

NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Action Memo

File Number: Catch 15-002

Agenda Date2/2/2015

Agenda Number:C3

Dan Hull, Chairman Chris Oliver, Executive Director

SUBJECT:

Al Pacific Cod Allocation and Delivery Requirement

ESTIMATED TIME:

4 hours

ACTION REQUIRED:

Initial Review of document

BACKGROUND

For several years, the Council has periodically requested information to help determine the need for community protections in the AI that have evolved due to the implementation of rationalization programs for various fisheries. This rationalization has resulted in excess processing capacity that has been used in the AI Pacific cod fishery. The specific rationalization programs are American Fisheries Act (AFA), Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) crab rationalization, and BSAI Amendment 80. These programs provide benefits to processing vessels and afford opportunities for consolidation, thus freeing some processing capacity to target the non-rationalized BSAI Pacific cod fishery. At its February 2014 meeting, the Council initiated an analysis that would prioritize a portion of the AI Pacific cod to catcher vessels and designate it be delivered to shoreplants in the AI, with some constraints on the amount and dates by which the prioritization and delivery requirement would be removed to prevent standing of AI Pacific cod. The intent of this proposed action is to provide stability to shoreplant operations in the AI, which in turn will provide stability to the communities where the shoreplants are located. At the October 2014 meeting, the Council completed a review of the analysis. After reviewing the analysis, the Council added two new options to the proposed action and requested the document be brought back for initial review.