

Council Motion
Agenda Item C1 – BSAI Groundfish Specifications
December 5, 2019

Motion 1:

The Council moves to adopt the 2020/2021 OFL's, ABC's, and TAC's for Groundfish in the BSAI as shown in table 1.

Motion 2:

The Council moves to set flatfish flexibility reserves in Table 7 to maximize the ABC reserves for 2020/2021.

Motion 3:

The Council moves to approve the PSC amounts and distributions shown in Tables 8,9,10,and 11 and approve the BSAI Safe report for 2020/2021.

Motion 4:

The Council moves to approve the DMR's for 2020/2021 as shown in Table 12.

NOTE: Table 13 is included for informational purposes only

Table 1 Council TAC sheet with SSC OFL and ABC recommendations for Groundfish in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (metric tons) for 2020-202

Species	Area	2019		TAC	Catch as of 11/2/2019	2020			2021		
		OFL	ABC			OFL	ABC	TAC	OFL	ABC	TAC
Pollock	EBS	3,914,000	2,163,000	1,397,000	1,406,063	4,085,000	2,043,000	1,425,000	3,385,000	1,767,000	1,450,000
	AI	64,240	52,887	19,000	1,592	66,973	55,120	19,000	70,970	58,384	19,000
	Bogoslof	183,080	137,310	75	8	183,080	137,310	75	183,080	137,310	75
Pacific cod	BS	216,000	181,000	166,475	148,142	191,386	155,873	141,799	125,734	102,975	92,633
	AI	27,400	20,600	14,214	12,954	27,400	20,600	13,796	27,400	20,600	13,796
Sablefish	AK-Wide					50,481			64,765		
	BS	3,221	1,489	1,489	3,202	n/a	2,174	1,861	n/a	2,865	2,865
	AI	4,350	2,008	2,008	662	n/a	2,952	2,039	n/a	3,891	2,500
Yellowfin sole	BSAI	290,000	263,200	154,000	122,309	287,307	260,918	150,700	287,943	261,497	168,900
Greenland turbot	BSAI	11,362	9,658	5,294	2,855	11,319	9,625	5,300	10,006	8,510	5,376
	BS	n/a	8,431	5,125	2,681	n/a	8,403	5,125	n/a	7,429	5,125
	AI	n/a	1,227	169	174	n/a	1,222	175	n/a	1,081	251
Arrowtooth flounder	BSAI	82,939	70,673	8,000	9,591	84,057	71,618	10,000	86,647	73,804	10,000
Kamchatka flounder	BSAI	10,965	9,260	5,000	4,494	11,495	9,708	6,800	11,472	9,688	7,000
Northern rock sole	BSAI	122,000	118,900	47,100	25,497	157,300	153,300	47,100	236,800	230,700	49,000
Flathead sole	BSAI	80,918	66,625	14,500	15,062	82,810	68,134	19,500	86,432	71,079	24,000
Alaska plaice	BSAI	39,880	33,600	18,000	15,812	37,600	31,600	17,000	36,500	30,700	20,000
Other flatfish	BSAI	21,824	16,368	6,500	3,756	21,824	16,368	4,000	21,824	16,368	5,000
Pacific Ocean perch	BSAI	61,067	50,594	44,069	41,653	58,956	48,846	42,875	56,589	46,885	42,036
	BS	n/a	14,675	14,675	13,178	n/a	14,168	14,168	n/a	13,600	13,600
	EAI	n/a	11,459	11,009	10,324	n/a	11,063	10,613	n/a	10,619	10,619
	CAI	n/a	8,435	8,385	8,263	n/a	8,144	8,094	n/a	7,817	7,817
	WAI	n/a	16,025	10,000	9,888	n/a	15,471	10,000	n/a	14,849	10,000
Northern rockfish	BSAI	15,507	12,664	6,500	9,057	19,751	16,243	10,000	19,070	15,683	10,000
Blackspotted/Rougheye Rockfish	BSAI	676	555	279	387	861	708	349	1,090	899	424
	EBS/EAI	n/a	351	75	82	n/a	444	85	n/a	560	85
	CAI/WAI	n/a	204	204	305	n/a	264	264	n/a	339	339
Shortraker rockfish	BSAI	722	541	358	355	722	541	375	722	541	375
Other rockfish	BSAI	1,793	1,344	663	1,254	1,793	1,344	1,088	1,793	1,344	1,088
	BS	n/a	956	275	685	n/a	956	700	n/a	956	700
	AI	n/a	388	388	569	n/a	388	388	n/a	388	388
Atka mackerel	BSAI	79,200	68,500	57,951	56,563	81,200	70,100	59,305	74,800	64,400	54,482
	EAI/BS	n/a	23,970	23,970	22,802	n/a	24,535	24,535	n/a	22,540	22,540
	CAI	n/a	14,390	14,390	14,320	n/a	14,721	14,721	n/a	13,524	13,524
	WAI	n/a	30,140	19,591	19,441	n/a	30,844	20,049	n/a	28,336	18,418
Skates	BSAI	51,152	42,714	26,000	17,873	49,792	41,543	16,313	48,289	40,248	16,000
Sculpins	BSAI	53,201	39,995	5,000	5,300	67,817	50,863	5,300	67,817	50,863	5,000
Sharks	BSAI	689	517	125	141	689	517	150	689	517	150
Octopuses	BSAI	4,769	3,576	400	244	4,769	3,576	275	4,769	3,576	300
Total	BSAI	5,340,955	3,367,578	2,000,000	1,904,826	5,584,382	3,272,581	2,000,000	4,910,201	3,020,327	2,000,000

Sources: 2019 OFLs, ABCs, and TACs are from harvest specifications adopted by the Council in December 2018; 2019 catches through November 2, 2019 from AKR

TABLE 7-FINAL 2020 AND 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

Sector	2020 Flathead sole	2020 Rock sole	2020 Yellowfin sole	2021 ¹ Flathead sole	2021 ¹ Rock sole	2021 ¹ Yellowfin sole
ABC	68,134	153,300	260,918	71,079	230,700	261,497
TAC	19,500	47,100	150,700	24,000	49,000	168,900
ABC surplus	48,634	106,200	110,218	47,079	181,700	92,597
ABC reserve	48,634	106,200	110,218	47,079	181,700	92,597
CDQ ABC reserve	5,204	11,363	11,793	5,037	19,442	9,908
Amendment 80 ABC reserve	43,430	94,837	98,425	42,042	162,258	82,689

¹ The 2021 allocations for Amendment 80 species between Amendment 80 cooperatives and the Amendment 80 limited access sector will not be known until eligible participants apply for participation in the program by November 1, 2020.

TABLE 8-PROPOSED 2020 AND 2021 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 ¹	Total PSC	Non-trawl PSC	CDQ PSQ reserve ²	Trawl PSC remaining after CDQ PSQ	Amendment 80 sector ³	BSAI trawl limited access sector
Halibut mortality (mt) BSAI	3,515	710	315	n/a	1,745	745
Herring (mt) BSAI	2,532	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
<i>C. opilio</i> (animals) COBLZ	8,580,898	n/a	918,156	7,662,742	3,766,238	2,462,805
<i>C. bairdi</i> crab (animals) Zone 1	980,000	n/a	104,860	875,140	368,521	411,228
<i>C. bairdi</i> crab (animals) Zone 2	2,970,000	n/a	317,790	2,652,210	627,778	1,241,500

¹ Refer to § 679.2 for definitions of zones.

² The PSQ reserve for crab species is 10.7 percent of each crab PSC limit.

³ 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-PROPOSED 2020 AND 2021 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	110	n/a
Rock sole/flathead sole/other flatfish ¹	54	n/a
Greenland turbot/arrowtooth flounder/Kamchatka flounder/sablefish	7	n/a
Rockfish	7	n/a
Pacific cod	13	n/a
Midwater trawl pollock	2,299	n/a
Pollock/Atka mackerel/other species ²⁻³	42	n/a
Red king crab savings subarea non-pelagic trawl gear ⁴	n/a	24,250
Total trawl PSC	2,532	97,000

¹“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.

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

³“Other species” for PSC monitoring includes skates, sculpins, sharks, and octopuses.

⁴In October 2019, the Council recommended that the red king crab bycatch limit for non-pelagic trawl fisheries within the RKCSS be limited to 25 percent of the red king crab PSC allowance (see § 679.21(e)(3)(ii)(B)(2)).

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

TABLE 10–PROPOSED 2020 AND 2021 PROHIBITED SPECIES BYCATCH ALLOWANCES FOR THE BSAI TRAWL LIMITED ACCESS SECTOR

BSAI trawl limited access sector fisheries	Prohibited species and area ¹				
	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	150	23,338	2,321,656	346,228	1,185,500
Rock sole/flathead sole/other flatfish ²	-	-	-	-	-
Greenland turbot/arrowtooth flounder/Kamchatka flounder/sablefish	-	-	-	-	-
Rockfish April 15-December 31	4	-	3,835	-	1,000
Pacific cod	391	2,954	98,959	60,000	49,999
Pollock/Atka mackerel/other species ³	200	197	38,356	5,000	5,000
Total BSAI trawl limited access sector PSC	745	26,489	2,462,805	411,228	1,241,500

¹ Refer to § 679.2 for definitions of areas.

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

³ “Other species” for PSC monitoring includes skates, sculpins, sharks, and octopuses.

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

TABLE 11–PROPOSED 2020 AND 2021 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	n/a
	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

TABLE 12–PROPOSED 2020 AND 2021 PACIFIC HALIBUT DISCARD MORTALITY RATES (DMR) FOR THE BSAI

Gear	Sector	Halibut discard mortality rate (percent)
Pelagic trawl	All	100
Non-pelagic trawl	Mothership and catcher/processor	75
Non-pelagic trawl	Catcher vessel	58
Hook-and-line	Catcher vessel	9
Hook-and-line	Catcher/processor	9
Pot	All	27

TABLE 13–BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS PACIFIC COD ABC, GHL, AND MAXIMUM TAC FOR 2020 AND 2021

	Aleutian Islands	Bering Sea
2020		
ABC	20,600	155,873
GHL ¹	6,804 ²	14,074
MaxTAC	13,796 ³	141,799
2021		
ABC	20,600	102,975
GHL	6,804*	10,343
MaxTAC	13,796 ³	92,633

¹GHL in the Bering Sea includes 9% for the pot gear fishery and an addition 45 tons for the jig gear fishery. GHL in the Aleutian Islands is 35% of ABC in 2020, expected to increase to 39% of ABC in 2021.

²GHL in the Aleutian Islands is capped at 6,804 t, (15,000,000 pounds). Without the cap the GHL would be 7,210 t in 2020 and 8,034 in 2021

³MaxTAC in the Aleutian Islands is ABC – 6,804 t (GHL cap)