

# North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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## NEWSLETTER

12/20/94

### December Council Meeting Yields Harvest Quotas and More

During their recent five-day meeting, members of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council finalized harvest quotas and bycatch allocations for the 1995 Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands groundfish fisheries. In addition, they approved revised moratorium language submitted by the National Marine Fisheries Service, approved changes in sablefish regulations to conform with new IFQ regulations, and made recommendations to the International Pacific Halibut Commission for similar changes in halibut regulations. Appointments to the Council's Advisory Panel and Scientific and Statistical Committee were also announced. Information on these and other actions taken by the Council are found in this newsletter.

Time constraints made it necessary to delay discussions on the Scallop Fishery Management Plan and accompanying moratorium and a review of proposals for amendments to the groundfish fishery management plans. These were moved to the agenda for the next meeting, scheduled for January 11-15, 1995 at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel. A preliminary agenda for that meeting is appended to this newsletter.

### Council, Staff, and Industry Say Good-Bye to Judy Willoughby

After serving as the Council's Administrative Officer for 17 years, Judy Willoughby is leaving at the end of December to join her husband, Buck, in retirement. One hundred and fifty people attended a reception held in her honor during the December Council meeting.

Former Council Executive Director Jim Branson was on hand, as well as six former Council staff members, and members from industry who have benefited from Judy's help and expertise over the years. Former Council member Oscar Dyson flew in from Kodiak especially for the party. Through the generosity of co-workers, Council family members, friends, and industry members, Judy was provided with a generous gift to assist in the travel she and Buck have planned. "We're beginning a new life," she said, "and we only know what we're doing for the next six months!" So long, Judy, and happy traveling.

### 1995 Advisory Panel Appointments Announced

Five new members have been appointed to the Council's Advisory Panel for 1995:

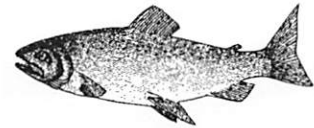


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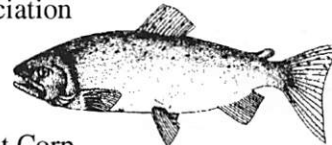
*David Fraser*  
*Arne Fuglvog*  
*Scott Highleyman*  
*Gary Westman*  
*Lyle Yeck*

Commercial Fisherman  
Commercial Fisherman  
Alaska Marine Conservation Council  
Commercial Fisherman  
Commercial Fisherman



The following seventeen Advisory Panel members were reappointed for the coming year:

John Bruce	Deep Sea Fishermen's Union
Dave Benson	Arctic Alaska Fisheries Corp.
Al Burch	Alaska Dragger's Assn.
Bruce Cotton	Long John Silvers, Inc.
Dan Falvey	Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association
Spike Jones	Commercial Fisherman
Stephanie Madsen	Aleutian Logistics
Pete Maloney	UNISEA
Hazel Nelson	Bristol Bay Economic Development Corp.
Doug Ogden	Alaska Sportfish Assn.
Dean Paddock	Bristol Bay Driftnetter's Association
John Roos	Pacific Seafood Processors Association
John Sevier	Alaska Pacific Seafoods
Harold Sparck	Bethel
Michael Stevens	Native Seas, Inc.
Beth Stewart	Aleutian East Borough
Robert Wurm	Kodiak Longline Vessel Owners Association



### Scientific and Statistical Committee Appointments

One new appointment to the SSC was confirmed at the December meeting. Appointed to his first term on the SSC is *Douglas M. Larson* with the Department of Agricultural Economics, University of California, Davis. Dr. Daniel Huppert, who teaches economics at the University of Washington School of Marine Affairs, is retiring from the SSC after serving since January 1990.

The following eleven members of the SSC were reappointed for 1995:

William Aron	Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NMFS
Keith Criddle	Univ. of Alaska Fairbanks, Dept. of Economics
Douglas Eggers	Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game
Susan Hills	School of Fisheries & Science, UAF
Richard Marasco	Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NMFS
Marc Miller	Univ. of Washington, School of Marine Affairs
Terrance Quinn II	Univ. of Alaska, Juneau Center for Ocean Sciences
Phil Rigby	Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game
Jack Tagart	Washington Department of Fisheries
Albert Tyler	Univ. of Alaska Fairbanks, School of Fisheries & Ocean Sciences
Hal Weeks	Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife



### Trawl Mesh Adjustment

In September, the Council adopted a regulatory amendment that would require top panels of trawl codends to be constructed of single layer square mesh. Minimum mesh sizes adopted were 6 inch (stretched, between-knot measure) for the BSAI rock sole fishery and the BSAI and GOA Pacific cod fisheries, and 3.25 inch for the GOA and BSAI pollock fisheries. At the December meeting, some industry representatives

testified that diamond mesh should also be allowed. The Council concurred, and adopted an alternative that would require single layer, diamond or square mesh top panel codends with minimum mesh sizes between-knot measurements of:

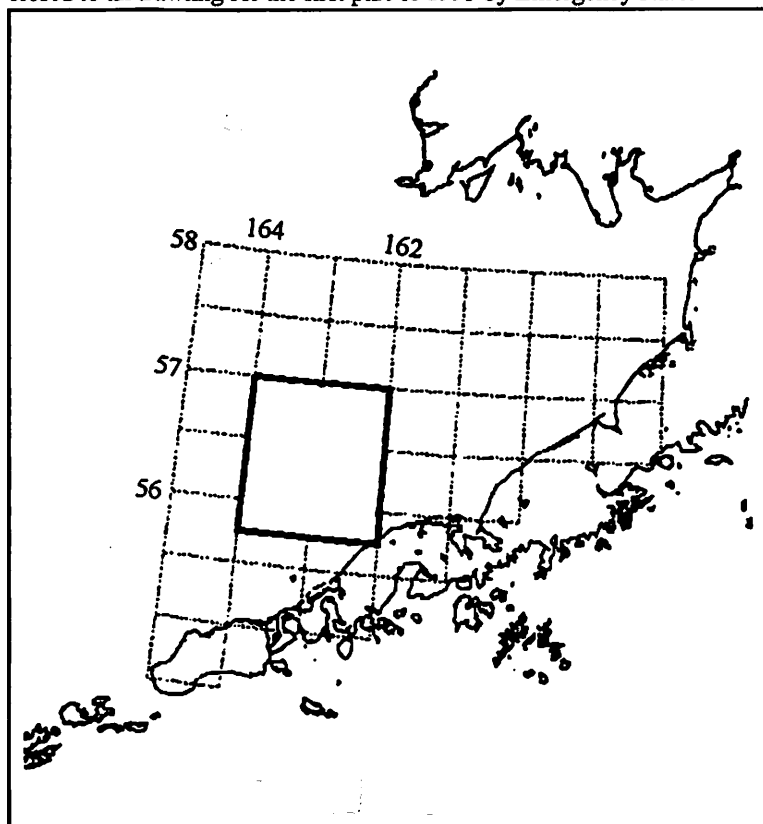
- 3.25 inch for the GOA and BSAI directed pollock fishery
- 6 inch for the GOA and BSAI directed Pacific cod fishery
- 6 inch for the BSAI directed rock sole fishery.

Some fishermen will be using the larger mesh in 1995, although regulations officially implementing the mesh size regulations won't be in place until 1996. Observer data from 1995 will be examined for effectiveness of these larger mesh sizes. Staff contact is David Witherell.

### King Crab Protection Area

The Council met by teleconference on November 11, 1994, to discuss possible groundfish closures to protect red king crab in the Bering Sea. An analysis of red king crab bycatch in the Bering Sea with alternative areas for trawl closures, prepared by ADF&G, was reviewed. Survey data showed that although a majority of red king crab are found in Area 512, areas to the west also have concentrations of red king crab. Bycatch data from trawl fisheries showed a similar distribution. To protect these crab, the Council recommended an emergency rule to close to all trawling the area from 162° to 164° W longitude, 55°45' to 57° N latitude, shown in Figure 1. Also, the Council recommended 100% observer coverage with daily catch reporting on all trawlers fishing in Areas 511 and 516. Although the Council did not have time to review its action in December, the Council plans to discuss alternatives for addressing crab bycatch in January. Staff contact is David Witherell.

Figure 1. Area in the Eastern Bering Sea recommended by the Council to be closed to all trawling for the first part of 1995 by Emergency Rule.



### Full Retention/Full Utilization and Harvest Priority

Full Retention/Full Utilization (FR/FU) and Harvest Priority (HP) have been proposed to address bycatch and discards. The Council recommended further evaluation of these proposals, and a committee was established to further flesh out the alternatives and details of each program, focusing on four specific fisheries as case examples. These fisheries were Bering Sea/Aleutian Island (BSAI) pollock mid-water trawl, BSAI rock sole trawl, Gulf of Alaska (GOA) flatfish trawl, and BSAI Pacific cod longline fisheries. The committee report, which is available from the Council office, was provided to the Council in December.

The Council then recommended that these proposals be further developed. Specifically, the Council directed staff to analyze the BSAI rock sole and pelagic trawl pollock fisheries for improved retention and utilization.

In addition to status quo, options for retention and utilization, and a timeline of implementation will be analyzed. Retention options include prohibiting discards of target species in subject fisheries and prohibiting discards of all target species in all fisheries. Options suggested for timelines include setting an effective date of January 1, 1996, or 1997, or a phase-in over three years to achieve 100% retention in the third year after implementation. Three minimum percentages of target species harvest which must be processed for human consumption will be analyzed: 50%, 70%, and 90%. These standards apply to the percentage of a delivery that would be processed into human consumption. In addition to these improved retention and utilization options, the Council directed staff to analyze seasonal apportionment of the rock sole TAC, with options of a 50/50 and a 40/60 split into roe and non-roe seasons. A working document on these analyses will be available for Council review in April.

The Council also directed staff to develop a HP program for the rock sole fishery, based on the list developed in a previous discussion paper, and a proposal put forth by Cold Sea International, Inc. A working document will be available for review in April. The Council also requested that NOAA GC examine the legal issues regarding due process in a HP program. Staff contact is David Witherell.

### Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish Specifications

The Council adopted final groundfish specifications for the 1995 Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) groundfish fisheries, including Acceptable Biological Catches (ABCs), Total Allowable Catches (TACs), Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) limits, and apportionments. The Council recommendations for ABCs, TACs, and apportionments listed in Table 1 are based on the most current stock assessment information, as well as recommendations from the Plan Team, Scientific and Statistical Committee, and Advisory Panel.

Groundfish abundance in the BSAI remains relatively stable for most species. For 1995, the Council recommended a BSAI pollock TAC of 1,250,000 mt for the Eastern Bering Sea, with 45% to be allocated to the roe season ("A") and 55% to the non-roe season ("B"). The "A" season will begin on January 20 for the inshore fleet and January 26 for the offshore fleet. The "B" season will begin on August 15 for both sectors. The pollock TAC for the Aleutian Islands area is set at 56,600 mt, and 1,000 mt for the Bogoslof district (Area 518). The Council continues to recommend no directed fishing for pollock in the Bogoslof district. Based on a 7.5% allocation, the 1995 Community Development Quotas (CDQs) will be 93,750 mt for the Eastern Bering Sea and 4,245 mt for the Aleutian Islands area.

The annual specification process also includes an option to apportion the amount of pollock between pelagic trawl and bottom trawl fisheries, to control the bycatch of crab and halibut. Although no such apportionment has been made since 1990, the Council wished to notice the public that it may consider the possibility of making this apportionment in 1996. The Council will come back to this issue in April.

The Council also set a Pacific cod TAC of 250,000 mt for 1995, up from 1994's TAC of 191,000 mt. Under the TAC allocations of Amendment 24, 2% of the TAC will be reserved for jig gear, 44% for hook and line gear, and 54% for trawl gear. For the fixed gear seasonal apportionment of Pacific cod, the Council recommends that 68,000 mt be released during the first trimester (January 1 - April 30), 18,000 mt for the second trimester (May 1 - August 31), and 7,500 mt for the third trimester. The remaining 16,500 mt of this gear's allocation will be held in reserve.

Table 2 lists the 1995 apportionments of prohibited species (halibut, herring, red king crab, and bairdi Tanner crab) catch limits among the designated trawl fisheries and also the non-trawl fisheries. The total PSC limit for herring (1,861 mt) is 1% on the estimated herring stock biomass in the eastern Bering Sea. Total PSC limits for other species are specified in the FMP, but modifications to apportionments among designated fisheries are allowed under the annual specification process. Halibut PSC bycatch is tabulated in terms of halibut discard mortality, rather than total halibut handled. The Council recommended that NMFS manage the fisheries, except longline Pacific cod, using the same discard mortality rates that were used in 1994, subject to re-evaluation and revision in June. The halibut discard mortality rate in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska will be set at 12.5% to reflect new careful handling and release rules. The halibut

PSC limit for the non-trawl fisheries is set at 900 mt of mortality. At this meeting, the Council recommended that 725 mt of the non-trawl fisheries cap be placed in the Pacific cod hook and line fishery, and the remaining 175 mt be allocated to other non-trawl fisheries, including turbot and rockfish. The Council apportioned the halibut PSC cap for the Pacific cod fishery by recommending 475 mt for the first trimester, 40 mt for the second trimester, and 210 mt for the third trimester. Any unused PSC from the first trimester would be reapportioned to the third trimester. The Council recommended that sablefish hook and line fisheries, and jig gear fisheries be exempt from the non-trawl halibut PSC program for 1995. Staff contact is David Witherell.

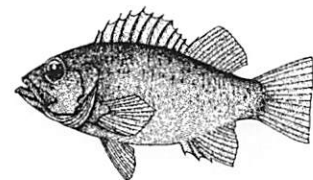
### Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Specifications for 1995

The Council approved the final Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) document for the 1995 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) fisheries. The SAFE contains evaluations of the current status of the stocks for groundfish species in the GOA fishery management plan, including Acceptable Biological Catch (ABCs), Total Allowable Catch (TACs), and Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) limits. The specifications are based on the current stock assessments contained in the final Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) document that was released for public review in November, as well as recommendations by the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Plan Team, Advisory Panel, and Scientific and Statistical Committee. Twenty-five percent of the preliminary TACs (set in September) will go forward as interim harvest limits for the first of the fishing year until superseded by the final specifications, which will be published in late January. The Council's final recommendations for ABCs, TACs, and apportionments are listed in Table 3.

The pollock ABC was reduced to 65,360 mt for 1995 from 109,300 mt in 1994. This recommendation was based on a new stock assessment which calculated an ABC based on the fishing mortality rate that produced a minimal (5%) probability of falling below the threshold spawner biomass level in the long term. This exploitation strategy was chosen because of recent trends of poor recruitment of Gulf of Alaska pollock and ecosystem considerations. Biomass projections would be below threshold by 1997 without reduced fishing mortality. The approved TAC was set at the ABC level of 65,360 mt. The 1993 trawl survey noted a westward geographic shift in the pollock biomass, resulting in different ABC distributions between the West/Central areas (i.e., a shift of the largest concentration of pollock biomass from the Kodiak area in 1990 to the Shumagin area in 1993) and may reflect migration of Eastern Bering Sea pollock into the Gulf.

The Pacific cod ABC for 1995 increased to 69,200 mt from 50,400 mt in 1994. A new stock assessment was used for estimating Pacific cod ABC for 1995, incorporating a higher biomass estimate and natural mortality rate (the same as used for Eastern Bering Sea Pacific cod). This resulted in a higher ABC, although the stock has been in a period of decline since 1987. The approved TAC was set at the ABC level of 69,200 mt. The TAC was apportioned by management area approximately as the 1993 survey biomass was distributed: 29% in the Western area, 66% in the Central area, and 5% in the Eastern area.

Conservative exploitation rates were also recommended for Pacific ocean perch (POP) and other slope rockfish. Based on recommendations by ADF&G, the Council deferred setting a TAC for POP until a later meeting, set TAC for other slope rockfish equal to the 1994 TAC (2,235 mt) to be further adjusted downwards by NMFS to restrict harvest of other slope rockfish to bycatch only in fisheries for other species, and set thornyhead (1,900 mt) and shortraker/rougheye (1,910 mt) for bycatch only. The Council has recommended an amendment to the Gulf groundfish plan to allow setting TAC for POP not to exceed the current method for calculating POP TAC from the rebuilding schedule. Currently, the rebuilding schedule is set in the Gulf plan and cannot be adjusted by the Council without an amendment or emergency action.



The Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) limits for halibut in the Gulf of Alaska are set by gear type and may be apportioned seasonally over the fishing year. For 1995, the Council recommended the following PSC apportionments for the Gulf of Alaska groundfish fisheries.

Trawl		Hook and Line*	
1st quarter	600 mt (30%)	1st trimester	250 mt (26.7%)
2nd quarter	400 mt (20%)	2nd trimester	30 mt (66.7%)
3rd quarter	600 mt (30%)	3rd trimester	20 mt (6.7%)
4th quarter	400 mt (20%)		

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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,000 mt</b>	<b>300 mt</b>
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\*includes 10 mt for demersal shelf rockfish

Season	Shallow Water	Deep Water	Total
Jan 20 - Mar 31	500 mt	100 mt	600 mt
Mar 31 - Jun 30	100 mt	300 mt	400 mt
Jun 30 - Sep 30	200 mt	400 mt	600 mt
Sep 30 - Dec 31	no apportionment		400 mt
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>800 mt</b>	<b>800 mt</b>	<b>2,000 mt</b>

The Council approved initiating a regulatory amendment to exempt the IFQ sablefish fishery from the halibut PSC requirement, subject to annual review. The lowered PSC cap for hook and line gear includes 10 mt for demersal shelf rockfish fisheries in the Southeast Outside District, to be taken throughout the year. The second trimester apportionment will again be released coincident with the opening of the sablefish season on May 15, and will end on August 31. The third trimester apportionment will be released on September 1. As in 1993 and 1994, pot gear will be exempt from the halibut PSC limits. The Council approved 1995 discard mortality rates recommended by the International Pacific Halibut Commission for all GOA gear, except for 12.5% for the Pacific cod hook and line and 55% for the Pacific cod trawl fisheries, which were the rates used for those fisheries in 1994. Discard mortality rates will be reexamined in June 1995 to incorporate 1994 in-season data and may be adjusted then for the remainder of the year. Staff contact is Jane DiCosimo.

### Comprehensive Rationalization Program (CRP)

The Advisory Panel and the Council reviewed the License Limitation alternatives developed over the last several meetings and identified specific elements and options of primary interest. The revised list of elements and options, for both groundfish and crab fisheries, is contained in Attachment 1 to this newsletter. The highlighted items represent those identified by the Council for primary consideration, though all of the elements and options listed will be available for the Council to choose from when they make a final decision on this proposal, now scheduled for the April 1995 meeting in Anchorage.

Some new alternatives were added at the December meeting which will require additional analyses before public review commences. The complete analytical package for the License Limitation alternative will be released sometime in February, which will allow for public review and comment before the final decision in April. That analytical package will include: (1) the baseline analysis (EA/RIR) dated September 18, 1994, with Appendices I-VI; (2) Appendix VII dated November 14, 1994, which highlighted specific alternatives identified by the Council in September, and provided additional analysis specific to those alternatives; (3) Appendix VIII dated November 14, 1994, which contained analyses specific to the proposed "A" and "B" license concept; and (4) a supplemental analysis specific to the alternatives highlighted in December by the Council.

Also included as part of the overall analytical package are the Community Profiles developed by the Council and the Fleet Sector Profiles and Preliminary Social Impact Assessment developed under contract by the Council. These documents are available now, upon request to the Council offices. An additional "bridging" document is being developed which will provide more specific information on the social impact aspects of the License Limitation alternatives under consideration. This is expected to be available in February with the rest of the



analytical package. The only CRP item on the January 1995 meeting agenda will be a review of implementation, administrative and enforcement costs. Contact person on the Council staff for this issue is Chris Oliver.

### **Moratorium**

In September the Council revisited its moratorium for the groundfish and crab fisheries. This moratorium was originally adopted by the Council in June of 1992, and rejected by the Secretary of Commerce (SOC) in August 1994. At the September meeting, the Council submitted a revised moratorium to the SOC. At our December meeting, the National Marine Fisheries Service Regional Director requested the Council to consider changes to their revised moratorium which would more fully address the concerns of the SOC as identified earlier. The Council unanimously endorsed the proposed changes, which are primarily aimed at limiting crossovers between groundfish and crab fisheries to those using the same gear types. The exact wording of the proposed changes are shown below:

### **DRAFT MOTION**

The following motion is proposed to address certain national standard concerns presented by the "crossover" provision in the revised vessel moratorium proposed by the Council at its meeting in September/October 1994.

1. A vessel that made a qualifying landing in the BSAI or GOA groundfish fisheries would be eligible to participate in the BSAI/GOA groundfish fisheries under the moratorium.
2. A vessel that made a qualifying landing in the BSAI crab fisheries would be eligible to participate in the BSAI crab fisheries under the moratorium.
3. A vessel that made a qualifying landing in the BSAI or GOA groundfish fisheries would be eligible to participate in the BSAI/GOA groundfish fisheries AND the BSAI crab fisheries under the moratorium providing:
  - (a) it uses only the same fishing gear in the BSAI crab fisheries that it used in the groundfish fisheries to qualify for the moratorium, and
  - (b) it does not use any fishing gear prohibited in the BSAI crab fisheries.
4. A vessel that made a qualifying landing in the BSAI crab fisheries would be eligible to participate in the BSAI crab fisheries AND the BSAI/GOA groundfish fisheries under the moratorium providing:
  - (a) it uses only the same fishing gear in the groundfish fisheries that it used in the BSAI crab fisheries to qualify for the moratorium, and
  - (b) it does not use any fishing gear prohibited in the BSAI or GOA groundfish fisheries.
5. A vessel that made a qualifying landing in the BSAI or GOA groundfish fisheries, and during the period February 9, 1992, through December 11, 1994, made a landing in the BSAI crab fisheries would be eligible to continue to participate in the BSAI crab fisheries under the moratorium using the gear with which the crab landing was made.
6. A vessel that made a qualifying landing in the BSAI crab fisheries, and during the period February 9, 1992, through December 11, 1994, made a landing in the BSAI or GOA groundfish fisheries would be eligible to continue to participate in the BSAI/GOA groundfish fisheries under the moratorium using the gear with which the groundfish landing was made.

## Purpose

This change in the revised vessel moratorium would allow limited crossovers of BSAI crab fishing vessels into the groundfish fisheries under the moratorium without those vessels having made qualifying landings in the groundfish fisheries. It also would allow limited crossovers of BSAI/GOA groundfish vessels into the BSAI crab fisheries without those vessels having made qualifying landings in those crab fisheries. For example, a vessel that made a qualifying landing in the BSAI crab fisheries using pot gear would be limited to using pot gear to harvest groundfish. Likewise, a vessel that qualified under the moratorium for a groundfish permit would be limited to using the same gear type it used in the groundfish fisheries to harvest crab as long as the gear was not prohibited in the BSAI crab fisheries. This limited crossover provision recognizes the similarity of the groundfish and crab fisheries in terms of pot fishing gear. It also would prevent a vessel from dramatically changing its configuration while the Council develops a comprehensive rationalization management program for groundfish and crab fisheries.

This change also would allow a vessel that qualified in one moratorium fishery and crossed over and landed fish in another moratorium fishery, in reliance on the Council's original moratorium proposal of June 1992, to continue to participate in the newly entered moratorium fishery. At the same time, it would prevent a crab pot fishing vessel that landed only BSAI crab during the qualifying period from entering the groundfish trawl fishery for the first time during the moratorium solely because of its qualifying crab landings while excluding other vessels, that had made landings in other FMP fisheries but had not made qualifying groundfish landings, from entering the groundfish trawl fisheries. Likewise, it would prevent a groundfish trawl fishing vessel that landed only groundfish during the qualifying period from entering the BSAI crab pot fishery for the first time during the moratorium solely because of its qualifying groundfish landings while excluding other vessels, that had made landings in other FMP fisheries but had not made qualifying crab landings, from entering the BSAI crab pot fisheries.

This change would address the Council's concerns about fishing vessels that entered into the proposed moratorium fisheries after the Council took its original action in 1992. The original cutoff date would be maintained.

Additional analyses, along with implementing regulations are being prepared by NMFS and Council staff. A proposed rulemaking should be published by the SOC sometime in early 1995, and will be subject to a public review and comment period. If approved, the moratorium would not likely be in place until 1996. Council staff contact person for this issue is Marcus Hartley.

## Inshore/Offshore and Pollock CDQ Program

The Council reviewed an analytical "game plan" for the proposed continuation of the inshore/offshore processing allocations for the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands, as well as the current pollock Community Development Quota (CDQ) program. Both of these management programs are scheduled to expire at the end of 1995. Final Council action on the proposed continuation of these programs is scheduled for June 1995 in Dutch Harbor, with the analysis due at the April 1995 meeting in Anchorage. In order to help provide staff with appropriate parameters for the new study, the Council developed a Draft Problem Statement at the December meeting. This Draft Problem Statement is shown below and incorporates, by reference, the original problem statement for inshore/offshore:

### DRAFT PROBLEM STATEMENT

The problem to be addressed is the need to maintain stability while the Comprehensive Rationalization Program (CRP) process goes forward. The Council believes that timely development and consideration of a continuing inshore/offshore and pollock CDQ allocation may preserve stability in the groundfish industry, while clearing the way for continuing development of a CRP management system. The industry is in a different state than existed in 1990 as a consequence of many factors



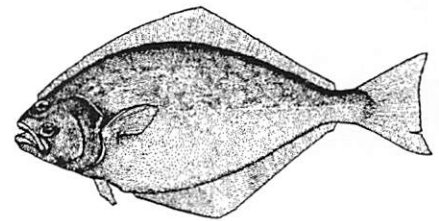
outside the scope of the Council process, as well as the inshore/offshore allocation. The Council intends that staff analyze the effects of rapidly reauthorizing an interim inshore/offshore allocation relative to maintaining stability in the industry during the CRP development process, as well as the consequences of not continuing the present allocation. These alternatives are appropriate as they address the problem of maintaining stability. Therefore, the focus of analysis to be done over the next few months should assist the Council to:

- (1) Identify which alternative is least likely to cause further disruption and instability, and thus increase the opportunity for the Council to accomplish its longer-term goal of CRP management.
- (2) Identify the future trade-offs involved for all impacted sectors presented by the two alternatives.

The original inshore/offshore Problem Statement is contained in Attachment 2 to this newsletter. The Council expects to address this issue again in January, where they may refine and consolidate the Draft Problem Statement. Contact person(s) for the Council are Marcus Hartley or Chris Oliver.

### Sablefish and Halibut IFQ Program

The Council received a report on program implementation from NMFS Restricted Access Management (RAM) Division which indicates that the program is on schedule for a March 1 opening in 1995. The Council also reviewed the status of various plan and regulatory amendments to the program which have been developed over the past several meetings. Many of these actions are being processed in the form of an omnibus regulatory amendment being prepared by NMFS, and are expected to be in place for the 1995 fisheries. These actions are detailed in previous newsletters. In January, the Council will review and take final action on a plan amendment which would exempt the CDQ compensation "pieces" of QS/IFQ from the provisions of the Block amendment, and allow for a one-time trade of these "pieces" exempt from the vessel category designations. An additional amendment is being prepared which will allow for freezing of non-IFQ species on vessels using catcher vessel IFQ (for sablefish) and will prohibit the use of halibut catcher vessel IFQ on freezer vessels.



The Council also reviewed a report from the NMFS and the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) which described changes necessary to achieve consistency between the groundfish regulations and the halibut regulations, the latter of which are developed by the IPHC under the provisions of the Halibut Act. Many of these changes are administrative in nature and the Council approved the recommendations from staff regarding these items. Included in this list is the removal of trip limits in Area 4B, 4C, and 4E, which are considered unnecessary under the IFQ program. A few of the issues were more substantive in nature, and fall primarily under authority of the IPHC. As such, the Council will make recommendations to the IPHC on the following issues:

Area 4 clearance requirements: The IPHC staff will be proposing the continuation of clearance requirements for vessels fishing between areas in the BSAI. The Council voted to recommend to the IPHC that these clearance requirements continue.

72 hour gear prohibition: Current regulations prohibit vessels from setting longline gear 72 hours prior to a halibut opening, if they intend to participate in the halibut fisheries. The Council approved a motion to recommend to the IPHC that the 72 hour prohibition continue, and that it would apply to vessels who intend to participate in directed sablefish and halibut fisheries.

Hook strippers: Current groundfish regulations do not prohibit the use of hook strippers (crucifiers), while the halibut fishery regulations do prohibit them. For consistency under the joint sablefish/halibut IFQ fisheries, one of these regulations has to give! Because of the pace of fishing expected under the IFQ program, coupled with the nature of halibut handling relative to sablefish, it is not expected that hook strippers will be a negative factor in the IFQ fisheries. There are also safety advantages associated with the use of hook

strippers in sablefish fisheries. For these reasons, the Council is recommending to the IPHC that the prohibition on hook strippers be lifted, for Areas 2C through 4E. Careful release regulations will remain in place for both fisheries.

The Council's IFQ Industry Implementation Team, chaired by Kris Norosz of the Petersburg Vessel Owners Association, met prior to the December Council meeting and provided recommendations to the Council on these and other issues. They will meet again in conjunction with the Council's January meeting in Anchorage, though the specific time and place are not yet set. A specific agenda for that meeting is being developed. For more information contact Kris Norosz or Jane DiCosimo on the Council staff.

**Note:** On December 19, 1994, U.S. District Court Judge James Singleton rejected all ten points raised in a lawsuit brought against the U.S. Department of Commerce by the Alliance Against IFQs. Unless there is a successful appeal, this decision clears the way for full implementation of the program in 1995.

### Tentative 1995 Council Meeting Schedule

<b>Week of:</b>	<b>Location:</b>
January 9 <sup>1</sup>	Anchorage
April 17	Anchorage
June 12*	Dutch Harbor
August 7 (tentative, if necessary)	Undetermined
September 18	Seattle
December 4	Anchorage

<sup>1</sup>The NPFMC Advisory Panel & Scientific & Statistical Committee will begin on Monday, January 9, and the Council will begin on Wednesday, January 11.

\* Note that the **June meeting date** has changed (originally scheduled for the week of June 19).



*Warmest wishes for a Happy Holiday season  
and a healthy and happy New Year!*

*North Pacific Fishery Management Council Staff*

*Genove* *Chris* *Helen*  
*Jane* *Linda* *Shirley*  
*DD* *Marcus* *Ja* *Danell*

**Table 1. BERING SEA AND ALUETIAN ISLANDS GROUND FISH  
Final 1995 Council Recommendations and Apportionments (mt)**

Species	Area	Council OFL	Council ABC	Council TAC	Council ITAC
Pollock	EBS	1,500,000	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,062,500
	"A"			45%	
	"B"	55%			
	AI	60,400	56,600	56,600	48,110
	518	22,100	22,100	1,000	850
Pacific cod	BS/AI	390,000	328,000	250,000	212,500
Yellowfin sole	BS/AI	319,000	277,000	190,000	161,500
Greenland turbot	BS/AI	27,200	7,000	7,000	5,950
	EBS		4,669	4,669	3,969
	AI		2,331	2,331	1,981
Arrowtooth	BS/AI	138,000	113,000	10,227	8,693
Rock sole	BS/AI	388,000	347,000	60,000	51,000
Flathead sole	BS/AI	167,000	138,000	30,000	25,500
Other flatfish	BS/AI	137,000	117,000	19,540	16,609
Sablefish	EBS	4,900	1,600	1,600	1,360
	AI	total	2,200	2,200	1,870
POP complex					
True POP	EBS	2,910	1,850	1,850	1,573
Other POP	EBS	1,400	1,400	1,260	1,071
True POP	AI	15,900	10,500	10,500	8,925
Sharp/Northern	AI	5,670	5,670	5,103	4,338
Short/Rougheye	AI	1,220	1,220	1,098	933
Other rockfish	EBS	365	365	329	280
	AI	770	770	693	589
Atka mackerel	BS/AI	335,000	125,000	80,000	68,000
	Western		55,600	16,500	14,025
	Central		55,900	50,000	42,500
	Eastern		13,500	13,500	11,475
Squid	BS/AI	3,110	3,110	1,000	850
Other species	BS/AI	136,000	27,600	20,000	17,000
<b>BS/AI TOTAL</b>		<b>3,655,945</b>	<b>2,836,985</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>1,700,000</b>

"A" season for pollock: Inshore sector = January 20 to April 15.

Offshore sector = January 26 to April 15.

"B" season for pollock: both sectors = August 15 to December 31.

ITAC = recommended TAC less the 15% reserve.

**Table 2. Council Recommended 1995 BSAI Trawl Fisheries PSC Apportionments and Seasonal Allowances**

Fishery Group	Assumed Mortality <sup>1</sup>	Halibut Mortality Cap (mt)	Herring (mt)	Red King Crab (animals) Zone1	C. bairdi Zone1	C. bairdi Zone2
Yellowfin sole January 20 - August 2 August 3 - December 31	70%	750 280 470	315	50,000 35,000 15,000	225,000	1,525,000
Rocksole/other flatfish January 20-March 29 March 30 - June 28 June 29-December 31	70%	690 428 180 82		110,000	475,000	510,000
Turbot/sablefish/ Arrowtooth	40%	120				5,000
Rockfish Jan. 1 - Mar. 29 Mar. 30 - June 28 June 29 - Dec. 31	60%	110 30 60 20	8			10,000
Pacific cod January 20-October 24 Oct. 25-December 31	60%	1,550 1,450 100	24	10,000	225,000	260,000
Pollockmackerel/o.species January 20-April 15 April 16- December 31	60%	555 455 100	169	30,000	75,000	690,000
# MW Pollock (Herring)	80%		1346			
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3,775</b>	<b>1,861</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Mortality rates of halibut based on rates used in 1994, subject to re-evaluation and revision in June.

**Council Recommended 1995 BSAI Non-Trawl Fisheries PSC Bycatch Allowances**

Fishery Group	Assumed Mortality*	Halibut Mortality (mt)	Seasonal Apportion (mt)
Pacific Cod Jan 1 - April 30 May 1 - August 31 Sept. 1 - Dec. 31	12.5%	725	475 40 210
Other Non-Trawl**	12.5%/15%	175	
Groundfish Pot	5%	Exempt	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>900 mt</b>	

\* Mortality rates based on rates used in 1994, subject to re-evaluation and revision in June.

\*\* Includes hook & line fisheries for rockfish and Greenland turbot.

Sablefish hook & line fisheries will be exempted from the halibut mortality cap.

Jig gear will also be exempted from the halibut mortality cap.

**TABLE 3. GULF OF ALASKA GROUND FISH ABCs and TACs**  
**Final 1995 Council recommendations (metric tons)**

Species	Area	1994			Council 1995 ABC	Council 1995 TAC
		ABC	TAC	Catch*		
Pollock	W (61)	22,130	22,130	20,020	30,380	30,380
	C (62)	23,870	23,870	22,725	15,310	15,310
	C (63)	56,000	56,000	62,326	16,310	16,310
	E	7,300	7,300	6,865	3,360	3,360
	Total	109,300	109,300	111,936	65,360	65,360
Pacific Cod	W	16,630	16,630	14,712	20,100	20,100
	C	31,250	31,250	31,084	45,650	45,650
	E	2,520	2,520	1,707	3,450	3,450
	Total	50,400	50,400	47,503	69,200	69,200
Flatfish, Deep Water	W	460	460	48	670	460
	C	12,930	7,500	3,544	8,150	7,500
	E	3,120	3,120	1,467	5,770	3,120
	Total	16,510	11,080	5,059	14,590	11,080
Rex Sole	W	800	800	49	1,350	800
	C	9,310	7,500	3,525	7,050	7,050
	E	1,840	1,840	85	2,810	1,840
	Total	11,950	10,140	3,659	11,210	9,690
Flatfish, Shallow Water	W	20,290	4,500	189	26,280	4,500
	C	12,950	12,950	3,694	23,140	12,950
	E	1,180	1,180	11	2,850	1,180
	Total	34,420	18,630	3,894	52,270	18,630
Flathead Sole	W	9,120	2,000	498	8,880	2,000
	C	23,080	5,000	2,043	17,170	5,000
	E	3,650	3,000	13	2,740	3,000
	Total	35,850	10,000	2,554	28,790	10,000
Arrowtooth	W	28,590	5,000	1,173	28,400	5,000
	C	186,270	20,000	21,178	141,290	25,000
	E	21,380	5,000	846	28,440	5,000
	Total	236,240	30,000	23,197	198,130	35,000
Sablefish	W	2,290	2,290	556	2,600	2,600
	C	11,220	11,220	9,536	8,600	8,600
	W. Yakutat	4,850	4,850	4,541	4,100	4,100
	E. Yak./SEO	7,140	7,140	6,879	6,200	6,200
	Total	25,500	25,500	21,512	21,500	21,500
Pacific Ocean Perch	W	680	571	165	1,180	rebuilding plan 1,014
	C	850	714	922	3,130	2,702
	E	1,500	1,265	814	2,220	1,914
	Total	3,030	2,550	1,901	6,530	5,630 ***
Shortraker/Rougheye	W	100	100	109	170	170
	C	1,290	1,290	887	1,210	1,210
	E	570	570	597	530	530
	Total	1,960	1,960	1,593	1,910	1,910 **
Rockfish, Other Slope	W	330	199	102	180	57
	C	1,640	988	713	1,170	368
	E	6,330	1,048	798	5,760	1,810
	Total	8,300	2,235	1,613	7,110	2,235 **
Rockfish, Northern	W	1,000	1,000	1,394	640	640
	C	4,720	4,720	4,521	4,610	4,610
	E	40	40	55	20	20
	Total	5,760	5,760	5,970	5,270	5,270
Rockfish, Pelagic Shelf	W	1,030	1,030	290	910	910
	C	4,550	4,550	1,697	3,200	3,200
	E	1,310	1,310	997	1,080	1,080
	Total	6,890	6,890	2,984	5,190	5,190
Rockfish, Demersal Shelf	SEO	960	960	515	580	580
Thornyhead	Gulfwide	1,180	1,180	1,209	1,900	1,900 **
Atka Mackerel	W			2,661		2,310
	C			910		925
	E			0		5
	Total	4,800	3,500	3,571	3,240	3,240
Other Species	Gulfwide	NA	14,504	3,449	NA	13,226
<b>GULF OF ALASKA</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>553,050</b>	<b>304,589</b>	<b>242,119</b>	<b>492,780</b>	<b>277,741</b>

\*through October 29, 1994

\*\*bycatch only

\*\*\*the Council recommended not setting a TAC for Pacific ocean perch until June 1995. However, NMFS has indicated they will publish the TACs shown above which reflect the rebuilding plan. These will go forward until the plan can be amended or emergency action taken later in the year.

**Council Recommendations (December 8, 1994)**

The following list of elements and options was used as a working document during Council discussions. Options shaded are those selected by the Council. The Council felt these options deserved more consideration than options not highlighted. Alternatives the Council did not shade are still viable options and may be selected as part of any license limitation program.

The box on the bottom of page 5 was added to the list of elements and options to solicit public comment. Members of the Council felt that public input regarding the future direction of the CRP program is needed.

**GROUND FISH LICENSES**

**Components and Alternative Elements Affecting Initial Assignment**

<b>License Classes</b>	<b>Numbering Scheme</b>
A single class of licenses	1000000
Two license classes with Class B Permits For Participants From 1/1/80 - 12/31/93	2000000
Two license classes with Class B Permits For Participants From 1/1/88 - 12/31/93	3000000

**Nature of Licenses**

Single license for all species and areas	100000
Licenses for FMP areas (i.e., GOA and BSAI)	200000
Licenses for FMP sub-areas (i.e., EG, CG, WG, BS, AI)	300000
Licenses for Pollock, P.cod, Flatfish, Rockfish, and Other fisheries	400000
Licenses for Pollock, P.cod, Flatfish, Rockfish, and Other fisheries by FMP areas	500000
Licenses for Pollock, P.cod, Flatfish, Rockfish, and Other fisheries by FMP sub-areas	600000
Licenses for fisheries (see Box 1) by FMP sub-areas	700000
Licenses for fisheries (see Box 1) by the following areas: EG, CG, WG, BSAI	800000
Licenses for fisheries (see Box 2) by FMP sub-areas	900000
Licenses for fisheries (see Box 3) by FMP sub-areas	A00000
Licenses for fisheries (see Box 4) by newly configured areas	B00000

<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Fisheries Specified Under Options 700,000 and 800,000</b>
<b>BSAI Fishery Licenses:</b>	<b>GOA Fishery Licenses:</b>
Pollock, Pacific Cod, Atka Mackerel, Yellowfin Sole, Other Flatfish, Water Rockfish, Squid (Fixed Gear), Rocksole, Turbots	Pollock, Pacific Cod, Deep Water Flats, Shallow Flatfish, Atka Mackerel

<b>Box 2</b>	<b>Fisheries Specified Under Options 900,000</b>
<b>BSAI Fishery Licenses:</b>	<b>GOA Fishery Licenses:</b>
Pollock, Pacific Cod, Atka Mackerel, Yellowfin Sole, Other Flatfish, Rockfish, Squid (Fixed Gear), Rocksole, Turbots	Pollock, Pacific Cod, Deep Water Flats, Shallow Water Flatfish, Atka Mackerel, Flathead Sole, Rockfish

Additionally, BSAI trawl sablefish will be bycatch only for any BSAI licensed vessel and Arrowtooth in any sub-area is open to any vessel holding a sub-area license.



Box 3 Fisheries Specified Under Options A00,000	
<u>Fishery Endorsements for BS and AI:</u>	<u>Fishery Endorsements for EG, CG and WG:</u>
Pollock, Pacific Cod, Atka Mackerel, Yellowfin Sole, Other Flatfish, Rockfish, Squid (Fixed Gear), Rocksole, Turbot, Trawl Sablefish	Pollock, Pacific Cod, Deep Water Flats, Shallow Water Flatfish, Atka Mackerel, Flathead Sole, Rockfish
Additionally, Arrowtooth in any sub-area is open to any vessel holding a sub-area license.	
Note: General licenses would be issued for GOA, BSAI, and GOA/BSAI. In case of the latter, GOA and BSAI are not separable. There would be no intermediate license at the sub-area level	

Box 4 Fisheries Specified Under Options B00,000	
Target species are defined the same as in Box 3. Areas would be defined as WG, CG+WY, EY+SO in the GOA and AI and BS.	
Note: General licenses would be issued for GOA, BSAI, and GOA/BSAI. In the latter case, GOA and BSAI are not separable. There would be no intermediate license at the sub-area level	

**License Recipients**

Current owners	10000
Current owner, then owner at the time of landing, then permit holders (no duplicate)	20000
Current owners, then permit holders (no duplicates)	30000
Current owners, owners at the time of landing, and permit holders (duplicates allowed)	40000

**License Designations**

No restrictions	1000
Catcher vessels & Catcher/processors	2000
Vessel length	3000
Inshore & Offshore	4000
Catcher vessels & Catcher/processors and vessel length	5000
Catcher vessels & Catcher/processors and Inshore & Offshore	6000
Inshore & Offshore and vessel length	7000
Catcher vessels & Catcher/processors, Inshore & Offshore, and vessel length	8000

**Qualifying Periods**

Jan. 1, 1978 - Dec. 31, 1993	100
Jun. 28, 1989 - Jun. 27, 1992	200
Jun. 28, 1989 - date of final action	300
Jan. 1, 1990 - Dec. 31, 1993	400
The three years prior to the date of final action	500
Jun. 28, 1989 - Jun. 27, 1992 & the three years prior to the date of final action	600
Each of the three calendar years from 1/1/90 - 6/27/92 & the 365 days prior to final action, except for fixed gear P. cod use 6/23/91 - 6/27/92 rather than 1/1/90 - 6/27/92	700
Jan. 1, 1988 - Jun. 27, 1992	800

### **Landings Requirements For General License Qualification**

One Landing	10
Two landings	20
5,000 pounds	30
10,000 pounds	40
20,000 pounds	50

### **Landings Requirements for Endorsement Qualification**

One landing in qualifying period	1
Two landings in qualifying period	2
Three landings in qualifying period	3
Four landings in qualifying period	4
One landing in year prior to council action	5
Two landings in year prior to council action	6
Three landings in year prior to council action	7
Four landings in year prior to council action	8

## **Components and Alternative Elements Affecting the Ownership, Use, and Transfer of Licenses**

### **Who May Purchase Licenses**

1. Licenses could be transferred only to "persons" defined as those eligible to document a fishery vessel under chapter 121, Title 46 U.S.C. (greater than 50% U.S. ownership).
2. Licenses could only be transferred to "persons" with 76% or more U.S. ownership, with "grandfather" rights for license recipients with 75% or less U.S. ownership (Chapter 802, Title 46 U.S.C.).

### **Vessel/License Linkages**

1. Vessel must be transferred with license.
2. Licenses may be transferred without a vessel, i.e., licenses may be applied to vessels other than the one to which the license initially was issued.

### **Options Regarding the Separability of Species and/or Area Designations**

1. Species and/or Area designations are not separable, and shall remain as a single license with those initial designations.
2. Species and/or Area designations shall be treated as separable licenses and may be transferred as such.
3. Species and/or Area designations shall be regarded as separable endorsements which require the owner to also own a general license before use or purchase.

### **Vessel Replacement and Upgrades**

1. No restrictions on vessel replacement or upgrades, except that the vessel must meet the "Use Restrictions" (License Designations) defined by the initial allocation.
2. Vessel may not be replaced or upgraded.
3. Vessel may be replaced or upgraded within the bounds of the 20% Rule defined in the moratorium proposed rule.

### **License Ownership Caps**

1. No limit on the number of licenses or endorsements which may be owned by a "person."
2. No more than 5 area licenses per person with grandfather provisions.
3. No more than 10 area licenses per person with grandfather provisions.
4. No more than 15 area licenses per person with grandfather provisions.
5. No more than 5 fishery/area endorsements per person with grandfather provisions.
6. No more than 10 fishery/area endorsements per person with grandfather provisions.
7. No more than 15 fishery/area endorsements per person with grandfather provisions.

### **Vessel License Use Caps**

1. No limit on the number of licenses (or endorsements) which may be used on a vessel.
2. No more than 1 area license (endorsement) may be used on a vessel in a given year.
3. No more than 2 area licenses (endorsements) may be used on a vessel in a given year.
4. No more than 3 area licenses (endorsements) may be used on a vessel in a given year.
5. No more than 4 area licenses (endorsements) may be used on a vessel in a given year.
6. No more than 5 area licenses (endorsements) may be used on a vessel in a given year.

### **Vessel Designation Limits**

1. A vessel which qualifies for multiple designations (i.e., both as a CV and as a CP or as both inshore and offshore) under the use restriction component will be able to participate under any designation for which it qualifies.
2. A vessel which qualifies for multiple designations under the use restriction component must choose a single designation.

### **Buy-back/Retirement Program**

1. No buy-back/retirement program.
2. Fractional license system. (Fractional licenses may be issued to vessel owners at the time of landing and/or permit holders.)
3. Industry Funded Buy-back Program with right of first refusal on all transfers of licenses.

### **License Ownership Caps**

1. No limit on the number of licenses or endorsements which may be owned by a "person."
2. No more than 5 area licenses per person with grandfather provisions.
3. No more than 10 area licenses per person with grandfather provisions.
4. No more than 15 area licenses per person with grandfather provisions.
5. No more than 5 fishery/area endorsements per person with grandfather provisions.
6. No more than 10 fishery/area endorsements per person with grandfather provisions.
7. No more than 15 fishery/area endorsements per person with grandfather provisions.

### **Two-Tiered Skipper License Program**

1. Do not implement a Two-Tiered Skipper License Program.
2. Implement a Two-Tiered Skipper License Program.

### Community Development Quotas.

1. No CDO allocations
2. 3% of any or all groundfish TACs for CDOs patterned after current program w/o sunset provision.
3. 7.5% of any or all groundfish TACs for CDOs patterned after current program w/o sunset provision.
4. 10% of any or all groundfish TACs for CDOs patterned after current program w/o sunset provision.
5. 15% of any or all groundfish TACs for CDOs patterned after current program w/o sunset provision.

### Community Development Licenses.

1. No Community Development Licenses.
2. Grant an additional 3% non-transferable licenses to CDQs communities.
3. Grant an additional 7.5% non-transferable licenses to CDQs communities.
4. Grant an additional 10% non-transferable licenses to CDQs communities.
5. Grant an additional 15% non-transferable licenses to CDQs communities.

### Other Provisions (Choose any or none of the following)

1. Licenses represent a use privilege. The Council may convert the license program to an IFQ program or otherwise alter or rescind the program without compensation to license holders.
2. Severe penalties may be invoked for failure to comply with conditions of the license.
3. Licenses may be suspended or revoked for multiple violations.
4. Implement a Skipper Reporting System which requires groundfish license holders to report skipper names, address, and service records to NMFS.
5. An analysis of the impact of various rent collection levels and mechanisms, and enforcement and program implementation costs is required.
6. Vessels which qualify for the NPFMC license limitation program that have been lost or destroyed are still eligible to receive earned licenses and endorsements. (This provision was not included in the list of elements and options approved at the December Council meeting, but is carried over here from previous Council documents relating to the license limitation program.)

The Council is also considering alternatives which may have significant impacts on the license limitation program and on future phases of the CRP process.

1. Sunset. Include a sunset provision in the license limitation phase of the CRP process.
2. No license transfers. Implement a license limitation program that does not allow licenses to be transferred.

The Council is requesting the industry and public to consider these provisions in the context of the overall CRP development which includes an intent to phase into IFQ development.

# CRAB LICENSES

## Components and Alternative Elements Affecting Initial Assignment

License Classes	Numbering Scheme
A single class of licenses	100000
Two license classes with Class B Permits for participants from 1/1/80 - 12/31/93	200000
Two license classes with Class B Permits for participants from 1/1/88 - 12/31/93	300000
<b>Nature of Licenses</b>	
Single license for all species and areas	10000
Licenses for species (e.g., <i>C. opilio</i> , <i>C. bairdi</i> , Red, Blue and Brown King Crab)	20000
Licenses for each species/area combination	30000
<b>License Recipients</b>	
Current owners	1000
Current owners and permit holders	2000
<b>License Designations</b>	
No restrictions	100
Catcher vessels & Catcher/processors	200
Vessel length	300
Catcher vessels & Catcher/processors and vessel length	400
<b>Qualifying Period</b>	
Jan. 1, 1978 - Dec. 31, 1993	10
6/28/89 - 6/27/92 --- (6/29/80 - 6/25/83 for D.H. Red, 6/29/85 - 6/25/88 for Prib Blue)	20
6/28/89 - 6/27/92 --- (6/29/80 - 6/25/83 for D.H. Red & 6/29/85 - 6/25/88 for Prib. Blue. These two groups must also have made a landing in any federally managed crab fishery between 6/28/89-6/27/92. For Norton Sound Red and Blue King Crab fisheries, and for Prib. Red King Crab, must have made a landing in 1993 or 1994.	30
1/1/92 - 12/31/94 --- (6/29/80 - 6/25/83 for D.H. Red & 6/29/85 - 6/25/1988 for Prib. Blue. These two groups must also have made a landing in any federally managed crab fishery between 1/1/92-12/31/94. For Norton Sound Red and Blue King Crab fisheries, and for Prib. Red King Crab, must have made a landing in 1993 or 1994.	40
1/1/88 - 6/27/92	50
<b>Minimum landings</b>	
No minimum	1
1 landing for Red & Blue King, 3 landings for Brown King, <i>C. opilio</i> , & <i>C. bairdi</i>	2
3 landings of King or Tanner crab from federally managed fisheries during the qualifying period	3

## Components and Alternative Elements Affecting the Ownership, Use, and Transfer of Licenses

### Who May Purchase Licenses

1. Licenses could be transferred only to "persons" defined as those eligible to document a fishery vessel under chapter 121, Title 46 U.S.C.
2. Licenses could be transferred to "persons" with 76% or more U.S. ownership, with "grandfather" rights for license recipients with 75% or less U.S. ownership (Chapter 802, Title 46 U.S.C.).
3. Licenses are non-transferable.

### Vessel/License Linkages

1. Vessel must be transferred with license
2. Licenses may be transferred without a vessel, i.e., licenses may be applied to vessels other than that to which the license was initially issued

### Options Regarding the Separability of Species and/or Area Designations

1. Species and/or Area designations are not separable, and shall remain grouped as in the initial allocation.
2. Species or Area designations shall be treated as separable licenses and may be transferred as such.
3. Species or Area designations shall be regarded as separable endorsements which require the owner to also own a more general license before use or purchase.

### Vessel Replacement and Upgrades

1. No restrictions on vessel replacement or upgrades, except that the vessel must meet the "License Designations" defined by the initial allocation.
2. Vessel may not be replaced or upgraded.
3. Vessel may be replaced or upgraded within the bounds of the 20% Rule as defined under the moratorium proposed rule.

### License Ownership Caps

1. No limit on the number of licenses or endorsements which may be owned by a "person."
2. No more than 5 area licenses per person with grandfather provisions.
3. No more than 10 area licenses per person with grandfather provisions.
4. No more than 15 area licenses per person with grandfather provisions.
5. No more than 5 fishery/area endorsements per person with grandfather provisions.
6. No more than 10 fishery/area endorsements per person with grandfather provisions.
7. No more than 15 fishery/area endorsements per person with grandfather provisions.

### Buy-back/Retirement Program

1. No buy-back/retirement program.
2. Fractional license system. (Fractional licenses may be issued to permit holders.)
3. Industry Funded Buy-back Program with right of first refusal on all transfers of licenses.

### Two-Tiered Skipper License Program

1. Do not implement a Two-Tiered Skipper License Program.
2. Implement a Two-Tiered Skipper License Program.



### **Community Development Quotas.**

1. No CDQ allocations.
2. Set aside 3% of crab fisheries with GHLS for CDQs patterned after current program w/o sunset provision.
3. Set aside 7.5% of crab fisheries w/GHLS for CDQs patterned after current program w/o sunset provision.
4. Set aside 10% of crab fisheries w/GHLS for CDQs patterned after current program w/o sunset provision.
5. Set aside 15% of crab fisheries w/GHLS for CDQs patterned after current program w/o sunset provision.

### **Community Development Licenses.**

1. No Community Development Licenses.
2. Grant an additional 3% non-transferable licenses to CDQs communities.
3. Grant an additional 7.5% non-transferable licenses to CDQs communities.
4. Grant an additional 10% non-transferable licenses to CDQs communities.
5. Grant an additional 15% non-transferable licenses to CDQs communities.

### **Other Provisions (Choose any or none of the following)**

1. Licenses represent a use privilege. The Council may convert the license program to an IFQ program or otherwise alter or rescind the program without compensation to license holders.
2. Severe penalties may be invoked for failure to comply with conditions of the license.
3. Licenses may be suspended or revoked for multiple violations.
4. Implement a Skipper Reporting System which requires groundfish license holders to report skipper names, address, and service records to NMFS.
5. An analysis of the impact of various rent collection levels and mechanisms, and enforcement and program implementation costs is required.
6. No Future Super-exclusive Area will be proposed.
7. Catcher processor vessels are defined as: those vessels which were required to carry a mandatory State of Alaska Shellfish Observer and are capable of pulling (hauling) pots and immediately processing harvested crab.
8. Vessels which qualify for the NPFMC license limitation program that have been lost or destroyed are still eligible to receive earned licenses and endorsements. (This provision was not included in the list of elements and options approved at the December Council meeting, but is carried over here from previous Council documents relating to the license limitation program.)

### **Individual Transferable Pot Quota System**

In addition to the components above, an Individual Transferable Pot Quota (ITPQ) System Alternative has been proposed in concept only. Under this option, the components affecting the initial assignment of crab licenses will remain unchanged. However, once it is decided which persons qualify for which vessel size and processing designations, licenses would be linked to a limited number of pots. Pots could be transferred to meet individual vessel requirements. Many of the component sets regarding the use and transferability of licenses may not apply under a ITPQ system. The Council will have to specify in more detail if additional analysis of the ITPQ system is desired.

The Council is also considering alternatives which may have significant impacts on the license limitation program and on future phases of the CRP process.

1. Sunset. Include a sunset provision in the license limitation phase of the CRP process.
2. No license transfers. Implement a license limitation program that does not allow licenses to be transferred.

The Council is requesting the industry and public to consider these provisions in the context of the overall CRP development which includes an intent to phase into IFQ development.

**Original Inshore/Offshore Problem Statement.**

**Problem Statement**

The finite availability of fishery resources, combined with current and projected levels of harvesting and processing capacity and the differing capabilities of the inshore and offshore components of the industry, has generated concern for the future ecological, social and economic health of the resource and the industry. These concerns include, but are not limited to, localized depletion of stocks or other behavioral impacts to stocks, shortened seasons, increased waste, harvests which exceed the TAC, and possible pre-emption of one industry component by another with the attendant social and economic disruption.

Domestic harvesting and processing capacity currently exceeds available fish for all species in the Gulf of Alaska and most species in the Bering Sea. The seafood industry is composed of different geographic, social, and economic components which have differing needs and capabilities including, but not limited to, the inshore and offshore components of the industry.

The Council defines the problem as a resource allocation problem where one industry sector faces the risk of preemption by another. The analysis will evaluate each of the alternatives as to their ability to solve the problem within the context of harvesting/processing capacity exceeding available resources.

The Council will address these problems through the adoption of appropriate management measures to advance the conservation needs of the fishery resources in the North Pacific and to further the economic and social goals of the Act.