

Council Motion  
 Agenda Item C3 – BSAI Groundfish Specifications  
 December 10, 2020

**Motion 1:**

The Council moves to adopt the 2021/2022 OFL's, ABC's, and TAC's for Groundfish in the BSAI as shown in table 1.

Table 1. Final SSC recommended OFL, ABC, and Council recommended TAC for Groundfish in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (metric tons) for 2021-2022.

Species	Area	2020				Catch as of 11/7/2020	Final 2021			Final 2022		
		OFL	ABC	TAC	OFL		ABC	TAC	OFL	ABC	TAC	
Pollock	EBS	4,085,000	2,043,000	1,425,000	1,364,949	2,594,000	1,626,000	1,375,000	2,366,000	1,484,000	1,400,000	
	AI	66,973	55,120	19,000	2,971	61,856	51,241	19,000	61,308	50,789	19,000	
	Bogoslof	183,080	137,310	75	8	113,479	85,109	250	113,479	85,109	100	
Pacific cod	BS	191,386	155,873	141,799	136,185	147,949	123,805	111,380	128,340	106,852	95,053	
	AI	27,400	20,600	13,796	5,321	27,400	20,600	13,796	27,400	20,600	13,796	
Sablefish	AK	50,481				60,426	29,588		70,710	36,955		
	BSAI		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8,113	n/a	n/a	9,924	
	BS	n/a	2,174	1,861	5,184	n/a	3,396	3,396	n/a	4,863	4,863	
	AI	n/a	2,952	2,039	1,123	n/a	4,717	4,717	n/a	6,860	5,061	
Yellowfin sole	BSAI	287,307	260,918	150,700	128,320	341,571	313,477	200,000	374,982	344,140	200,000	
Greenland turbot	BSAI	11,319	9,625	5,300	2,312	8,568	7,326	6,025	7,181	6,139	6,025	
	BS	n/a	8,403	5,125	1,639		6,176	5,125		5,175	5,125	
	AI	n/a	1,222	175	673		1,150	900		964	900	
Arrowtooth flounder	BSAI	84,057	71,618	10,000	10,265	90,873	77,349	15,000	94,368	80,323	15,000	
Kamchatka flounder	BSAI	11,495	9,708	6,800	7,279	10,630	8,982	8,982	10,843	9,163	8,982	
Northern rock sole	BSAI	157,300	153,300	47,100	25,762	145,180	140,306	54,500	213,783	206,605	54,500	
Flathead sole	BSAI	82,810	68,134	19,500	9,001	75,863	62,567	25,000	77,763	64,119	25,000	
Alaska plaice	BSAI	37,600	31,600	17,000	19,954	37,924	31,657	24,500	36,928	30,815	22,500	
Other flatfish	BSAI	21,824	16,368	4,000	4,113	22,919	17,189	6,500	22,919	17,189	6,500	
Pacific ocean perch	BSAI	58,956	48,846	42,875	36,303	44,376	37,173	35,899	42,384	35,503	34,758	
	BS	n/a	14,168	14,168	8,895		10,782	10,782		10,298	10,298	
	EAI	n/a	11,063	10,613	9,557		8,419	8,419		8,041	8,041	
	CAI	n/a	8,144	8,094	7,966		6,198	6,198		5,919	5,919	
	WAI	n/a	15,471	10,000	9,885		11,774	10,500		11,245	10,500	
Northern rockfish	BSAI	19,751	16,243	10,000	8,362	18,917	15,557	13,000	18,221	14,984	13,000	
Blackspotted/Rougheye Rockfish	BSAI	861	708	349	458	576	482	482	595	500	326	
	EBS/EAI	n/a	444	85	125	n/a	313	313	n/a	324	150	
	CAI/WAI	n/a	264	264	333	n/a	169	169	n/a	176	176	
Shortraker rockfish	BSAI	722	541	375	214	722	541	500	722	541	225	
Other rockfish	BSAI	1,793	1,344	1,088	996	1,751	1,313	916	1,751	1,313	694	
	BS	n/a	956	700	293		919	522		919	300	
	AI	n/a	388	388	703		394	394		394	394	
Atka mackerel	BSAI	81,200	70,100	59,305	57,506	85,580	73,590	62,257	79,660	68,220	57,717	
	EAI/BS	n/a	24,535	24,535	22,926		25,760	25,760		23,880	23,880	
	CAI	n/a	14,721	14,721	14,588		15,450	15,450		14,330	14,330	
	WAI	n/a	30,844	20,049	19,992		32,380	21,047		30,010	19,507	
Skates	BSAI	49,792	41,543	16,313	17,221	49,297	41,257	18,000	47,372	39,598	16,000	
Sculpins	BSAI	67,817	50,863	5,300	4,805	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A		
Sharks	BSAI	689	517	150	179	689	517	200	689	517	200	
Octopuses	BSAI	4,769	3,576	275	682	4,769	3,576	700	4,769	3,576	700	
<b>Total</b>	BSAI	<b>5,584,382</b>	<b>3,272,581</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>1,849,473</b>	<b>3,945,315</b>	<b>2,747,727</b>	<b>2,008,113</b>	<b>3,802,167</b>	<b>2,682,318</b>	<b>2,009,924</b>	

Sources: 2020 OFLs and ABCs are from harvest specifications adopted by the Council in December 2019; 2020 catches through November 7, 2020 from AKR Catch Accounting.

**Motion 2:**

**The Council moves to set flatfish flexibility reserves in Table 7a and 7b to maximize the ABC reserves for 2021 and 2022.**

TABLE 7A–FINAL 2021 ABC SURPLUS, ABC RESERVES, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUOTA (CDQ) ABC RESERVES, AND AMENDMENT 80 ABC RESERVES IN THE BSAI FOR FLATHEAD SOLE, ROCK SOLE, AND YELLOWFIN SOLE

[Amounts are in metric tons]			
Sector	Flathead sole	Rock sole	Yellowfin sole
ABC	62,567	140,306	313,477
TAC	25,000	54,500	200,000
ABC surplus	37,567	85,806	113,477
ABC reserve	37,567	85,806	113,477
CDQ ABC reserve	4,020	9,181	12,142
Amendment 80 ABC reserve	33,547	76,625	101,335

TABLE 7B–FINAL 2022 ABC SURPLUS, ABC RESERVES, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUOTA (CDQ) ABC RESERVES, AND AMENDMENT 80 ABC RESERVES IN THE BSAI FOR FLATHEAD SOLE, ROCK SOLE, AND YELLOWFIN SOLE

[Amounts are in metric tons]			
Sector	Flathead sole	Rock sole	Yellowfin sole
ABC	64,119	206,605	344,140
TAC	25,000	54,500	200,000
ABC surplus	39,119	152,105	144,140
ABC reserve	39,119	152,105	144,140
CDQ ABC reserve	4,186	16,275	15,423
Amendment 80 ABC reserve	34,933	135,830	128,717

**Motion 3:**

**The Council moves to approve the PSC amounts and distributions shown in Tables 8, 9, 10, and 11 and approve the 2020 BSAI SAFE report.**

**TABLE 8–FINAL 2021 AND 2022 APPORTIONMENT OF PROHIBITED SPECIES CATCH ALLOWANCES TO NON-TRAWL GEAR, THE CDQ PROGRAM, AMENDMENT 80, AND THE BSAI TRAWL LIMITED ACCESS SECTORS**

PSC species and area <sup>1</sup>	Total PSC	Non-trawl PSC	CDQ PSQ reserve <sup>2</sup>	Trawl PSC remaining after CDQ PSQ	Amendment 80 sector <sup>3</sup>	BSAI trawl limited access sector	BSAI PSC limits not allocated <sup>2</sup>
Halibut mortality (mt) BSAI	3,515	710	315	n/a	1,745	745	n/a
Herring (mt) BSAI	2,723	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Red king crab (animals) Zone 1	97,000	n/a	10,379	86,621	43,293	26,489	16,839
<i>C. opilio</i> (animals) COBLZ	7,191,840	n/a	769,527	6,422,313	3,156,567	2,064,131	1,201,615
<i>C. bairdi</i> crab (animals) Zone 1	980,000	n/a	104,860	875,140	368,521	411,228	95,390
<i>C. bairdi</i> crab (animals) Zone 2	2,970,000	n/a	317,790	2,652,210	627,778	1,241,500	782,932

<sup>1</sup> Refer to § 679.2 for definitions of zones.

<sup>2</sup> The PSQ reserve for crab species is 10.7 percent of each crab PSC limit.

<sup>3</sup> The Amendment 80 program reduced apportionment of the trawl PSC limits for crab below the total PSC limit. These reductions are not apportioned to other gear types or sectors.

**TABLE 9–FINAL 2021 AND 2022 HERRING AND RED KING CRAB SAVINGS SUBAREA PROHIBITED SPECIES CATCH ALLOWANCES FOR ALL TRAWL SECTORS**

Fishery categories	Herring (mt) BSAI	Red king crab (animals) Zone 1
Yellowfin sole	118	n/a
Rock sole/flathead sole/Alaska plaice/other flatfish <sup>1</sup>	58	n/a
Greenland turbot/arrowtooth flounder/Kamchatka flounder/sablefish	8	n/a
Rockfish	8	n/a
Pacific cod	14	n/a
Midwater trawl pollock	2,472	n/a
Pollock/Atka mackerel/other species <sup>2,3</sup>	45	n/a
Red king crab savings subarea non-pelagic trawl gear <sup>4</sup>	n/a	24,250
Total trawl PSC	2,723	97,000

<sup>1</sup>“Other flatfish” for PSC monitoring includes all flatfish species, except for halibut (a prohibited species), Alaska plaice, arrowtooth

<sup>2</sup>Pollock other than midwater trawl pollock, Atka mackerel, and “other species” fishery category.

<sup>3</sup>“Other species” for PSC monitoring includes skates, sharks, and octopuses.

<sup>4</sup>In December 2020, the Council recommended and NMFS approves that the red king crab bycatch limit for non-pelagic trawl fisheries

Note: Species apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.

TABLE 10—FINAL 2021 AND 2022 PROHIBITED SPECIES BYCATCH ALLOWANCES FOR THE BSAI TRAWL LIMITED ACCESS SECTOR

BSAI trawl limited access sector fisheries	Prohibited species and area <sup>1</sup>				
	Halibut mortality (mt) BSAI	Red king crab (animals) Zone 1	<i>C. opilio</i> (animals) COBLZ	<i>C. bairdi</i> (animals)	
				Zone 1	Zone 2
Yellowfin sole	265	23,338	1,945,831	346,228	1,185,500
Rock sole/flathead sole/other flatfish <sup>2</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Greenland turbot/arrowtooth flounder/Kamchatka flounder/sablefish	-	-	-	-	-
Rockfish April 15-December 31	5	-	3,214	-	1,000
Pacific cod	300	2,954	82,939	60,000	50,000
Pollock/Atka mackerel/other species <sup>3</sup>	175	197	32,147	5,000	5,000
Total BSAI trawl limited access sector PSC	745	26,489	2,064,131	411,228	1,241,500

<sup>1</sup> Refer to § 679.2 for definitions of areas and zones.

<sup>2</sup> “Other flatfish” for PSC monitoring includes all flatfish species, except for halibut (a prohibited species), Alaska plaice, arrowtooth flounder, flathead sole, Greenland turbot, Kamchatka flounder, rock sole, and yellowfin sole.

<sup>3</sup> “Other species” for PSC monitoring includes skates, sharks, and octopuses.

Note: Species apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.

TABLE 11—FINAL 2021 AND 2022 HALIBUT PROHIBITED SPECIES BYCATCH ALLOWANCES FOR NON-TRAWL FISHERIES

Halibut mortality (mt) BSAI				
Non-trawl fisheries	Seasons	Catcher/processor	Catcher vessel	All Non-Trawl
Pacific cod	Annual Pacific cod	648	13	661
	January 1-June 10	388	9	n/a
	June 10-August 15	162	2	n/a
	August 15-December 31	98	2	n/a
Non-Pacific cod non-trawl-Total	May 1-December 31	n/a	n/a	49
Groundfish pot and jig	n/a	n/a	n/a	Exempt
Sablefish hook-and-line	n/a	n/a	n/a	Exempt
Total for all non-trawl PSC	n/a	n/a	n/a	710

**Motion 4:**

**The Council moves to approve the Halibut Discard Mortality Rates for 2021/2022 as shown in Table 12.**

Note: For information purposes only, the calculations for Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Pacific cod between the State Guideline Harvest Levels and the Federal TACs are shown in Table 13 .

Gear	Sector	Halibut discard mortality rate (percent)
Pelagic trawl	All	100
Non-pelagic trawl	Mothership and catcher/processor	84
Non-pelagic trawl	Catcher vessel	59
Hook-and-line	Catcher vessel	9
Hook-and-line	Catcher/processor	9
Pot	All	32

		Aleutian Islands	Bering Sea
2021			
	ABC	20,600	123,805
	GHL	6,804	12,426
	MaxTAC	13,796	111,380
2022			
	ABC	20,600	106,852
	GHL	6,804	11,799
	MaxTAC	13,796	95,053

GHL in 2021 in the Bering Sea includes 10% of the ABC for the pot gear fishery and an additional 45 tons for the jig gear fishery. GHL in the Aleutian Islands is 39% of the ABC or a maximum of 6,804 t (15 million pounds).

GHL in 2022 in the Bering Sea includes 11% of the ABC for the pot gear fishery and an additional 45 tons for the jig gear fishery. GHL in the Aleutian Islands is 39% of the ABC or a maximum of 6,804 t (15 million pounds).