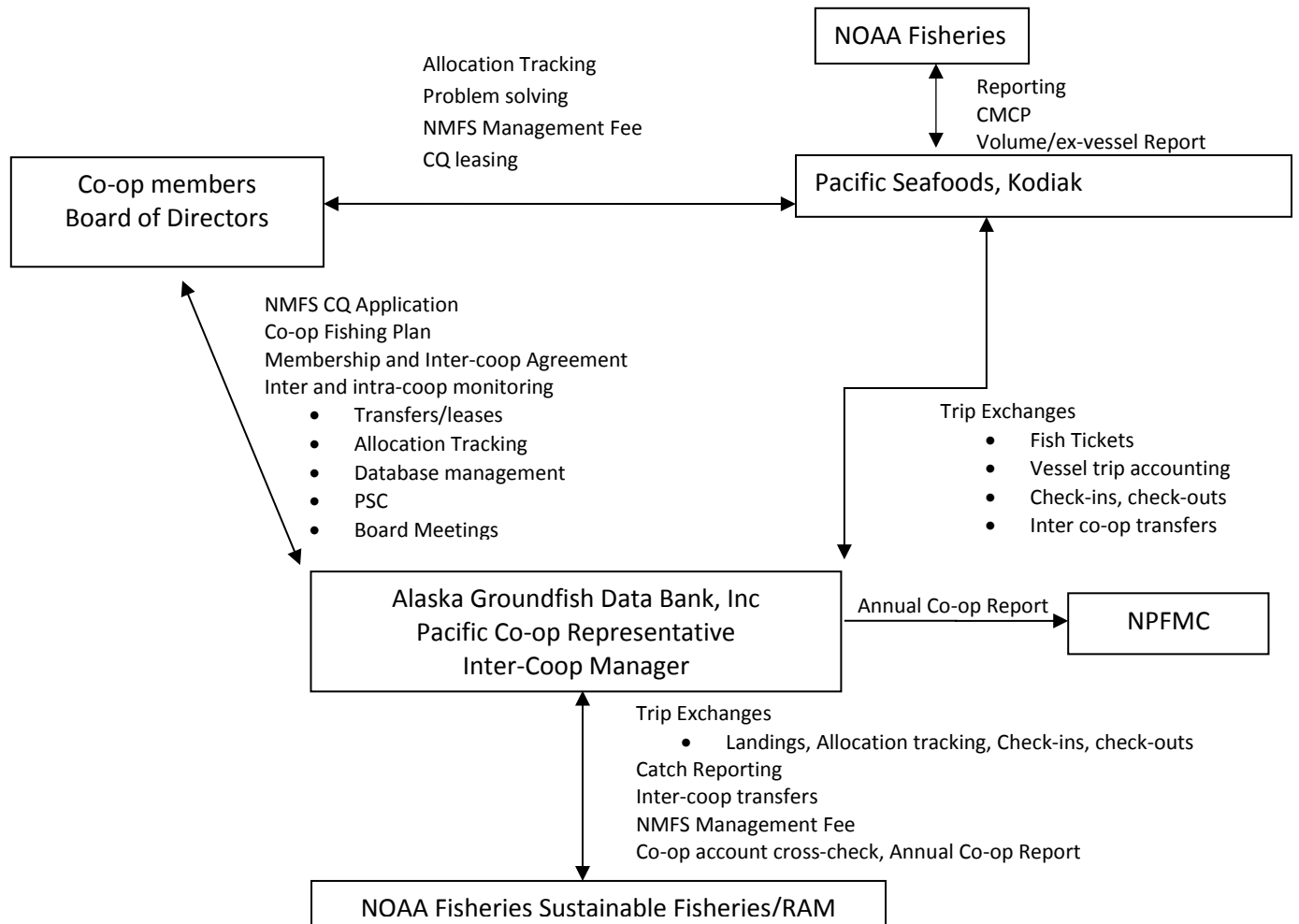
The Pacific Rockfish Cooperative was represented and managed by Alaska Groundfish Data Bank, Inc in collaboration and coordination with the co-op president, Carmel Carty, the Pacific Seafoods plant manager, John Whiddon, and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Fishing plans were devised to harvest the allocations efficiently while minimizing the amount of prohibited and non-marketable species. Harvest numbers, observer data and fish ticket information were analyzed, updated and distributed to the appropriate parties in a timely manner to ensure proper management. Figure 1 shows the schematic outlining the Co-op’s operations and flow of information among the contributing parties.

A. Monitoring

- (1) **Check-ins and Check-outs:** To facilitate moving into and out of non-RP fisheries during the rockfish season, NMFS instituted “Check-ins” and “Check-outs” with no limits to the number of check ins as was the case for the RPP. Co-op vessels were required to check into the RP fishery 48 hours prior to starting a trip and to check out of the program before participating in other fisheries.
- (2) **Observer Coverage:** 100% Observer coverage was required by all participating vessels.
- (3) **CMCP Monitor:** For the new Rockfish Program, NMFS hired a Catch Monitoring and Control Plan (CMCP) specialist to monitor each Processor’s CMCP. RP Processors are required to file with NMFS their CMCP prior to the start of the RP season. This plan details how the processor monitors the deliveries and complies with monitoring requirements. This is in lieu of 200% observer coverage at the plants required during the RPP.
- (4) **NOAA Fisheries/Restricted Access Management:** NOAA RAM’s Co-op ledger web site was used to perform transfers, conduct cross-checks, check co-op balances and detect missing database information.

Figure 1. Schematic of Pacific Rockfish Cooperative Operations and Management



IV. COOPERATIVE PERFORMANCE

A. Co-op Allocations, Transfers and Harvests

The Pacific Rockfish Cooperative’s allocations and harvests for the 2014 season are summarized by species and vessel in Table 5. Note that cooperative fishing allowed individual vessel overages to be offset by quota not harvested by other member vessels. Inter-coop transfers (Table 2) were arranged by the Inter-coop manager to maximize harvesting of the allocations among the seven catcher vessel cooperatives, adhere to cooperative agreements and to cover overages.

Table 2. Pacific Rockfish Co-op allocations and inter-coop transfer summary (weights are in pounds).

	POP	NR	Dusky	Sablefish	P. cod	Thornyhead	Halibut
Initial Pacific Allocation:	684,988	240,421	175,772	30,669	146,626	6,629	11,335
Transfers (OBSI)			(61,486)	1,208	(5,512)	-	-
Transfers (NP)					5,512		
Transfers (ISA)	(34,374)						
Total Transfers	(34,374)	-	(61,486)	1,208	-	-	-
Final Pacific Allocation:	650,614	240,421	114,285	31,877	146,626	6,629	11,335
Total CV Coops*:	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	705,945	3,345,142	156,493	258,602
Pacific % CV Allocation:	4.17%	4.77%	2.48%	4.52%	4.38%	4.24%	4.38%

*Includes CP CQ transferred onshore

B. Vessel Use, Co-op CQ and Processing Caps

- (1) **Vessel harvests:** A vessel harvest cap of 8% of total primary rockfish quota allocated to the CV sector is one of the new changes to the RP. In 2014, this amounted to 2,020,578 lbs of primary rockfish in the aggregate. During the 2014 season, no vessel exceeded this limit (see figure 2).
- (2) **Co-op QS:** Control of harvest shares by a CV cooperative shall be capped at 30% of aggregate POP, northern rockfish and Dusky rockfish allocated to the CV sector. Final quota share allocated to the Pacific Rockfish co-op in 2014 amounted to 4.0% of the aggregate CV rockfish cooperative quota (Table 4).
- (3) **Processing limits:** For the Rockfish Program, a provision was approved that states no processor shall process or receive more than 30% of: (1) primary rockfish in the aggregate; (2) sablefish; (3) Pacific cod allocated to the CV sector. During the 2014 season, Pacific Seafoods, Kodiak did not exceed these caps. See Table 3. Note: CQ harvested by the Pacific rockfish cooperative may not equal the amount processed by Pacific Seafoods because deliveries to other City of Kodiak processors are allowed by the co-op in the new Rockfish Program.

Table 3. LBS and % of CV allocations by CQ species received and processed by Pacific Seafoods in 2014.

Species	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Primary RF	Sablefish	Cod	% RF	% Sable	% Cod
Processed Pacific	689,342	62,395	10,617	762,354	31,876	135,623	3.02%	4.56%	4.05%
CV Allocation	15,616,465	5,035,984	4,604,771	25,257,221	705,945	3,345,142			

Table 4. Primary rockfish CQ (POP, Northern Rockfish, Dusky rockfish): % of Final CV sector allocations by species and co-op

CV Co-op CQ	POP	NR	Dusky	Total Rockfish
NP	17.6%	18.1%	21.1%	18.4%
SOK	25.3%	32.2%	31.4%	27.8%
WAF	13.6%	10.0%	7.8%	11.8%
OBSI	17.3%	24.9%	26.2%	20.4%
ISA	15.6%	8.8%	9.3%	13.1%
Global	6.4%	1.3%	1.8%	4.5%
Pacific	4.2%	4.8%	2.5%	4.0%
Final Allocation	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Figure 2. Harvests of primary rockfish by Pacific Rockfish Co-op member vessels (% of aggregate CV primary rockfish). Vessel harvest cap is 8%

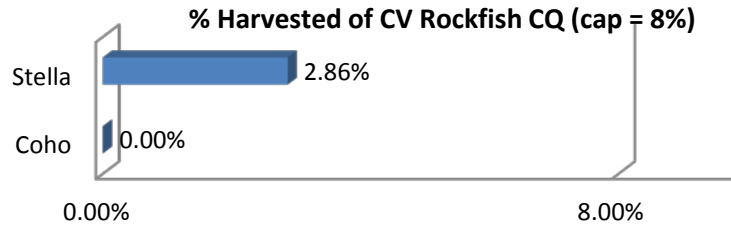


Table 5. Pacific Rockfish Cooperative 2014 allocations and harvests by species and co-op member. Weights are in pounds. CQ totals from ADF&G Fish Tickets (includes dock and at-sea discards). Halibut mortality PSC is from NMFS/RAM Co-op ledger website <https://www.fakr.noaa.gov/webapps/coopaccounts> (as of December 11, 2014).

Species	Vessel	Coop %	Initial 2014 Allocation	Catch	Under/overage
POP	COHO	42%	286,548	0	286,548
	STELLA	58%	398,440	650,614	(252,174)
	Total	100%	684,988	650,614	34,374
	Transfers:		(34,374)		
	Final Total:		650,614	Net:	0
NR	COHO	46%	110,375		110,375
	STELLA	54%	130,046	62,395	67,651
	Total	100%	240,421	62,395	178,026
	Transfers:		-		
	Final Total:		240,421	Net:	178,026
Dusky	COHO	35%	61,486		61,486
	STELLA	65%	114,285	10,602	103,683
	Total	100%	175,772	10,602	165,170
	Transfers:		(61,486)		
	Final Total:		114,285	Net:	103,683
Sablefish	COHO	42%	12,849	-	12,849
	STELLA	58%	17,819	31,876	(14,057)
	Total	100%	30,669	31,876	(1,207)
	Transfers:		1,208		
	Final Total:		31,877	Net:	1
P. Cod	COHO	42%	61,432	-	61,432
	STELLA	58%	85,194	135,623	(50,430)
	Total	100%	146,626	135,623	11,003
	Transfers:		-		
	Final Total:		146,626	Net:	11,003
Thornyheads	COHO	42%	2,777	-	2,777
	STELLA	58%	3,852	6,101	(2,249)
	Total	100%	6,629	6,101	528
	Transfers:		-		
	Final Total:		6,629	Net:	528
Halibut	COHO	42%	4,749	-	4,749
	STELLA	58%	6,586	3,155	3,431
	Total	100%	11,335	3,155	8,180
	Transfers:		-		
	Final Total:		11,335	Net:	8,180

C. **Retained and Discarded Catch of CQ**

Federal regulations require the RP participants to retain all Cooperative Quota (CQ) species: at-sea discards of Pacific Ocean Perch, Northern Rockfish, Dusky Rockfish, Pacific cod, Thornyheads, and Sablefish are not allowed. During the 2014 Pacific Rockfish Cooperative's fishing season (May 1–November 15, 2014), there were no occurrences of at-sea discards of CQ species. Note: dock discards, as noted on the fish tickets, were counted against the vessel and co-op allocations.

D. **Sideboard limits and rockfish sideboard fishery harvests**

The Rockfish Program established sideboard limits and/or prohibitions that limit LLP holders participating in the Program from expanding their harvests in other fisheries. These sideboard restrictions apply only in July, historically the most active month for rockfish fishing. For the CV sector, the sideboard limits established in the RPP have been removed for ease of management. The following prohibitions remain in place during the month of July:

- (1) For the month of July, limit all CVs to the shallow water complex fisheries (fishing in the deep complex is prohibited)
- (2) Directed fishing for WYAK and WGOA primary rockfish species in the month of July is prohibited

V. **COOPERATIVE PROHIBITED SPECIES CATCH**

A. *Halibut:* The cooperative's fishing plan instituted a management scheme to discourage high halibut bycatch rates since the co-op's RP fishing would cease once its halibut PSC mortality cap was reached. Standards were set and enforced by the co-op members to abide by the halibut PSC mortality rate limits (Table 6). These standards were set based on what the co-op members thought were achievable and acceptable bycatch rates while assuring that there would be sufficient halibut available to harvest the co-op's quota of CQ species. If a vessel approached or exceeded these pre-set rates during a trip, the co-op members would convene to discuss possible actions. Fishing practices were adopted to aid in reducing halibut bycatch: (1) more frequent use of pelagic (off-bottom or "flying bottom") gear, (2) temporal distribution of catches to avoid high halibut bycatch time frames.

The Pacific Rockfish Co-op used 3,155 lbs or 28% of its final halibut PSC allocation of 11,335 lbs.

Table 6. Halibut bycatch standards adopted by the Pacific Rockfish Cooperative.

Inter-coop standard		Red Light Standard		Yellow Light Standard	
<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>	<i>Species</i>	<i>% halibut</i>
POP	0.50%	POP	0.45%	POP	0.38%
NR/Dusky	2.20%	NR/Dusky	1.98%	NR/Dusky	1.65%
Sable/cod	4.00%	Sable/cod	3.60%	Sable/cod	3.00%

B. *Chinook Salmon:* All Shoreside Cooperatives agreed to the newly adopted 2014 Chinook Salmon Bycatch Avoidance Plan. The plan included three parts: i) Individual vessel Chinook salmon bycatch standards for the months of May, June, July, and August; ii) Chinook salmon hotspot reporting requirements; and iii) full retention of all bycaught Chinook salmon for monitoring purposes and genetic sampling. Fish ticket data were used to monitor the cooperative vessel's bycatch performance. Vessels

had to wait until their offload was complete and bycatch rate available prior to starting their next fishing trip. If a Cooperative member’s bycatch rate was at the red standard, the vessel agreed to stand down from targeted rockfish trips for four days from the date of that delivery. If the bycatch rate was at the yellow standard for two consecutive trips, the vessel agreed to stand down from targeted rockfish trips for four days from the date of the second delivery.

All operators were required to provide detailed information for the Chinook bycatch hotspot reports including target, set and haul times and locations, depth and gear type.

Operators agreed to promptly self-report Chinook salmon hotspot areas from the grounds to AGDB and/or their Cooperative’s affiliated processor. These “hot-spot” alerts were sent out to all co-op members, affiliated processors and vessel operators. Twenty Chinook was the trigger for a hot spot alert.

These measures proved effective for 2014: According to CAS (per Steve Whitney, NMFS), there were a total of 520 Chinook taken by the seven CV co-ops over the 2014 rockfish season. This compares to 1,271 Chinook taken during the 2013 season (see Table 7). Three hot spot alerts were issued in 2014 compared to eight in 2013.

Table 7. Chinook PSC, total CV rockfish harvests and Chinook PSC rate for the RPP (2007-2011) and the first three years of the new Rockfish Program (2012-2014). Catcher vessel co-ops only. Source: Steve Whitney, NMFS.

Year	Chinook (no.)	Rockfish Harvest (mt)	Rate (Chinook/mt)
2007	840	7,748	0.108
2008	1,683	7,440	0.226
2009	892	6,874	0.130
2010	1,017	7,992	0.127
2011	396	7,071	0.056
2012	817	10,067	0.081
2013	1,271	8,820	0.144
2014	520	10,100	0.051
Average	930	8,264	0.112

Rockfish Genetics Project: In June 2013, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council implemented a new hard cap for the non-pollock trawl fisheries in the GOA (7,500 Chinook) with 1,200 Chinook of that limit allocated to the Rockfish Program catcher vessel co-ops. This hard cap is expected to go into effect in 2015. Whereas there is ample information on stock of origin of Chinook taken in the Bering Sea pollock fishery, data is still lacking on the origins of Chinook taken in the GOA trawl fisheries. Also uncertain is the proportion of Chinook bycatch that are of hatchery origin. To that end, the Rockfish Genetics project started in 2013 continued into 2014 with 2015 expected to be the final data collection year. The genetic collections could continue beyond 2015 if additional industry funding becomes available or if NMFS takes over the Chinook salmon data collection.

The Project goals are:

1. Collect tissue samples from all landed Chinook salmon for DNA and stock of origin analysis.
2. Collect biological data (weight, length, sex) at the plant from all landed salmon.

3. Scan all landed Chinook salmon for the presence or absence of adipose fin clips and Coded Wire Tags (CWT). This will allow for an estimation of Chinook bycatch that originate from hatcheries.
4. Collect CWT's (snouts) from all salmon with positive CWT signal.

Over the 2014 season, DNA samples from 468 landed Chinook as well as snouts from 25 tagged salmon were collected and sent to NMFS Auke Bay Lab for processing. Preliminary results are expected Spring 2015. Results from the 2013 Rockfish fishery are shown in Table 8 (<http://www.npfmc.org/salmon-bycatch-overview/gulf-of-alaska-salmon-bycatch/>).

Table 8. Stock of Origin results, 2013 CGOA CV Rockfish fishery.

Area	2013 Rockfish
Russia	0.0%
Coast W AK	0.0%
Mid Yukon	0.0%
Up Yukon	0.0%
N AK Pen	0.0%
NW GOA	2.3%
Copper	0.3%
NE GOA	0.0%
Coast SE AK	6.6%
BC	31.3%
West Coast US	59.4%
SE, BC,WC combined	97.3%
Total	99.9%

C. Other Prohibited Species Catch: The following were attributed to the combined in-shore catcher vessel cooperative catch accounts by NMFS CAS during the 2014 RP fishing season (May 1st – November 15th): 1 non-Chinook salmon, 72 Bairdi tanner crab, 52 Golden king crab and 1.54 Kg Pacific Herring (source: Steve Whitney, NMFS as of Dec. 4, 2014).

VI. PENALTIES/CIVIL ACTIONS

The multispecies aspect of the RP precludes harvesting the co-op's allocation exactly on a vessel-by-vessel basis: such is the advantage of fishing the quota cooperatively where the vessels can balance out each other's catches with no penalty incurred on the group as a whole. However, individuals who exceed their individual co-op quota share (except by prior agreement – e.g. leases and clean up trips) are penalized monetarily as a disincentive for future occurrences. As per the Pacific Rockfish Co-op Member Agreement, 100% of the ex-vessel revenue of the overage is paid by the offender directly to the member vessel that covers the overage. This discourages future excessive overage events. There were no civil actions taken against any co-op member.

Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Best Use Cooperative

2014 Coop Report

Prepared for the North Pacific Fishery Management Council

March 27, 2015

Introduction:

Section 802 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-199), required the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC), to establish a Central Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Pilot Program. The Council adopted the Program on June 6, 2005, and it was implemented by Final Rule on November 20, 2006. The Pilot Program expired at the end of 2011. The Council adopted a new Rockfish Program, Amendment 88 to the Gulf of Alaska Fisheries Management Plan, at its June 2010 meeting. On December 27, 2011, NMFS published final regulations implementing the new Central Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Program.

Under the new Program (RP), eligible trawl catcher/processors (CP) can either opt-out of the RP or opt-in. If a CP opts-in to the program, the vessel must participate in a cooperative in order to receive quota share. There is no CP limited access fishery in the new program.

NMFS issues quota shares (QS) for three primary rockfish species, Pacific Ocean Perch, Northern rockfish and Dusky rockfish, and for four secondary species, Sablefish, Shortraker rockfish, Rougheyeye rockfish and Thornyhead rockfish. Each cooperative also receives a quota share of Halibut PSC mortality. The quota shares are then distributed among the participating vessels. All quota share species are managed as hard caps with 100% mandatory retention. This coop operates as a pass through, with each LLP receiving it’s pro-rata share of the quotas based on historic participation.

The GOA BUC coop membership is comprised of the following vessels and licenses:

Membership of the Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Best Use Cooperative:

<u>Vessel Owner</u>	<u>Vessel Name</u>	<u>LLP</u>	<u>ADF&G No.</u>
U.S. Fishing, LLC	U.S. Intrepid	3662	54392
North Pacific Fishing, Inc.	American No. 1	2028	36202
M/V Savage, Inc.	Seafisher	2014	56964
Unimak Vessel, LLC	Unimak	3957	57211
Alaska Legacy, LLC	Legacy	1802	48183
Alaska Alliance, LLC	Alliance	2905	55045
Ocean Alaska, LLC	Ocean Alaska	4360	41219
American Seafoods Co., LLC		3838	

Monitoring the Fishing Plan and Catch:

On March 1st, coops submit their membership agreement to NMFS. NMFS then establishes coop quota shares. The coop manager notifies each owner of their LLP quota shares, and sideboard amounts. Coop assignments per LLP are vetted through NMFS In-Season management to ensure correct tonnages. Owners forward the individual quota shares to the Captains. Captains are also informed of their sideboard allowances for the month of July, in keeping with the sideboard rules of the RP.

NMFS, the Alaska Seafood Cooperative (as back-up managers), and Seastate are notified in advance of the vessels which will fish the RP quota, and which will fish the sideboards. Vessels

fishing CGOA rockfish quota share are mandated to have two observers on board for the RP, or while the vessel has RP fish on board. NMFS must have the opportunity to brief the rockfish observers in advance.

Each vessel has one of two catch monitoring programs on board, either “eHarvest” or “CatchPoint”. Observer sampling information is downloaded to the onboard monitoring program after the observers sample the hauls. The onboard program follows the extrapolation methodology used by NMFS determining total catch. In this way, the vessels have real time QS catch data on board.

When the observers send their files to NMFS, the Observer Program performs data checks and haul by haul extrapolation. The extrapolations are sent to AK Region in Juneau where the weekly catch rates are performed. The data is then available to the NMFS In-season managers, and also to third party data managers such as the Alaska Seafood Cooperative and Seastate. The official NMFS data can take several days to show up on the NMFS’s Coop Account Balance. The onboard monitoring program information is available immediately and enables real time quota monitoring. Seastate sends daily information to the owners and vessels in the coop. The coop bases its official total catch, however, on the NMFS account balance.

Vessel Captains update the home offices daily with the onboard tow information. The office quota share managers compare the onboard monitoring program catch and QS balances with Seastate and with the NMFS region’s Account Balance for the coop. If any of these databases do not match, then tow by tow comparisons are made between the onboard program tow information and the Seastate data and the NMFS accounts (Seastate data is obtained directly from NMFS after extrapolation and we can look at it on the individual tow level). We also confer with NMFS AK Region on haul information if discrepancies cannot be solved by looking into the Seastate data. Since the inception of the Rockfish Program in 2007, NMFS In-Season managers have been extremely helpful to industry from a regulatory and data perspective. Alaska Seafood Cooperative managers are also available for additional assistance in verifying or corroborating numbers if requested.

The vessel Captains communicate directly with one another on the grounds, with the quota share managers, and they have the ability to communicate directly with the third party data managers when necessary. The quota share managers of the participating vessels maintained contact throughout the fishery.

Retained and Discarded Primary and Secondary QS:

Full retention of the three primary rockfish and four secondary quota share species is required under the program. 100% of the target rockfish were harvested, and most of the secondary rockfish and sablefish quota was taken. Where there was an amount of secondary species quota remaining, it was due to minimizing the risk of taking incidental quota share species that are too close to their limits.

There were no discards of the quota share species.

Halibut PSQ:

30.0414 mt of halibut mortality was used, or 77% of the quota. Basing a rate on the total harvest of the 3 target and 4 secondary quota share species, 4,444 mt, this represents .068 halibut bycatch rate. (mt hal mort/mt QS harvest)

Chinook salmon in Rockfish:

A total of 110 extrapolated chinook were caught in the Central Gulf and West Yakutat rockfish fisheries by coop vessels. Based a rate on the total harvest of the primary and secondary species in the Central Gulf (quota share) and in West Yakutat (sideboard), the rate was 0.019 chinook/mt of groundfish.

Sideboards:

Rockfish eligible vessels which have history in other Gulf fisheries in the month of July can fish up to a sideboard level equivalent to their historic average catch in those fisheries. The coop fish plan details the timing of the prosecution of the sideboard fisheries, in addition to timing of the harvest of the CGOA rockfish QS.

74% of the sideboard WYAK Pacific Ocean Perch was harvested and 4% of the WYAK dusky fishery.

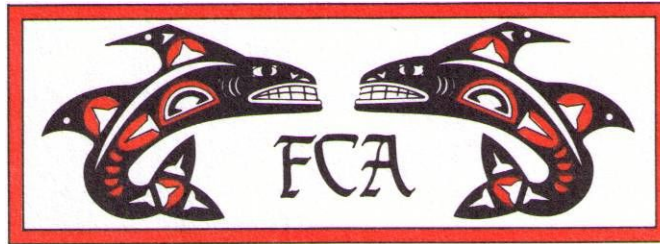
NMFS did not open the WGOA Rockfish fisheries until the fall, and therefore no sideboard rockfish in the WGOA were taken.

An arrowtooth sideboard fishery occurred in the month of July, with just 0.793mt of DW halibut taken. No shallow water (SW) halibut mortality was taken. The minimal amount of just 1.973 mt SW sideboard does not allow for a viable fishery.

No salmon were taken in the flatfish sideboard fishery.

Trades/overages/underages:

6 total trades were made among the CP coops members, in addition to two trades out of the coops to inshore coops. There were no overages.



Year End Report of The Fishing Company of Alaska, Inc.

Offshore Rockfish Cooperative

Respectfully submitted to:
Regional Administrator
NMFS Alaska
P.O. Box 21668
Juneau, Alaska 99802

December 15, 2014

The Fishing Company of Alaska, Inc.
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Section I INTRODUCTION

The council adopted the proposed Central GOA Rockfish Program on June 14, 2010, to replace the Pilot Program, which expired on December 31, 2011. The final rule implementing Amendment 88, the Rockfish Program, became effective on December 27, 2011.

The CGOA Rockfish Program manages the three primary rockfish species in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA): Pacific Ocean Perch (POP), northern rockfish (NR), and pelagic shelf rockfish (PSR) fisheries. The CGOA Rockfish Program allows for the formation of rockfish fishing cooperatives in the CV and CP sectors.

During the 2014 season the FCA Cooperative performed quota transfers with the Gulf of Alaska Best Use Cooperative.

Each Cooperative received an annual harvest share allocation based on the qualified harvest history of its members (combined vessel quota shares or QS). In addition to the allocation of primary rockfish species (POP, NR, PSR), catcher processor cooperatives also received allocations of secondary species, which included sablefish, thornyhead, shortraker, roughey rockfish and halibut PSC mortality. The catcher processor (CP) vessel co-ops did not receive allocations of Pacific cod. Allocations to both the inshore and catcher processor sectors were based on the average percentages of retained catch and halibut mortality usage of these species in the target rockfish fisheries during the qualifying period. These allocations were distributed to the cooperative members based on the amount of primary rockfish that the cooperative member held.

2014 marks the third year of the CGOA Rockfish Program, and in compliance with Amendment 88, this annual report is submitted to the Council as a summary of harvests, transfers, and cooperative performance during the 2014 rockfish fishing season in the Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA).

Section II COOPERATIVE MEMBERSHIP

The Fishing Company of Alaska Cooperative (FCA) consisted of the three member vessels AK Spirit (LLP # 3043), AK Victory (LLP # 2083), and AK Warrior (LLP # 2083). The Alaska Spirit and Victory actively fished in the RP.

Member Licenses

Vessel Name	ADF&G	USCG	LLP
Alaska Spirit	59870	554913	3043
Alaska Victory	61083	569752	2080
Alaska Warrior	56965	590350	2083

Section III

COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT- MONITORING

The Fishing Company of Alaska (FCA) cooperative was represented and managed by Bill McGill of Fishing Company of Alaska, Inc. in cooperation and coordination with the other offshore cooperative, Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Best Use Cooperative, the inshore inter-cooperative manager, Julie Bonney of the Alaska Groundfish Data Bank, and the National Marine Fisheries Service (in-season management).

It was FCA's 2014 cooperative harvesting strategy to bring the entire allocation under one cooperative and manage the harvesting in the central GOA utilizing the AK Spirit and AK Victory to take the quota.

Based on its fishing experience in the GOA cooperative programs, FCA developed an effective onboard catch monitoring program and employed fishing techniques that were intended to maximize harvest and minimize PSC Bycatch in the CGOA without exceeding any species or PSC allocations.

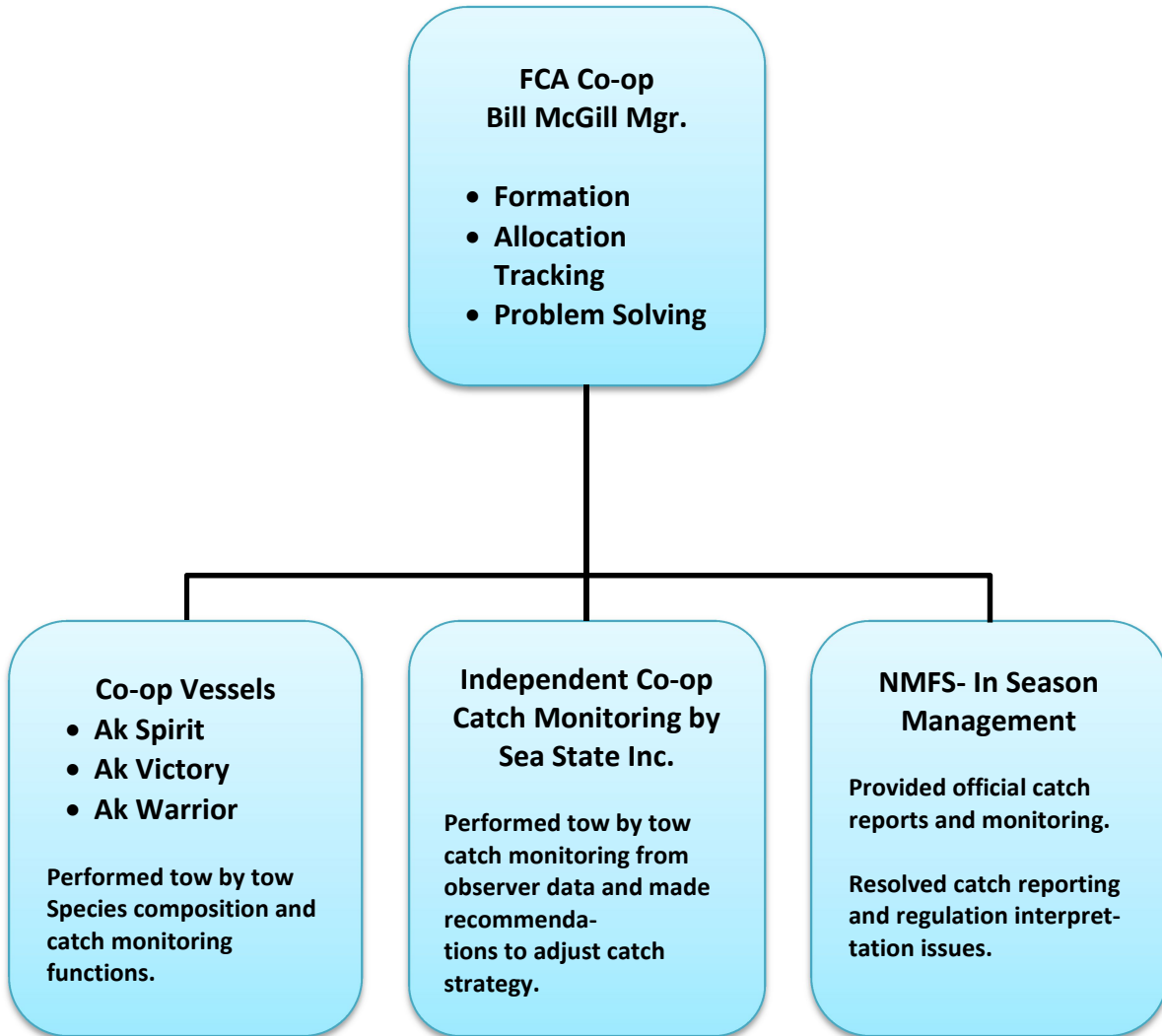
Vessel Catch-Monitoring

All of FCA's co-op vessels were equipped with onboard catch monitoring systems that allowed them to compute and monitor catch on a tow by tow basis based on real time haul estimates, species composition, and observer information. Each vessel's accounting was compared to catch reports compiled by an independent catch monitoring company, Sea State Inc., who utilized the most current official NMFS observer catch information. The comparative data was then transmitted to the vessels via the co-op manager and any discrepancies between the vessels catch estimates and those compiled by Sea State were immediately rectified.

In addition to the above, a third check of catch data accuracy was made when the co-op manager also compared the vessels and Sea State catch numbers with the NMFS official catch accounting in Juneau.

Figure 1 below shows the schematic outlining the co-op's operations and the flow of information among the contributing parties.

Figure 1. Schematic of Fishing Co. of Alaska Rockfish Cooperative Operations and Management.



Section IV CO-OP ALLOCATIONS, TRANSFERS and PERFORMANCE

FCA cooperative allocations and transfers for the 2014 season are summarized by species in Table 1.

Table 1 Central Gulf of Alaska Allocations and Transfers IN and OUT of Cooperative by Species

NAME	FCA Allocation	Transferred In from or out to the co-op listed	In Transfers	Out Transfers	Total QS	Catch	CQ Remaining	Percent Harvested
CGOA Dusky (PSR)	252.615	Gulf of Alaska Best Use Cooperative	0	28.3	224.315	224.283	0.032	100%
CGOA Northern	496.437	Gulf of Alaska Best Use Cooperative	0	23.4	473.037	473.022	0.015	100%
CGOA POP	2,878.952	Gulf of Alaska Best Use Cooperative	0	28.8	2,850.152	2850.060	0.092	100%
CGOA Rougheye	241.575	Gulf of Alaska Best Use Cooperative	0	160.0	81.575	76.145	5.430	93%
CGOA Sablefish	78.035	Gulf of Alaska Best Use Cooperative	0	35.3	42.735	42.692	0.043	100%
CGOA Shortraker	75.422	Gulf of Alaska Best Use Cooperative	0	13.7	61.722	61.641	0.081	100%
CGOA Thornyhead	110.128		0	0	110.128	48.431	61.697	44%
CGOA Halibut PSC	35.194		0	0	35.194	9.08121	26.11279	26%
GOA DW Complex Halibut SB	10.515		0	0	10.515	0.0	10.515	0%
GOA SW Complex Halibut SB	0		0	0	0	0	0	0%

73 Chinook salmon were taken in the RP fishery.

Section V

WESTERN GULF OF ALASKA (WGOA) SIDEBOARDS

Table 2 Western GOA Sideboard Species

Species Group	Area	Sideboard Percentage	Total CP Sideboard Limit (mt)	FCA Co-op Sideboard Limit (mt)	FCA Catch (mt)	FCA Balance (mt)	FCA % Remaining
Northern Rockfish	WG	87.89	970	852.146	0	852.146	0%
Pacific Ocean Perch	WG	61.49	1,214	746.436	0	746.436	0%
Dusky (PSR)	WG	92.31	229	211.573	0	211.573	0%

Section VI

CO-OP CENTRAL GOA PROHIBITED SPECIES CATCH (PSC)

The FCA co-op was initially allocated 35.194 mts of halibut PSC and used 9.081 mts.

Section VII

PROGRAM SIDEBOARDS

The Rockfish Program established sideboard limitations (not allocations) that limited LLP holders participating in the program from expanding their harvests in other fisheries. These sideboard limits apply only in July, historically the most active month for targeting rockfish in the WGOA.

The sideboard fishery did not open in 2014.

Section VIII

PENALTIES/CIVIL ACTIONS

There were no NMFS enforcement actions or other sanctions taken against the FCA cooperative fishing in the RP.