

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council and AP Members
FROM: Chris Oliver *for*
Executive Director
DATE: September 23, 2009
SUBJECT: GOA Pacific cod sector allocations

ESTIMATED TIME 8 HOURS

ACTION REQUIRED

Initial Review of the analysis for GOA Pacific cod sector allocations.

BACKGROUND

In December 2008, the Council made an initial review of the draft EA/RIR/IRFA for the proposed action to allocate the Western and Central GOA Pacific cod TACs among the various gear and operation types. Currently, separate TACs are identified for Pacific cod in the Western, Central, and Eastern GOA management subareas, but the TACs are not divided among gear or operation types. This results in a derby-style race for fish and competition among the sectors for shares of the TACs. Sector allocations may provide stability to long-term participants in the fishery by reducing competition among sectors for access to the GOA Pacific cod resource.

The Council made several additions and refinements to the components and options for analysis at its December 2008 meeting. Specifically, the Council added options under Component 2 to restrict vessels from participating in the GOA Pacific cod fisheries using more than one operation type (i.e., vessels could not operate as both CPs and CVs). The intent of these options is to preclude vessels from opportunistically fishing off both the CP and CV allocations for a respective gear type. In addition, the Council adopted options to calculate sector allocations based on catch history from 2002 through 2008 (best 3 or 5 years), and options for seasonally apportioning sector allocations. The Council expanded the community protection provisions in Component 8 to include several options and suboptions; different options could be selected for the Western GOA and Central GOA. The intent of these options is to protect processing and community delivery patterns established under the current inshore/offshore regulations.

In addition, after reviewing a staff discussion paper on management issues in the parallel fishery at the June 2009 meeting, the Council revised the problem statement and Component 10 of the alternatives, which addresses the parallel waters fishery. The Council removed an option to establish a parallel waters catch cap after reviewing information that showed that some participants rely heavily on the parallel waters fishery, and could lose access to the fishery if parallel waters catch is limited. Option 2 was revised to mirror the approach taken by the Council to address management issues resulting from the participation of Federally-permitted vessels that do not hold LLP licenses in the BSAI parallel waters Pacific cod fishery. Currently, entry into the parallel waters groundfish fisheries by Federally-permitted vessels is not limited. If sector allocations are established, parallel waters activity by newly entering

Federally-permitted vessels could erode the catches of historic participants who contributed catch history to the allocations and depend on the GOA Pacific cod resource. Vessels fishing in Federal waters are required to hold an LLP license with the appropriate area, gear, and species endorsements, but vessels fishing in parallel State waters are not required to hold an LLP license. The Council adopted an option for analysis that would preclude Federally-permitted vessels that do not have LLP licenses from participating in the GOA Pacific cod parallel fishery to prevent any such encroachment. The Council directed staff to incorporate these additional options into the initial review draft for this meeting.

The analysis was mailed to you on September 14, 2009. The Executive Summary is attached as **Item C-1(b)**.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This EA/RIR/IRFA examines the environmental, economic, and socioeconomic aspects of the proposed action to allocate the Western and Central GOA Pacific cod TACs to the various sectors. The proposed action would allocate the TACs to the hook-and-line catcher vessel, hook-and-line catcher processor, pot catcher vessel, pot catcher processor, trawl catcher vessel, trawl catcher processor, and jig sectors based on catch history or other criteria. The action would result in an amendment to the GOA Fisheries Management Plan (FMP).

The GOA Pacific cod resource is targeted by multiple gear and operation types, principally by pot, trawl, and hook-and-line catcher vessels and catcher processors. Smaller amounts of cod are harvested by jig vessels. Separate TACs are identified for Pacific cod in the Western, Central, and Eastern GOA management subareas, but the TACs are not divided among gear or operation types. This results in a derby-style race for fish and competition among the various gear types for shares of the TACs. To address these issues, the Council adopted the following problem statement:

GOA Pacific Cod Sector Split Purpose and Need Statement

The limited access derby-style management of the Western GOA and Central GOA Pacific cod fisheries has led to competition among the various gear types (trawl, hook-and-line, pot and jig) and operation types (catcher processor and catcher vessel) for shares of the total allowable catch (TAC). Competition for the GOA Pacific cod resource has increased for a variety of reasons, including increased market value of cod products, rationalization of other fisheries in the BSAI and GOA, increased participation by fishermen displaced from other fisheries, reduced Federal TACs due to the State waters cod fishery, and Steller sea lion mitigation measures including the A/B seasonal split of the GOA Pacific cod TACs. The competition among sectors in the fishery may contribute to higher rates of bycatch, discards, and out-of-season incidental catch of Pacific cod.

Participants in the fisheries who have made long-term investments and are dependent on the fisheries face uncertainty as a result of the competition for catch shares among sectors. Allocation of the catch among sectors may reduce this uncertainty and contribute to stability across the sectors. Dividing the TACs among sectors may also facilitate development of management measures and fishing practices to address conservation (e.g. Steller sea lion mitigation measures, bycatch reduction, and prohibited species catch (PSC) mortality) and social objectives, including considerations for small boat sectors and coastal communities. Given that harvest sector allocations would supersede the inshore/offshore processing sector allocations for Pacific cod by creating harvest limits, the Council may need to consider regulatory changes for offshore and inshore floating processors.

The timing of the Pacific cod A and B seasons may have limited the participation of jig vessels in the parallel and Federal fisheries of the GOA. Additionally, the State waters jig allocation has gone uncaught in some years, potentially due to the lack of availability of Pacific cod inside three miles. A non-historical Federal catch award, together with the provision of access in Federal waters for the State Pacific cod jig allocations, offers entry-level opportunities for the jig sector.

The Council, in consideration of options and recommendations for the parallel fishery, will need to balance the objectives of providing stability to the long term participants in the sectors, while providing opportunities for new entrants who do not hold Federal permits or licenses to participate in the parallel fishery.

Alternatives, Components, and Options

There are two alternatives currently under consideration:

ALTERNATIVE 1. No Action. The GOA Pacific cod TACs will not be allocated among the sectors.

ALTERNATIVE 2. The GOA Pacific cod TACs will be allocated among the sectors.

Component 1: Management areas

The Western and Central GOA Pacific cod TACs will be allocated among the various gear and operation types, as defined in Component 2 (the management areas could be treated differently within Component 2).

Component 2: Sector definitions

The Western and Central GOA Pacific cod TACs will be allocated among the following sectors. The Council has the option to either give a single allocation to each sector, or to divide any allocation by vessel length based on the option(s) listed below.

- Trawl catcher processors
- Trawl catcher vessels
- Hook-and-line catcher processors
 - Option: Hook-and-line catcher processors <125 ft
 - Hook-and-line catcher processors ≥125 ft
- Hook-and-line catcher vessels
 - Option: Hook-and-line catcher vessels <60 ft
 - Hook-and-line catcher vessels ≥60 ft
- Option (CG only): Hook-and-line catcher vessels <50 ft
- Hook-and-line catcher vessels ≥ 50 ft
- Pot catcher processors
- Pot catcher vessels
 - Option: Pot catcher vessels <60 ft
 - Pot catcher vessels ≥60 ft
- Jig vessels

Option: For Western GOA only create a combined sector allocation for trawl and pot catcher vessels.

Suboption: Applies only to vessels <60 ft.

Option: Restrict vessels from participating in the GOA Pacific cod fishery using more than one operation type.

Suboption 1: Restrict CP licenses to the operation type on their license (licenses with a catcher processor designation could only fish off the catcher processor sector allocation).

Suboption 2: Add a CV/CP Pacific cod endorsement to both trawl and non-trawl CP licenses that have operated as catcher vessels during the qualifying period. These CP/CV licenses will elect to participate as either a CP or CV in the GOA Pacific cod fishery either:

- (i) annually
- (ii) as a permanent, one-time election

Component 3: Definition of qualifying catch

Qualifying catch includes all retained legal catch of Pacific cod from the Federal and parallel waters fisheries in the Western and Central GOA.

- Catch will be calculated using Fish Tickets for catcher vessels and Catch Accounting/Blend data for catcher processors.
- Under all options, incidental catch allocated among trawl catcher vessels for the Central GOA Rockfish program (currently, 2.09% of the Central GOA Pacific cod TAC) will be deducted from the Central GOA trawl catcher vessel B season allocation.
- All sector allocations will be managed to support incidental and directed catch needs.

Component 4: Years included for purposes of determining catch history

Option 1: Qualifying years 1995-2005: average of best 5 years

Option 2: Qualifying years 1995-2005: average of best 7 years

Option 3: Qualifying years 2000-2006: average of best 3 years

Option 4: Qualifying years 2000-2006: average of best 5 years

Option 5: Qualifying years 2002-2007: average of best 3 years

Option 6: Qualifying years 2002-2007: average of best 5 years

Option 7: Qualifying years 2002-2008: average of best 3 years

Option 8: Qualifying years 2002-2008: average of best 5 years

Note: The Council has the option to choose separate qualifying years for each sector and scale them to equal 100%.

- When sectors are divided into subsectors (e.g., by vessel length), the allocation will be calculated using the best set of years for the sector, and the sum of the subsector allocations will equal the allocation to the sector.

Seasonal apportionment of sector allocations (different options may be selected for the management areas):

Option 1: Apportion each sector's annual allocation 60% to the A season and 40% to the B season.

Option 2: Apportion each sector's annual allocation based on that sector's seasonal catch history during the qualifying years, while maintaining the overall 60%/40% apportionment of the TAC.

Option 3: For the WGOA, only the A season TAC will be apportioned among sectors; the B season TAC will not be apportioned among sectors.

- These seasonal apportionment options do not apply to the jig sector.

Component 5: Allocation of Pacific cod to jig sector

Set aside 1%, 3%, or 5% of the Western and Central GOA Federal Pacific cod TACs for the initial allocation to the jig vessel sector, with a staircase provision to increase the jig sector allocation by 1% if 90% of the Federal jig allocation in an area is harvested in any given year. The jig gear allocation will be capped at 5% of the respective Western and Central GOA Federal Pacific cod TACs.

Subsequent to the jig allocation increasing, if the harvest threshold criterion described above is not met during three consecutive years, the jig allocation will be stepped down by 1% in the following year, but shall not drop below the level initially allocated.

The jig allocation could be set aside from the A season TAC, the B season TAC, or divided between the A and B season TACs.

The Council requests that staff continue to work with the State of Alaska and NMFS to explore considerations required to implement possible options for the jig fishery management structure (both State parallel/Federal and State) that create a workable fishery and minimize the amount of stranded quota, focusing on Option 1. Possible solutions that could be explored are:

Option 1: State parallel/Federal managed Pacific cod jig fishery. Federal allocation managed 0-200 miles through a parallel fishery structure. Any State waters jig GHL could (under subsequent action by the Alaska Board of Fisheries) be added to this State parallel/Federal managed jig sector allocation so that the jig sector is fishing off of a single account. If the Board of Fisheries chooses not to take the jig GHL, it would roll into the Federal jig allocation.

If a combined parallel/Federal fishery is created the fishery would be managed as follows. There would be no seasonal split of the combined parallel/Federal TAC. The fishery would open on Jan 1st and close when the TAC is reached.

Option 2: If a distinct Parallel/Federal and State waters fisheries continue to exist, the two fisheries will be managed as follows:

The Federal TAC would be divided into an A/B season of 60%/40%. The A season would open on Jan 1st and close when the TAC is reached or on March 15th. The State jig fishery could open either when the Federal season closes due to TAC or on March 15th. The Federal B season would open on Sept 1st.

Option 3: State managed Pacific cod jig fishery. Federal management authority delegated to the State of Alaska to manage the Pacific cod jig fisheries in the Western and Central GOA from 0-200 miles.

Component 6: Management of unharvested sector allocations

Any portion of a CV, CP, or jig allocation determined by NMFS to remain unharvested during the remainder of the fishery year will become available as soon as practicable to either:

Option 1: Other respective CV or CP sectors first, and then to all sectors as necessary to harvest available TAC.

Option 2: All sectors.

Component 7: Apportionment of hook-and-line halibut PSC (other than DSR) between catcher processors and catcher vessels

Option 1: No change in current apportionments of GOA halibut PSC.

Option 2: Apportion the GOA hook-and-line halibut PSC to the CP and CV sectors in proportion to the total Western GOA and Central GOA Pacific cod allocations to each sector. No later than November 1, any remaining halibut PSC not projected by NMFS to be used by one of the hook-and-line sectors during the remainder of the year would be made available to the other sector.

Component 8: Community protection provisions

This component would protect community participation in the processing of Pacific cod and protect community delivery patterns established by the inshore/offshore regulations. For the purposes of Options 1, 2, and 3 under Component 8, motherships include catcher processors receiving deliveries over the side and any floating processor that does not meet the regulatory definition of a stationary floating processor in 679.2. Stationary floating processors may only process groundfish at a single geographic location during a given year.

For each management area, the mothership processing cap will be:

Option 1: No motherships.

Option 2: A percentage of the Pacific cod TAC based on the same qualification criteria as selected for the harvesting sector allocations, but calculated from mothership processing activity.

Option 3: A percentage of the Pacific cod TAC to be selected by the Council (5-10%).

- Under Option 2 and Option 3, mothership processing will end for the year when the processing cap is reached. All cod catch counts towards the cap.

Suboptions that apply to Options 1, 2, and 3:

Suboption 1: Choose different options for each management area.

Suboption 2: Apply any of the options only to directed landings of Pacific cod.

Suboption 3: Exempt motherships operating within the municipal boundaries of a community.

Option: Limit weekly processing by exempted motherships to (a) 125 mt per week, (b) 200 mt per week, or (c) 300 mt per week.

- (i) Applies to all cod landings
- (ii) Applies to directed cod landings

Component 9

To address conservation, catch monitoring, and social objectives, potential allocations to any sector based on catch history may be adjusted.

Component 10: Parallel Waters Issues

Option 1. Develop recommendations for the Alaska Board of Fisheries on the parallel fishery that could complement Council action, such as:

- gear limits
- vessel size limits
- exclusive registration

Option 2. Limit access to the parallel fishery for Federal fishery participants.

- Require any pot or longline vessel with an LLP or an FFP to have the appropriate Pacific cod endorsement and area endorsement on the LLP; and the GOA area designation and the appropriate gear and operation type designations on the FFP in order to participate in the Western GOA or Central GOA Pacific cod parallel waters fishery.
- Require any trawl vessel with an LLP or an FFP to have the appropriate gear and area endorsements on the LLP; and the GOA area designation and the appropriate gear and operation type designations on the FFP in order to participate in the Western GOA or Central GOA Pacific cod parallel waters fishery.

Suboption 1: In addition, require the above Federally-permitted or licensed vessels that fish in the parallel waters to adhere to Federal seasonal closures of the Western/Central GOA sector allocations corresponding to the sector in which the vessel operates.

Suboption 2: Vessels with a GOA area designation and the gear and operation type designations specified in Option 2 cannot remove these designations from the FFP and can only surrender or reactivate the FFP:

- Once per calendar year
- Once every eighteen months
- Once every three years

Additional information requested:

The Council requested additional information on pot CV catch by vessel width for vessels 50 to 60 ft LOA.

Background on the proposed action

The proposed action would divide the Western and Central GOA Pacific cod TACs among the gear and operation types based on historic dependency and use by each sector. This action may enhance stability in the fishery, reduce competition among sectors, and preserve the historic distribution of catch among sectors. Without sector allocations, future harvests by some sectors may increase and impinge on the historic levels of catch by other sectors.

For example, some fixed gear participants believe that the relatively high catching power of the trawl fleet has limited their ability to maintain their historic catch levels in the Pacific cod fishery. Sector allocations would stabilize the proportion of the catch taken by each sector, allowing participants to better plan their operations. Another concern expressed by some participants is that larger boats, both trawl and fixed gear, are more capable of fishing during the winter months (January/February) of the A season. Harvest opportunities for smaller vessels may be limited if larger vessels quickly catch much of the TAC. The proposed action contains options to establish separate allocations for catcher processor and catcher vessel sectors based on vessel length to ensure that smaller boats have a stable allocation. Finally, some participants are concerned that catcher processors fishing the inshore TACs have the potential to increase their catch and impinge on catcher vessel harvests. Sector allocations would protect the proportion of catch taken by catcher vessels by creating distinct catcher processor and catcher vessel allocations.

Catch history by each of the sectors from 1995 through 2008 in the Western and Central GOA Pacific cod fisheries is summarized in Table E-1. The table shows that the distribution of retained catch among the sectors has changed substantially over time. In general, the fixed gear sectors have harvested a larger

proportion of the catch during recent years, and the trawl sector has harvested less of the catch. However, there has been substantial year-to-year variability in catches. For example, in the Western GOA trawl catcher vessels have harvested as little as 8.7% of the annual catch (2003) and as much as 78.1% of the catch (1997). Similarly, pot catcher vessels have harvested as little as 4.4% of the Western GOA catch (1997) and as much as 63.4% of the catch (2004). Under the no action alternative, the sectors would continue to race each other for shares of the GOA Pacific cod TACs, particularly during the A season, and there will likely continue to be substantial annual variability in the distribution of catch among the sectors. The problem statement notes that participants in the fisheries who have made long-term investments and are dependent on the fisheries face uncertainty as a result of the competition for catch among sectors. Allocation of the catch among sectors may reduce this uncertainty and contribute to stability across the sectors.

Table E-1 Retained catch and percent of annual retained catch by each sector in the GOA Pacific cod fisheries.

Western GOA

	Hook-and-line CP		Hook-and-line CV		Jig CV		Pot CP		Pot CV		Trawl CP		Trawl CV	
	Catch	Percent of total	Catch	Percent of total	Catch	Percent of total	Catch	Percent of total	Catch	Percent of total	Catch	Percent of total	Catch	Percent of total
1995	5,632	26.2%	35	0.2%	48	0.2%	104	0.5%	2,352	11.0%	587	2.7%	12,704	59.2%
1996	4,369	20.8%	193	0.9%	45	0.2%	*	*	1,689	8.0%	787	3.7%	13,921	66.2%
1997	3,837	16.1%	34	0.1%	5	0.0%	0	0.0%	1,041	4.4%	295	1.2%	18,554	78.1%
1998	3,168	15.1%	22	0.1%	1	0.0%	*	*	2,533	12.0%	276	1.3%	15,007	71.3%
1999	5,116	21.8%	70	0.3%	0	0.0%	1,424	6.1%	1,591	6.8%	623	2.7%	14,673	62.4%
2000	4,706	21.5%	54	0.2%	5	0.0%	*	*	5,107	23.3%	751	3.4%	11,113	50.7%
2001	3,969	27.3%	31	0.2%	157	1.1%	1,038	7.1%	2,538	17.5%	670	4.6%	6,135	42.2%
2002	6,411	36.9%	38	0.2%	193	1.1%	*	*	4,805	27.7%	327	1.9%	5,073	29.2%
2003	4,242	27.0%	47	0.3%	46	0.3%	*	*	9,549	60.8%	340	2.2%	1,367	8.7%
2004	2,893	18.9%	28	0.2%	183	1.2%	*	*	9,718	63.4%	539	3.5%	1,717	11.2%
2005	724	5.9%	281	2.3%	46	0.4%	*	*	6,402	52.2%	217	1.8%	4,441	36.2%
2006	2,691	19.4%	106	0.8%	*	*	0	0.0%	5,918	42.7%	218	1.6%	4,917	35.5%
2007	3,069	23.2%	390	2.9%	2	0.0%	*	*	4,646	35.1%	529	4.0%	4,281	32.4%
2008	3,072	20.9%	506	3.4%	63	0.4%	*	*	6,009	40.8%	391	2.7%	4,601	31.2%

Central GOA

	Hook-and-line CP		Hook-and-line CV		Jig CV		Pot CP		Pot CV		Trawl CP		Trawl CV	
	Catch	Percent of total	Catch	Percent of total	Catch	Percent of total	Catch	Percent of total	Catch	Percent of total	Catch	Percent of total	Catch	Percent of total
1995	134	0.3%	4,546	10.3%	51	0.1%	0	0.0%	13,760	31.2%	2,072	4.7%	23,548	53.4%
1996	710	1.7%	4,491	10.6%	34	0.1%	0	0.0%	10,539	24.8%	2,714	6.4%	23,975	56.5%
1997	*	*	6,401	15.4%	21	0.1%	0	0.0%	8,420	20.3%	770	1.9%	25,895	62.3%
1998	175	0.4%	5,815	14.2%	50	0.1%	0	0.0%	9,208	22.5%	4,447	10.9%	21,214	51.9%
1999	313	0.7%	6,174	14.3%	24	0.1%	2,938	6.8%	12,182	28.3%	1,595	3.7%	19,881	46.1%
2000	209	0.7%	6,529	20.4%	38	0.1%	910	2.8%	11,967	37.4%	1,387	4.3%	10,971	34.3%
2001	*	*	5,684	20.9%	11	0.0%	588	2.2%	3,505	12.9%	2,241	8.2%	15,169	55.8%
2002	1,638	7.0%	6,867	29.5%	3	0.0%	131	0.6%	3,228	13.9%	835	3.6%	10,568	45.4%
2003	1,462	6.1%	3,586	15.0%	16	0.1%	*	*	3,201	13.4%	1,219	5.1%	14,405	60.3%
2004	1,453	5.5%	5,423	20.6%	118	0.4%	0	0.0%	4,916	18.7%	770	2.9%	13,669	51.9%
2005	267	1.2%	4,271	19.3%	137	0.6%	0	0.0%	8,169	36.9%	719	3.2%	8,591	38.8%
2006	897	4.0%	6,183	27.6%	96	0.4%	0	0.0%	8,420	37.6%	877	3.9%	5,922	26.4%
2007	1,376	5.5%	6,341	25.2%	36	0.1%	*	*	8,286	32.9%	590	2.3%	8,220	32.6%
2008	1,755	6.9%	6,054	23.9%	19	0.1%	0	0.0%	5,208	20.5%	632	2.5%	11,680	46.1%

Source: ADFG Fish Tickets and NMFS Blend and Catch Accounting.

While sector allocations may reduce competition among sectors and protect historic catch levels, sector allocations alone may not slow down the race for fish, reduce bycatch, increase product quality, or have a substantial effect on the number of participating vessels. Sector allocations, in tandem with the Council's recent actions on trawl and fixed gear LLP recency, may be a step toward stabilizing the GOA Pacific cod fishery, and may enable the Council to begin developing a series of GOA management measures to address Steller sea lion issues, halibut PSC usage, and bycatch reduction.

Range of Potential Sector Allocations

The range of potential percent sector allocations of the Western and Central GOA Pacific cod TACs are summarized in Tables E-2 and E-3. The qualification period that includes earlier years (1995-2005) generally favors the trawl catcher vessel sector, particularly in the Western GOA. The qualification period that only includes more recent years (2000-2006, 2002-2007, or 2002-2008) generally favors the pot catcher vessel sector, and, to a lesser extent, the hook-and-line sectors. Using each sector's best years reduces the disparities among the options somewhat, but there are still strong differences among the options, depending on the range of qualifying years selected by the Council. For example, the trawl catcher vessel allocation could range from 26.0% to 46.7% of the Western GOA TAC, and 41.2% to 48.1% of the Central GOA TAC. Similarly, the pot catcher vessel allocation could range from 27.9% to 45.7% of the Western GOA TAC, and 24.7% to 28.1% of the Central GOA TAC.

Table E-2 Potential percent allocations of the Western and Central GOA Pacific cod TACs

Western GOA	HAL CP	HAL CV	Jig CV	Pot CP	Pot CV	Trawl CP	Trawl CV
1995-2005: Best 7 years	19.7%	0.5%	0.5%	2.2%	27.9%	2.5%	46.7%
1995-2005: Best 5 years	18.6%	0.5%	0.5%	2.5%	30.4%	2.4%	45.0%
2000-2006: Best 5 years	21.7%	0.6%	0.7%	2.3%	40.5%	2.6%	31.8%
2000-2006: Best 3 years	21.4%	0.8%	0.8%	2.7%	41.3%	2.7%	30.2%
2002-2007: Best 5 years	22.6%	1.2%	0.6%	1.6%	45.7%	2.4%	26.0%
2002-2007: Best 3 years	22.2%	1.5%	0.7%	1.8%	44.9%	2.5%	26.5%
2002-2008: Best 5 years	21.7%	1.7%	0.6%	1.5%	44.2%	2.4%	28.0%
2002-2008: Best 3 years	22.0%	2.2%	0.7%	1.8%	44.5%	2.6%	26.3%
Each sector's best option	18.3%	1.8%	0.6%	2.2%	37.1%	2.2%	37.8%
Average of Options 1-8	21.2%	1.1%	0.6%	2.0%	39.9%	2.5%	32.6%
Central GOA							
1995-2005: Best 7 years	2.8%	17.3%	0.2%	1.5%	24.7%	5.3%	48.1%
1995-2005: Best 5 years	3.4%	17.6%	0.2%	2.0%	25.2%	5.6%	45.9%
2000-2006: Best 5 years	4.2%	20.8%	0.3%	1.0%	25.3%	4.4%	44.1%
2000-2006: Best 3 years	4.7%	19.4%	0.4%	1.4%	27.9%	4.4%	41.9%
2002-2007: Best 5 years	5.2%	22.6%	0.3%	0.4%	25.8%	3.5%	42.3%
2002-2007: Best 3 years	4.9%	21.5%	0.4%	0.5%	28.1%	3.3%	41.3%
2002-2008: Best 5 years	5.5%	22.3%	0.3%	0.3%	25.7%	3.3%	42.6%
2002-2008: Best 3 years	5.2%	21.4%	0.4%	0.5%	28.0%	3.3%	41.2%
Each sector's best option	4.9%	20.1%	0.3%	1.8%	25.0%	5.0%	42.9%
Average of Options 1-8	4.5%	20.4%	0.3%	0.9%	26.3%	4.1%	43.4%

Table E-3 Potential percent allocations of the Western and Central GOA Pacific cod TACs under suboptions to split sectors by vessel length

Western GOA	HAL CP	HAL CP	HAL CV	HAL CV	HAL CV	HAL CV	Pot CV	POT CV	TRW CV	TRW CV
	<125	>=125	<50	>=50	<60	>=60	<60	>=60	<60	>=60
1995-2005: Best 7 years	16.8%	2.9%	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	13.5%	14.4%	32.9%	13.8%
1995-2005: Best 5 years	15.4%	3.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	14.3%	16.1%	30.9%	14.1%
2000-2006: Best 5 years	18.1%	3.6%	0.3%	0.3%	0.6%	0.0%	18.9%	21.6%	24.7%	7.1%
2000-2006: Best 3 years	17.7%	3.7%	0.5%	0.3%	0.8%	0.0%	19.8%	21.5%	23.7%	6.6%
2002-2007: Best 5 years	17.5%	5.1%	0.6%	0.6%	1.1%	0.0%	20.8%	24.9%	21.4%	4.5%
2002-2007: Best 3 years	17.6%	4.6%	0.8%	0.7%	1.5%	0.0%	21.6%	23.3%	23.0%	3.5%
2002-2008: Best 5 years	17.1%	4.6%	0.7%	1.0%	1.4%	0.3%	21.5%	22.7%	23.9%	4.1%
2002-2008: Best 3 years	17.4%	4.6%	0.9%	1.3%	1.8%	0.4%	21.4%	23.2%	22.8%	3.4%
Central GOA										
1995-2005: Best 7 years	0.8%	2.1%	12.5%	4.8%	16.0%	1.3%	11.4%	13.3%	8.0%	40.1%
1995-2005: Best 5 years	0.8%	2.7%	12.8%	4.9%	16.3%	1.4%	11.3%	13.9%	8.5%	37.4%
2000-2006: Best 5 years	0.6%	3.6%	14.6%	6.2%	19.0%	1.8%	10.9%	14.4%	1.7%	42.4%
2000-2006: Best 3 years	0.5%	4.1%	13.9%	5.5%	18.0%	1.4%	11.4%	16.4%	1.7%	40.1%
2002-2007: Best 5 years	0.8%	4.4%	15.4%	7.1%	20.5%	2.0%	12.1%	13.7%	1.1%	41.1%
2002-2007: Best 3 years	0.5%	4.4%	14.7%	6.9%	19.8%	1.7%	13.0%	15.2%	1.5%	39.8%
2002-2008: Best 5 years	1.1%	4.3%	14.5%	7.8%	20.2%	2.1%	12.3%	13.5%	1.1%	41.4%
2002-2008: Best 3 years	0.9%	4.3%	14.6%	6.8%	19.7%	1.7%	12.9%	15.1%	1.1%	40.2%

Interactions with LLP Recency Actions

In refining the alternatives and options for analysis, the Council may wish to consider interactions between the proposed GOA Pacific cod sector allocations and the trawl and fixed gear recency actions. In April 2008, the Council took final action on trawl recency. In general, this action will remove Western GOA and Central GOA area endorsements from trawl CV and trawl CP licenses that did not have at least 2 trawl groundfish landings during 2000 through 2006 in the respective management area. The estimated number of Western and Central GOA endorsed trawl licenses that will remain eligible to fish in these management areas is reported in Table E-4. At its April 2009 meeting, the Council took final action on fixed gear recency. The Council's preferred alternative will add gear-specific Pacific cod endorsements to fixed gear licenses, which limit entry into the directed Pacific cod fisheries in the Western and Central GOA. Licenses may qualify for gear-specific Pacific cod endorsements based on directed Pacific cod landings during 2002 through 2008. The minimum thresholds are 1 landing for jig gear; and for pot and hook-and-line gear, 10 mt for CV licenses with an MLOA designation of <60 ft, and 50 mt for CP licenses and CV licenses with an MLOA designation of ≥60 ft. The Pacific cod endorsements will restrict licenses to using the gear type (pot, hook-and-line, or jig) and operation type (catcher processor or catcher vessel) specified on the endorsement. Table E-4 shows the estimated number of fixed gear licenses that will qualify for gear-specific Pacific cod endorsements.

Table E-4 Number of LLPs eligible to access the GOA Pacific cod fisheries following the LLP recency actions, by operation type and gear endorsement

	Western GOA	Western GOA Sideboarded	Central GOA	Central GOA Sideboarded
<u>Catcher Vessel Licenses</u>				
Trawl CV	76	11 AFA SB	93	15 AFA SB
Hook-and-line CV <60 ft	7		123	
Hook-and-line CV ≥60 ft	3		7	
Pot CV <60 ft	59		51	
Pot CV ≥60 ft	21	10 crab SB	27	10 crab SB
Jig CV	11		19	
Total Fixed Gear CV*	94		215	
<u>Additional licenses available to CQEs</u>				
CQE Pot CV <60 ft	21		26	
CQE Hook-and-line CV <60 ft	0		24	
<u>Catcher Processor Licenses</u>				
Trawl CP	20	18 Am80 SB	21	16 Am80 SB
Hook-and-line CP <125 ft	9		5	
Hook-and-line CP ≥125 ft	7		7	
Hook-and-line CP <125 ft Offshore Limited**	0		5	
Hook-and-line CP ≥125 ft Offshore Limited**	3		7	
Pot CP	4		3	
Total Fixed Gear CP*	21	4 crab SB	27	4 crab SB

*Total number of licenses that will receive at least one gear-specific Pacific cod endorsement. Some licenses qualify for more than one endorsement.

**Licenses that qualify for a hook-and-line CP endorsement under the exemption for participants in the voluntary PSC co-op are limited to participating in the offshore sector.

Table E-5 A comparison of the components and options included in the proposed GOA Pacific cod sector allocation action and the Council's final motion on GOA fixed gear LLP recency.

COMPARISON OF GULF OF ALASKA ACTIONS		
ACTION	GOA Pacific Cod Sector Allocations	GOA Fixed Gear LLP Recency
PURPOSE OF ACTION	Allocate Western and Central GOA Pacific cod TACs among the gear and operation types	Add Pacific cod endorsements to GOA fixed gear LLP licenses to limit entry to the directed Pacific cod fisheries
MANAGEMENT AREAS	Western and Central GOA	Western and Central GOA (CG endorsement also includes West Yakutat)
SECTORS	(1) Hook-and-line CVs Option: Hook-and-line CVs <60 and >=60 Option: Hook-and-line CVs <50 and >=50 (CGOA) (2) Hook-and-line CPs Option: Hook-and-line CPs <125 and >=125 (3) Pot CVs Option: Pot CVs <60 and >=60 (4) Pot CPs (5) Jig (6) Trawl CVs (7) Trawl CPs Option: Combined trawl and pot CV (WG only)	<u>Sectors defined to allow the Council to select different qualifying thresholds for each sector:</u> (1) Hook-and-line CVs <60 and >=60 (2) Hook-and-line CPs (3) Pot CVs <60 and >=60 (4) Pot CPs (5) Jig
QUALIFYING CATCH	Retained catch of Pacific cod from parallel and Federal waters State waters catch is excluded	Retained catch from the directed Pacific cod fisheries in parallel and Federal waters State waters and IFQ catch is excluded
QUALIFYING YEARS	(1) 1995-2005: best 5 or 7 years (2) 2000-2006: best 3 or 5 years (3) 2002-2007: best 3 or 5 years (4) 2002-2008: best 3 or 5 years	2002 through Dec 8, 2008
LANDINGS THRESHOLDS	None	Jig - 1 landing Hook-and-line CV and pot CV <60 ft MLOA - 10 mt Hook-and-line CV and pot CV >=60 ft MLOA - 50 mt Hook-and-line CP and pot CP - 50 mt
JIG	1%, 3%, or 5% allocation Step up provision (1%) if allocation is 90% harvested during a given year (up to a max. of 5%) Step down provision if allocation is not 90% harvested during 3 consecutive years, but allocation will not drop below its initial level	Exempt jig vessels from the LLP requirement if they use 5 or fewer jig machines, and up to 1 line per machine and 30 hooks per line
OTHER COMPONENTS	Options to allocate hook-and-line halibut PSC to CVs and CPs. Options to cap amount of catch processed by motherships. Options to require Federally-permitted vessel operators to hold an LLP with the appropriate area and gear endorsements to participate in the GOA parallel waters Pacific cod fishery.	CQE communities may request pot or hook-and-line licenses for use by community residents Exemption from catch thresholds for participants in hook-and-line CP informal halibut PSC coop (results in an offshore limited hook-and-line CP endorsement).



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

*National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 21668
Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668*

AGENDA C-1
Supplemental
OCTOBER 2009

September 2, 2009

RECEIVED

SEP - 2009

RECEIVED

Mr. Eric Olson, Chairman
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th Avenue, Suite 306
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Olson:

In October, the Council is scheduled to initially review the draft analysis of components supporting an allocation of the Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod total allowable catch among sectors. We have reviewed the Council's June 2009 motion for this action and have several recommendations for Council consideration. First, we urge the Council to select a preliminary preferred alternative for each of the 10 components under Alternative 2. This would facilitate further analysis and public comment on this potentially complex allocative action. Second, we recommend that the Council's draft purpose and need statement be clarified and revised to incorporate all components under Council consideration. A revised purpose and need statement is enclosed for Council review that, we believe, captures all the components under consideration by the Council. Third, we recommend the following technical revisions to clarify several components of the proposed action.

Under Component 2, sector definitions, suboption 2, we recommend replacing the first sentence with the following language to clearly state that the vessel's fishing history is the primary qualification for an endorsement: "Add a CP/CV Pacific cod endorsement to both trawl and non-trawl CP licenses that have history as catcher vessels during the qualifying period."

Under Component 3, definition of qualifying catch, we recommend replacing the third bullet point with the following language to more clearly state the Council's intent: "Each sector allocation will be managed to support incidental and directed catch needs for that sector."

Component 4 appears to consist of two separate parts that could be labeled Part A and Part B for clarification. Part A could be "Years included for purposes of determining catch history." Part B could be "Seasonal apportionment of sector allocations." This component would then need an overall title. We recommend the title "Sector allocations."

Under Component 6, management of unharvested sector allocations, NMFS suggests the following language to more clearly state exactly how the rollover options would operate. Option 1 would read "The other CV or CP sectors within the same gear type first, and then to all other sectors taking into account the capability of a sector, as determined by the Regional Administrator, to harvest the reallocated amount of Pacific cod." Option 2 would read "All



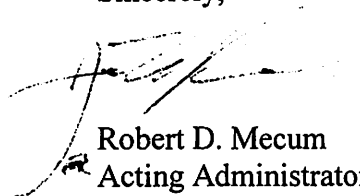
sectors, taking into account the capability of a sector, as determined by the Regional Administrator, to harvest the reallocated amount of Pacific cod.”

Under Component 8, community protection provisions, the last sentence of the introductory paragraph is unnecessary as this basically restates what is in the regulations as the definition of a stationary floating processor. If this sentence remains, then it should be edited to change the position of “only” as follows: “Stationary floating processors may process groundfish only at a single geographic location during a given year.” Additionally, if suboption 3 of this component continues to be pursued as an option, the Council will need to clarify what it means by the terms “community” or “municipal boundary” so that an analysis may be completed. Currently, descriptions of marine water boundaries of some coastal communities do not exist. Further, how communities would qualify under this suboption should be specified and the qualifying communities should be listed. Finally, to monitor and enforce the proposed area, we would require VMS on all motherships.

Last, we suggest that Component 9 be incorporated into the purpose and need statement as shown in the attachment.

Should the Council desire, we are prepared to further discuss these suggestions at the October meeting.

Sincerely,



Robert D. Mecum
Acting Administrator, Alaska Region

Enclosure

Enclosure

NMFS Recommendation for Revised Purpose and Need Statement
September 1, 2009

Purpose and Need Statement

The limited access derby-style management of the Western GOA and Central GOA Pacific cod fisheries has led to competition among the various gear types (trawl, hook-and-line, pot and jig) and operation types (catcher processor and catcher vessel) for shares of the total allowable catch (TAC). Competition for the GOA Pacific cod resource has increased for a variety of reasons, including increased market value of cod products, rationalization of other fisheries in the BSAI and GOA, increased participation by fishermen displaced from other fisheries, reduced Federal TACs due to the State waters cod fishery, and Steller sea lion mitigation measures including the A/B seasonal split of the GOA Pacific cod TACs. The competition among sectors in the fishery may contribute to higher rates of bycatch, discards, and out-of-season incidental catch of Pacific cod.

Participants in the fisheries who have made long-term investments and are dependent on the fisheries face uncertainty as a result of the competition for catch shares among sectors. ~~Allocation of the catch among sectors may reduce this uncertainty and contribute to stability across the sectors. Dividing the TACs among sectors may also facilitate development of management measures and fishing practices to address conservation (e.g. Steller sea lion mitigation measures, bycatch reduction, and prohibited species catch (PSC) mortality) and social objectives, including considerations for small boat sectors and coastal communities.~~ **To reduce uncertainty and contribute to stability across the sectors, and to promote sustainable fishing practices and facilitate development of management measures, the Western GOA and Central GOA Pacific cod TACs should be divided among the sectors. Allocations to each sector would be based primarily on qualifying catch history, but may be adjusted to address conservation, catch monitoring, and social objectives including considerations for small boat sectors and coastal communities. Given that** Because harvest sector allocations would supersede the inshore/offshore processing sector allocations for Pacific cod by creating harvest limits, the Council may ~~need to~~ consider regulatory changes for offshore and inshore floating processors **in order to sustain the participation of fishing communities.**

The timing of the Pacific cod A and B seasons may have limited the participation of jig vessels in the parallel and Federal fisheries of the GOA. Additionally, the State waters jig allocation has gone uncaught in some years, potentially due to the lack of availability of Pacific cod inside three miles. A non-historical Federal catch award, together with the provision of access in Federal waters for the State Pacific cod jig allocations, offers entry-level opportunities for the jig sector.

Currently, there are no limits on entry into the parallel waters groundfish fisheries, and no limits on the proportion of the GOA Pacific cod TAC that may be harvested in parallel waters. There is concern that participation in the GOA Pacific cod parallel waters fishery by vessels that do not hold LLP licenses may increase. The Council in consideration

of options and recommendations for the parallel fishery will need to balance the objectives of providing stability to the long term participants in the sectors while providing opportunities for new entrants who do not hold Federal permits or licenses to participate in the parallel fishery.

Sept. 28, 2009

C-1 GOA Pacific Cod Allocation

To: Eric Olson, Chairman
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
6005 W. 4th, Suite 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252
Fax: 907-271-2817

Dear Eric,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment before the Council on the P-Cod sector split.

We work aboard the Kodiak-based trawler "Topaz", a family owned and operated vessel that has been fishing in the GOA for nearly 30 years. Our five families are fully dependent on the successful operation of the vessel and the proper management of the resource. The fact that we have been able to stay in business this long is due in no small part to the stewardship demonstrated through the years by the NPFMC.

The decisions the council will be making on the cod sector split will have a significant impact on our future. We support the sector split BUT ONLY IF the Council uses it as a proper tool to protect those of us who made long term investments in the fishery. We are not asking for you to take anything away from other fishermen. We are asking that you be fair, recognize the history we generated building the trawl fishery, protect our community which thrives on the trawl-caught fish, and give us the tools to stabilize things so we can deal with sea lions, fish bycatch, fuel costs, and market conditions.

Our vessel fishes year-round and delivers its catch to shorebased plants in Kodiak and it's deliveries keep the resident Kodiak processing workforce employed year round.

We appreciate and support the Council recognizing both historic and present fishing by allowing us to consider history from 1995 to 2005. This makes a lot of sense because we can consider more recent fishing but also the fishing we did before the sea lion measures impacted our fishing operations and rewards the long term participants fairly.

We also appreciate and support the Council allowing the trawl fishery to retain its directed and secondary species catch. We are not asking to get credit for things we were not supposed to catch but we should get credit for ALL FISH we legally caught. The higher value secondary species can make the difference between an economically successful trip and one that is not. The Council needs to understand the mixed nature of trawl gear and the economic return of incidental cod catch within our other trawl fisheries that make it financially feasible for our vessel to participate in those fisheries and keep the community working.

We look forward to the increased accountability that comes with a sector allocation. This will help us address by-catch concerns and meet conservation goals.

Our remaining concern with this action is the clause under Component 9, "To address conservation, catch monitoring, and social objectives, allocations to any sector based on catch history may be adjusted." We believe that this action is about stabilizing the sectors versus reallocation of the cod resource. Reallocation of the resource will happen through cod quota rollovers to other sectors, if my sector cannot reach the available quota. All we are asking for is a fair and equitable allocation to the trawl sector.

Please give this important decision your careful consideration.

Thank you.

Jason Chandler
569 Leta
Kodiak, Ak 99615

Matthew Tormala
1592 Monashka Circle
Kodiak, AK 99615

Dan Couchaine
810 Mallard
Kodiak, AK 99615

Ryan Fletcher
Box 8673
Kodiak, Ak 99645

Mark Chandler
4934 Lakeshore Dr.
Florence, OR 97439

*F/V Cape Reliant
Bill Connor
Box 61
Petersburg, AK 99833*

September 25, 2008

Eric Olson, Chair
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th Ave, Ste 306
Anchorage, AK 99501
Fax: 907.271.2817

RE: AGENDA ITEM C-1 GOA PACIFIC COD ALLOCATION

Dear Chairman Olson and Members of the Council,

My name is Bill Connor, and I am an Alaskan resident from Petersburg. I own and operate the F/V Cape Reliant and have been actively participating in the Federal Western Gulf and Central Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod fishery since 1992 the Bearing Sea under 60 foot starting in 2004 and the last two years in Adak State of Alaska waters. I have participated in the State water Chignik Pacific cod fishery for 3 years and the Western Gulf State water pacific cod fishery for 6 years.

Since 1992, my 58 foot vessel and crew crosses the Gulf of Alaska in late December from Petersburg AK to participate in the Pacific cod fishery. I started trawling in 1992 out of Sandpoint AK in January and when the TAC was reached in the Western Gulf, I would move into the Central Gulf and fish out of Kodiak till the TAC was caught. I sell to the shore based companies in Alaska, and hire Alaskan crew first. With the Pacific cod fishery I am able to provide my crew with year-round jobs. The 58 foot trawl fishery is an important fishery to the salmon seine vessels in that it allows us to add additional work for ourselves and crew to earn a viable living. Participating in multiple fisheries is essential to our livelihood.

In reading the analysis of the p-cod sector split, I feel with this plan in its present form my history and participation are given little weight and my fishing options left will squeeze me out of this very dependant part of my fishing program.

I note that on page 61 of the draft paper for the allocation of p-cod in the last paragraph it states: "The problem statement notes that the participant in the fisheries who have made long term investments and are dependant on the fisheries face uncertainty as a result of the competition for catch shares among

the sectors." I feel long term should include the years 1992, 93 and 94 to my operation, as these years are as important as the years 2005 thru 2008 are to the new entrants.

On the recency matter, I feel that precedence was set when trawl recency used the years 2000 thru 2006 and by using 2002 thru 2008 for fixed gear recency there is no consistency in recency. Doing the pot years this way eliminates my history in fixed gear which I have a substantial investment in and at least 2 years participation.

In regards to Alternative #2 option for WG, combining the trawl and pot sector. If these sectors are combined, both need the same start date and a 60 pot limit, or again I will in the near future lose substantial history, because knowledge of the grounds has increased, pot gear has become more refined and effective by the escapement triggers, and the baiting technique along with no gear limit will advantage the pot sector over the trawl sector. I feel the trawl sector will continue to see its catch percentage erode away.

The start date for trawl was not to advantage the pot sector, it was for lowering Chinook salmon bycatch. As I have stated above and as the percentage of the TAC has increased substantially for pots, it will in short order eliminate my ability to participate in the p-cod fishery.

Pot vessels need to have a gear limit of 60 pots, or the Council should make an option adding a pot endorsement to all 58 foot trawl LLPs in WG so as not to eliminate long term participants such as myself.

In 1997 when the state of Alaska initiated a pot and jig fishery, the trawl sector lost 25% of its potential harvest through reallocation. I feel that the trawl sector should be credited back from the pot sector half of the WG State TAC of 21.25 % and that in CG half of the 16.94% (Table 2-4 pg. 21).

If the WG trawl sector has to take any of its traditional A season catch in the B season it will cause other substantial issues, such as higher operating cost in fuel and insurance, and a higher incidental catch of halibut due to less schooling of the p-cod. I would support an option that would allow WG to take 100% of its historical trawl TAC in the A season for these reasons.

I would like to remind the Council that I have been participating in the GOA p-cod fishery for 18 years and I want to continue to fish, but I am concerned that I will lose many options in the p-cod fishery. With the years that have chosen for pot recency and without this endorsement, I feel there is a real possibility of being squeezed out completely within a few years because I will have lost the option of changing gear types depending on the circumstances, from early start dates and no limit on pots and to the halibut and any future PSC takes that would shut down the trawl fishery. I have made very substantial investments in the p-

cod fishery in my 18 years of participation including buying a new vessel in 2007 along with 70 new cod pots, hauler, launcher, coiler, and bait chopper. In doing this sector split proposed in this analysis, I feel that the Council missed out on the longtime participant. To correct this and take the uncertainty out of my future in this fishery I am dependant on, I request that the Council add the pot endorsement to the 58 foot WG trawl LLPs or set the same start date for pots and trawl and a gear limit of 60 pots.

**Thanks for your time
Bill Connor
FV Cape Reliant
Box 61
Petersburg AK**

Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association

April 8, 2009

P.O. Box 991
Kodiak, AK
99615
(907) 486-3910
alaska@ptialaska.net

To: Eric Olson, Chairman
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
6005 W. 4th, Suite 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252
Fax: 907-271-2817

Dear Mr. Olson:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the P-Cod sector split.

The Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association urges the Council to support a P-Cod sector split providing that the split is used as a tool to protect those vessels who made long-term investments in the fishery—especially those who got in early and took lots of financial and personal risks to found the fishery that has been productive for all who have entered since.


We are not asking for the Council to take anything away from other fishermen. We ARE asking that you be fair, recognize the history we generated building the trawl fishery, protect our community which thrives on the trawl-caught fish, and give us the tools to stabilize things so we can deal with sea lions, fish bycatch, fuel costs, and market conditions.

One of our concerns with the proposed sector split is the clause under Component 9, "To address conservation, catch monitoring, and social objectives, allocations to any sector based on catch history may be adjusted." Additionally the problem statement suggests that this action is meant to address social objectives, including small boat sectors and coastal communities.

We believe that this action is about stabilizing the sectors versus reallocation of the cod resource. We are asking for a fair and equitable allocation to the trawl sector—reallocation of the resource will happen automatically through cod quota rollovers to other sectors, if my sector cannot reach the available quota. All I am asking for is a fair and equitable allocation to the trawl sector.

Your decisions will significantly impact fishermen and our communities, particularly Kodiak.

Thank you for your consideration,



Alvin R. Burch
Executive Director, Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Association

Eric Olson, Chairman
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
6005 W 4th Suite 306
Anchorage AK 99501-2252

Dear Chairman Olson:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment before the Council on the P-Cod sector split.

My name is Daniel Hees and I am the skipper of the F/V Progress, a vessel which has fished in Alaskan waters for many years. I support the sector split to protect those of us who have made long term investments in the fishery. I ask that you recognize the history of the trawl fishery in the Kodiak area. Our community thrives on trawl-caught fish.

My crew and I spend money in Kodiak on observers, fuel, groceries and supplies, and also at repair shops for maintenance and repair. In addition as a Kodiak resident I pay taxes and utilities.

The trawl fleet keeps many cannery workers employed year round.

Please consider us for a fair and equitable allocation to the trawl sector. We work hard to reduce bycatch and would appreciate your consideration of our efforts. Your decisions will significantly impact our community.

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

(Recvd by e-mail to Fax to NPFMC)

Daniel C. Hees
PO BOX 2115
Kodiak AK 99615

907-486-4025

Sept. 26, 2009

To: North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
6005 W. 4th, Suite 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252
Fax: 907-271-2817

From: William and Keith Burch
P.O. Box 884
Kodiak, AK 99615

Re: GOA Pacific cod sector split

Dear Chairman Olson and members of the Council:

Our family owns and operates the F/V Dawn and the F/V Dusk, both of which are long-time Kodiak trawl vessels.

Our father and uncle were among the pioneers of the whitefish fisheries in Kodiak. Like true pioneers they started from scratch and had to adjust along the way. They invested time, money, sweat, and the family assets to get the cod and other bottom fisheries off the ground.


We know things change, and we can respect that. However, it is vital that we remember the people who worked to make the current viable fisheries viable. We don't want to exclude newcomers, but it's important to protect the pioneers of Alaska's fisheries—many of whom are still active in the fisheries. If it wasn't for our father Al and his brother Oral, and many other long-time Kodiak fishermen, there would not be a cod fishery for newcomers to enter. Let's not forget the people who made this all possible.

We support the GOA Pacific cod sector split as long as the trawl sector receives their historical catch. The Pacific cod split in the Gulf is meant to reduce competition between sectors and enhance stability in the fishery, therefore our support.

Our boats and crews spend an enormous amount of money each year in and around Kodiak on observers, fuel, groceries, boat supplies and maintenance, equipment and retail services, entertainment. Our boats fish year-round and deliver the majority of the catch that the shoreside plants have benefitted greatly from and now depend upon. The processing plants are consistently within the top 10 Kodiak employers and our deliveries keep the Kodiak processing workforce employed.

Historic trawl participants developed this fishery. We believe fair and equitable sector allocations based on historical catch of legally retained Pacific cod will benefit all Gulf cod boats and their crews, stabilize the fishery and the Kodiak fleet that depends on this high-value fish. This split will, in turn, motivate each sector to take action to maximize their respective harvests and manage their incidental catches by implementing measures to improve efficiency, and reduce regulatory discards.

Sincerely,



William and Keith Burch
Fishing Vessels Dawn and Dusk
Kodiak trawler boats

September 28, 2009

Eric Olson, Chair
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 W. Fourth Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Agenda Item C-1 GOA P. cod sector split

Dear Chairman Olson,

My name is Jay Lund and my brother Leo and I recently bought our first boat in Kodiak. It is a 36 ft, wood vessel and one could say it needs some work. We have been actively fishing throughout our lives in both the GOA and the Bering Sea and see the jig fishery as one of the few fisheries we could afford to get into. As fishing regulations increase and more and more doors are shut for upcoming fishermen like me, I encourage the Council to take action to ensure both entry level opportunity and growth in the jig sector.

In Component 5: Allocation of Pacific cod to the jig sector.

I support option 1: A State parallel/Federal managed p cod fishery.

A Federally managed 0-200 miles fishery would create a single account that would be easier to manage and may help to reduce stranded quota. As stated in the analysis, the fishery would open on the January 1st and close when the TAC is reached. The ability for small boats to move back and forth across the line throughout the season should greatly facilitate our catch effort. Rollover provisions found in Component 6 which defer management of rollovers of unharvested sector allocations to NMFS inseason management would also serve to avoid stranded catch.

I choose to live a low overhead, subsistence style lifestyle in a cabin 20 miles from Kodiak and plan to remain in Kodiak. The opportunity found within the jig sector and the opportunity to grow provides a means for me to get started. I support an initial allocation of 1% and a minimal cap of 5%.

Sincerely,

Jay Lund

Jay Lund
F/V Blue Fox

Sept. 28, 2009

WJ

From: A group of Kodiak trawl vessel owners, skippers and crew

To: Eric Olson, Chairman
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
6005 W. 4th, Suite 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252
Fax: 907-271-2817

Re: Proposed Cod Sector Split before the NPFMC

Dear Mr. Olson:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment before the Council on the P-Cod sector split. We are a group of Kodiak trawl fishermen, skippers and owners. We are scheduled to go on a Pollock opener tomorrow, 29th. We really don't have time for letters, but we feel so strongly about protecting the long-term trawl fleet in Kodiak that we got together to sign this letter to you.

As others have said, we support the trawl sector split **BUT ONLY** if the Council uses it as a tool to protect those of use who made long-term investments in the fishery.

We are not asking to take anything away from others, but as the sector that developed and invested in the cod industry, we want to make sure we **DO NOT LOSE** any of our tradition, and continual, share of the Cod.

We appreciate that the Council plans to include years of history that gives us credit for the cod we caught prior to all the sea lion closures and cut-backs in quota.

We also appreciate and support the Council allowing the trawl fishery to retain its directed and incidental catch that was allowed under the law at the time. We are not asking to get credit for things we were not supposed to catch but we should get credit for **ALL FISH** we legally caught.

Incidental catch is an important component of our individual fishing plans. In fact, many of us would not make it financially if we didn't have the incidental cod catch. Sometimes it is the incidentally caught cod that will make or break another of our fisheries.

2003

We also want to let the Council know that our fleet has a huge financial impact on Kodiak. When we first started cod fishing, that and Pollock, kept this town running in the winter. Prior to that, the town mostly shut down after salmon. Now we have year-round processing jobs for resident workers.

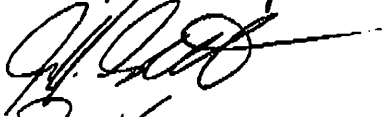
Our boats and their crews contribute millions of dollars to the Kodiak economy. We support local businesses. Many of us own homes and live in Kodiak. Our families attend local schools.

We've all worked hard to develop our fishing practices and gear to make the fishery more viable and to reduce bycatch. We have invested a lot of our own money into new gear and excluders that have made a decrease in bycatch rates.

In summary, the Kodiak trawl fleet developed the cod fishery, we have continually fished the bulk of the cod, bringing money and jobs to town, and have worked hard within our fleet to make our fishery cleaner and more sustainable.

Please remember that we are not asking for someone else's share of the cod, we want to protect our historic catches and receive recognition for having taken the risks and heartaches of founding the cod industry in Kodiak.

Thank you very much,

Name	Vessel
Don W. Sitter	Cape Kiwanda
Larry Byrdston	New Life
George Hutchins	F/V Hicly Wind
	F/V Dusk
Ron Keesee	Excalibur II
Mike McEthenie	MARCY J
Jamie Fagan	F/V Walter
JASON CHANDLER	F/V TOPAZ
Rob Canyon	F/V Launce

3 of 3

Kodiak Trawlers

Name

Vessel

Kent Heltgen
~~_____~~

Pacific Star
F/V DAWN

September 28, 2009

Eric Olson, Chair
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 W. Fourth Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Agenda Item C-1 GOA P. cod sector split

Dear Chairman Olson,
I am a 20 year old Kodiak born fisherman with hopes of owning my own boat someday. I have participated in both pot fishing and jigging for Groundfish over the last few years and find myself learning a lot about the fishery. I believe I could build a future for myself by continuing to fish for salmon, which I have done all my life, along with some access to cod, and the willingness to fish for whatever comes my way.

While I must admit I prefer pot fishing, realistically I see myself starting out jigging and possibly working my way up. I plan to run a 42 foot vessel which is outfitted for jig, but I also have access of some pots to use. Due to the reduction of LLP's, it is difficult to speculate at this time what it will take financially to buy a permit to pot fish for cod but I do have the means to jig.

I believe there is substantial opportunity for jig fishermen throughout coastal communities in the GOA found in the sector split analysis. In Component 5: Allocation of Pacific cod to jig sector, I support Option 1: State parallel/Federal managed Pacific cod jig fishery for all the reasons outlined in the document (pg. 77) and listed below.

Advantages to Option 1- Combined parallel/Federal and State jig allocations

- **Creating a single, consolidated jig account may be more efficient to manage, may minimize the amount of stranded quotas, and may increase attainment of OY (National Standard 1).**
- **Provides jig sector the opportunity to fish in Federal waters during months when weather conditions are more favorable.**
- **Avoids timing conflicts between State and Federal seasons.**
- **Facilitates rollover of unharvested jig allocations to other sectors. (Especially with the mechanism to defer management of rollovers of unharvested sector allocations to NMFS inseason management).**
- **Facilitates stairstep increase (or decreases) to the jig allocation.**

I support a 1% initial allocation with a minimal cap of 5% and consideration of up to 7%.

I strongly urge the Council to provide significant entry level opportunity in the jig sector for young fishermen to continue lifelong traditions and remain in Alaska's coastal communities.

Sincerely,


Charles Peterson

September 28, 2009

Eric Olson, Chair
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 W. Fourth Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Agenda Item C-1 GOA P. cod sector split

Dear Chairman Olson,

My name is Leonard Carpenter and together with my wife Anita and family we own and operate a 38' foot fishing vessel. We longline and jig P. Cod in the federal/parallel and State fisheries, and also fish for rockfish and crab. The cod fisheries represent a major portion of our yearly income, and we are very dependent on these fisheries.

C-1 Pacific Cod Sector Allocations

Component 5: Allocation of Pacific cod to jig sector

Jlg Allocation- (pg.5), Although it is not in the current alternative, we support an initial allocation of 2 percent, with a stairstep provision to increase the allocation by 1 percent a year. We also request that the Council retains the 5 percent cap as a minimum, with consideration to increase the cap to 7 percent, in order to ensure entry-level opportunities exist for new entrants and existing participants that may be displaced from other sectors due to fleet reduction that occurred with latent LLP removal, or future consolidations of other sectors.

Options for management of the jig allocation

We request that the Council select Option 1 as the preferred alternative for management of the jig allocation. This provides fisheries management with a single, consolidated jig account which may be more efficient to manage than the other options. It also benefits the jig sector by avoiding timing conflicts between State and Federal seasons, and closures that result in lost harvesting time.

Component 6: Management of unharvested sector allocations

With options that defer management of rollovers of unharvested sector allocations to NMFS in season management, stranded jig quota will be minimal.

Sincerely,

Leonard and Anita Carpenter
F/V Fish Tale
fishtalerulz@yahoo.com

September 28, 2009

Eric Olson, Chair
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 W. Fourth Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Agenda Item C-1 GOA P. cod allocation

Dear Chairman Olson,

My name is Leonard Carpenter and together with my wife Anita and family we own and operate a 36' foot fishing vessel. We longline and jig P. Cod in the federal/parallel and State fisheries, and also fish for rockfish and crab.

Component 10 – Parallel Fishery Issues

I request that the Council re-examine and include in their analysis historic participants that may be excluded in the federal /parallel P. cod fishery under proposed changes to sector allocations. I have participated in the federal/parallel P. cod fishery for the last decade, but only as a non-LLP licensed vessel owner/operator fishing inside three miles. I feel as though I am falling through the cracks, and will be excluded from future participation in this parallel fishery because I don't possess a qualified LLP. I am a historic participant, who has contributed to my respective sector's allocation, therefore I have the right to be included and afforded the same protections as those who have fished outside three miles.

When the Council began considering the issue of latent LLP removal, I asked the AP and Council to consider awarding LLP's to those vessels in the parallel fishery that had catch history during the qualifying period. The effect would have been to protect those parallel participants, and also establish a cut-off date for new entrants in the parallel fishery. The AP did not act upon that request, so we are still faced with the question of what to do with the parallel fishery, and most importantly for the parallel fishers is, "Where do we fit in?".

As the number of vessels and their retained catch is relatively small, it should not be an issue to include us, and allow us to continue participating in this fishery. After all we did contribute to our respective sectors allocations.

Please reconsider awarding LLP's to those parallel waters participants that have catch history during the qualifying dates used for the latent LLP removal.

An alternative would be to recommend to the Alaska Board of Fisheries to use the same qualifying dates to set eligibility criteria for participation in the federal parallel fishery through a limited entry program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

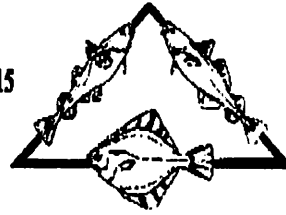
Leonard and Anita Carpenter
FV Fish Tale
fishtalerulz@yehoo.com

Groundfish Data Bank

Alaska

PH: 907-486-3033 FAX: 907-486-3461 P.O. BOX 788 - KODIAK, AK. 99615

Julie Bonney, Executive Director jbonney@goi.net
Katy McGauley, Fisheries Biologist agdb@goi.net



September 28, 2009

Mr. Eric Olson, Chairman
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 West 4th Avenue, Suite 306
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

RE: GOA Pacific Cod Allocation – October 2009 Agenda C-1

Dear Mr. Olson:

Initial review of the draft analysis of the Gulf of Alaska Pacific cod allocation among sectors is scheduled for the October 2009 NPFMC meeting. The Alaska Groundfish Data Bank (AGDB) is a member organization representing GOA shoreside trawlers and shoreside processors. AGDB members urge the Council to select or narrow many of the options of the 10 components under Alternative 2, in hopes that the Council can take final action at their 2009 December meeting.

The members of AGDB believe that this action should recognize long-term investments and dependency on the fisheries for harvesters, processors and communities. Allocations to each sector should be based on qualifying catch history, not a reallocation of the fishery to others creating some “new” undefined opportunity. The one exception to this standard is the non-historical allocation to the jig sector that offers a modest federal entry-level opportunity.

The Kodiak community is dependent on the Pacific cod fishery as it exists now. Included in this letter is a detailed discussion of how the Kodiak community fishery economy works (see KIB port landings and ex-vessel value, KIB tax revenues, and City of Kodiak infrastructure sections). The economic investment made by the trawl and the processing sectors has paid dividends to the Kodiak community. In return, our community has made investments to support our sectors. The Council needs to recognize that a healthy trawl sector and a healthy processing sector are vital components for the continued health of both the City of Kodiak and the Kodiak Island Borough communities.

TRAWL SECTOR

Contribution to coastal communities, catch monitoring and actions to address conservation

Our boats and crews spend an enormous amount of money each year in and around Kodiak on observers, fuel, groceries, boat supplies and maintenance, equipment, retail services, and entertainment. Our boats fish year-round and deliver the majority of the catch that the shoreside plants depend upon. Our deliveries keep the resident Kodiak processing workforce employed year round. It is important to note that the CGOA non-AFA trawl CV sector receives the highest percentage of revenues of any sector from the GOA Pacific cod fisheries during the time period 2001 – 2008 (24.7%); the trawl fleet is highly dependent on the GOA cod fishery.

The Kodiak trawl fleet is virtually all over 60 feet and is therefore currently required to carry observers for 30% of their fishing days. Our observer coverage is an important source of data for catch monitoring and provides biological data for stock assessments. Additionally, while the sector does not have individual accountability via catch shares, the sector has made advances to address conservation. SSL measures have forced fishers to fish during the fall when cod aggregations are decreased and bycatch can be higher. Our sector has worked to develop a strategy to harvest cod in a responsible manner during the B season. We have developed halibut excluder devices for the Pacific cod target to reduce halibut

bycatch and have worked with NMFS to control our halibut bycatch usage in the B season fishery. Presently, Pacific cod trawling in the B season is managed with short pulse fisheries with the fleet standing down until the halibut bycatch data is available before additional fishing can occur. This creates inefficiencies for the fleet and gives the fixed gear sectors additional fishing time while we wait for halibut bycatch accounting. To facilitate catch and bycatch accounting the fleet has voluntarily carried RPP laptops with ATLAS programming for the vessels' observers to shorten observer data turnaround time. Finally, the fleet has voluntarily stood down at night to control halibut bycatch because halibut bycatch tends to be higher at night.

We believe fair and equitable sector allocations based on historical catch of legally retained Pacific cod will benefit all Gulf cod vessels and their crews, stabilize the fishery and the fleets that depend on this fishery. This split will, in turn, motivate each sector to take action to maximize their respective harvests and manage their incidental catches by implementing measures to improve efficiency, and reduce regulatory discards.

For component 4 (sector allocations) we support the following options for consideration as the Council moves forward towards final action in December: Option 2 (Qualifying years 1995 – 2005, best 7 years), Option 4 (Qualifying years 2000 – 2006, best of 5 years), Option 8 (Qualifying years 2002 – 2008, best of 5 years). We do not support any of the short time clips within any of the options. These options allow the different sectors to "cherry pick" their best years and thus are not representative of long-term investments and dependence on the fishery. We believe that the two options that include the qualifying years 2002 – 2007 are duplicative when compared to the 2002 to 2008 time clip and should be dropped from consideration. We do support the addition of a new option that was presented in the Council staff analysis: the average of averages of the current options 1-8.

Impacts to the fixed and trawl sectors catch sector allocations based on management of the Pacific cod resource

This Council action has seen a lot of debate across the sectors advocating for their individual sector's allocation. Recaps of the arguments thus far are listed below. We are asking for an allocation that is representative of our sector's long term investments in the fishery. We are not asking for you to take anything away from others.

Benefits to fixed gear (trawl gear complaints):

Delayed start date for trawl gear in the A season: The A season begins on January 1st for fixed gear and on January 20th for trawl gear. The delayed start for trawl gear was implemented in 1993. The intent of delaying the start of the trawl season was to reduce Chinook salmon and halibut bycatch in the BSAI. In 1994, the BSAI Pacific cod TAC was allocated among the gear and operational types based on catch history. As a result, the staggered fixed and trawl gear season opening dates did not impact the ability of the sectors to maintain their historic catches of the BSAI TAC. No similar action occurred in the GOA (even though it was requested by AGDB and AWTA) to build parity between the sectors. The head start for the fixed gear sector resulted in diminished catches for trawl gear during the A season over time especially when SSL measures went into place that reduced the A season allocation to 60% of the TAC.

Allocation of 25% of the Pacific cod TAC to the State Fishery: The reallocation of federal quota to the state water fisheries was a direct reallocation of cod revenue away from the trawl sector to the fixed gear sector. According to the Council analysis, the majority (85% to 93%) of the State waters pot catch is harvested by vessels that hold LLP licenses and also have access to the Federal waters fishery. State water participants are not new "State" fishermen, they are predominately federal fishermen.

Benefits to trawl gear (fixed gear complaints):

Incidental Catches of Pacific cod: The fixed gear fisheries catch most of their cod during the directed fishery and feel that it is unfair that trawl gear should receive an allocation based on retained catch for both directed and incidental catches.

AGDB members believe that these issues balance out in terms of fairness for the following reasons:

- 1) If the Council had divided catch by sector in the early 1990's the incidental catch would have most likely been managed within the trawl sector. However, the fixed gear sector did not advocate for the sector split at that time since they wanted the opportunity to increase their catch share. In 1993, the trawl sector's catch (CP & CV) was 66% of the total TAC compared to the present potential allocations in the CGOA of 45% to 53% (CP & CV).
- 2) In both the WGOA and CGOA, the average amount of incidental catch (mt) during 1995 – 2000 was almost identical to average incidental catch levels during 2001 – 2008 (see page 43 of the analysis). However, TACs have decreased, and incidental catch as a percentage of total catch has increased in recent years. The federal TAC has been reduced partly due to the State fishery allocations - the Kodiak district cod fishery reached their State cod cap allocation of 25% in 2000. Thus the State fisheries GHF has contributed to the increase of TAC used for incidental catch even though the amount (mt) of catch has not changed over the time clip.
- 3) Incidental catch is legal catch under the MSA. The Council needs to understand the mixed nature of trawl gear catches and the importance of incidentally caught cod to the sector. Allowing incidental catch of Pacific cod to be retained increases the overall benefits from other directed fisheries. Allowing vessels to retain Pacific cod provides harvesters with incentives to participate in and develop several lower-valued fisheries which directly benefit the community of Kodiak – harvests of these lower-valued species (e.g. Arrowtooth) may well have gone unharvested if the harvester had not been allowed to retain the higher valued incidentally caught cod.
- 4) Retained catch is being awarded - not total catch. This reallocates a portion of the trawl catch history to the fixed gear sectors since trawl discarded catch is higher than other sectors due to regulatory discard requirements within the fishery. First, Pacific cod must be discarded when catch of Pacific cod during other directed fisheries exceeds the MRA. The MRA limits the amount of non-directed species catch that may be retained to a percent of directed species catch. Second, discards are required if Pacific cod has been put on PSC status. In the CGOA Pacific cod has been put on PSC status in three of the potential qualifying years under consideration.
- 5) Component 3 requires each sector to be responsible for their own incidental catch needs. For the trawl sector to be responsible for their own catch they need a catch award that recognizes their full catch history of both incidental and directed catch.

PROCESSING SECTOR

The mothership component in the GOA P Cod sector split would effectively get rid of the inshore/offshore (90/10) protection measures put in place back in 1992. With the sector split, these inshore/offshore regulations will no longer apply and there would be no limit on the amount of catch processed by motherships on a weekly or annual basis unless the Council limits their activity. Presently, mothership processing accounts towards the offshore cod quota or accounts towards the inshore cod quota but limits processing to 18 MT per day. For AGDB members, we believe that the Council should not reverse prior policy explicitly designed to benefit coastal communities in Alaska. Processors, harvesters and communities have built their business plans and invested in the fishery based on community protections.

Motherships are vessels that take deliveries from other vessels and processes that catch at sea. Catcher processors could potentially act as both catcher processors and motherships, obviously increasing the amount of cod processed at sea, and reduce shoreside deliveries. The amendment 80 fleet is the most likely candidate to take advantage of any new opportunity. That is because this fleet has received catch shares in the BSAI, and have the ability to exploit other opportunities since they no longer need to "race for fish" to secure their catch share. Now that the Council has provided the catcher-processor fleet with the essential tools to rationalize their harvests, allowing them the additional opportunity to act as motherships would damage the GOA fishing industry because it does not have the tools to rationalize and protect itself.

There appears to be some confusion about the present inshore / offshore regulations. New processors can enter the fisheries as either a stationary floating processor (as long as they only process groundfish in one geographic location for that year) or as a shorebased processor. A stationary floating processor can process non-groundfish species (i.e. salmon

or herring) at more than one geographical location in a single year, but for groundfish (e.g. cod, flatfish), they must remain or move back to that same physical location.

For component 8 (community protection provisions) we support the following options: For the CGOA and WGOA – Option 1. No motherships (all cod counts towards the cap) – the net result of this option is that all mothership activity would be prohibited for all groundfish species. Additionally, we interpret option 2 within the motion that caps mothership processing differently than the Council staff document: once the Pacific cod TAC is reached, all mothership activity would cease: processing would not be allowed to continue by discarding cod once the cap is reached.

Our concerns about this provision are as follows:

- (1) According to table 2-52 there has been no mothership processing for either Pacific cod or other groundfish since 2000 in the CGOA and limited mothership processing in the WGOA. Allowing motherships with this action is about creating a new opportunity and does not represent historical investment or dependency.
- (2) There is an inequitable cost structure for motherships operating outside of three miles when compared to shorebased or stationary floaters.
 - a. Motherships do not pay property taxes.
 - b. Motherships can avoid severance taxes by operating outside municipal boundaries.
 - c. Motherships can avoid both the fishery business tax and fishery resource tax by processing and/or landing product outside three miles.
 - d. Motherships do not pay utility costs (i.e. water, sewage or electricity)
 - e. Motherships do not have to adhere to the same Clean Water Act (CWA/EPA) regulations nor obtain EPA permits/training regarding surface water discharge from facilities, fish/offal discard, treatment, storage, disposal of hazardous waste. They have no EPA reporting or compliance monitoring requirements nor are they required to obtain an ADEC permit (with fees).
 - f. Motherships operating outside three miles are exempt from state minimum wage requirements.
- (3) The Kodiak community, processors, and harvesters are dependent on both Pacific cod and Flatfish. Virtually all Kodiak processors offer markets for flatfish. Trawl Halibut PSC is available GOA wide. Allowing more efficient processing platforms (motherships) would result in a reallocation of halibut PSC across the Gulf impacting vessels, processors and the community of Kodiak.
- (4) There is no guarantee that an expanded mothership opportunity will benefit WGOA harvesters. It is just as likely that “new” catcher vessels (with the appropriate LLP and area endorsement) will enter the WGOA fisheries that have prior flatfish fishing experience or that have relationships with those companies that would deploy motherships.

COMMUNITY SECTOR

The Port of Kodiak is the home to more than 700 commercial fishing vessels. It is Alaska’s largest fishing port and home to some of Alaska’s larger trawl, longline and crab vessels. Kodiak has more than 650 boat slips and three commercial piers that handle vessels up to 1,000 feet. Kodiak is consistently ranked within the top three largest US ports in terms of value landed. Kodiak processing plants employ 1,158 employees with a combined payroll of over \$54 million annually. Of the top 20 employers for the KIB, eight are processing companies. Those sectors of the Kodiak economy not directly engaged in fishing consist largely of support services for the fishing industry, or of enterprises that support the people who engage in fishing activities or its support. It takes all of us – harvesters of every gear type and processors of every size to make Kodiaks economic engine run.

Kodiak Island Borough Fisheries: port landings and ex-vessel revenues

The Port of Kodiak is a unique fishing port when compared to other ports in the State of Alaska. The Port of Kodiak has harvesters of all gear types and vessel sizes. Kodiak is a processing hub with multiple processors that process fish year round. Because of year round processing, Kodiak enjoys a year round processing work force and these workers are residents of and contributors to the Kodiak community. While all fish harvesting sectors are important to the overall health of the community, the trawl sector is what allows for year round processing and employment at the shoreside

facilities. Tables 1 and 2 show the Kodiak port landings by month for 2008 based on trawl and non-trawl gear both in terms of volume and value. These landings include all State and Federally managed groundfish and non-groundfish (i.e. salmon, crab, herring, IFQ halibut) species combined. For 2008, the trawl sector delivered 63% of the overall port landing volume but only 29% ex-vessel value (Tables 1 and 2). These data are graphically depicted in Figures 1 and 2. According to a McDowell report commissioned by the Kodiak Island Borough, "large reductions in the trawl fishery are magnified to huge reductions in employment in the processing sector, and could drive several processors out of business and others to seasonal operations. Seasonal processing will increase costs in recruiting, training and housing transient workers, since most resident workers would likely leave Kodiak because of the high cost of living and limited alternative employment opportunities." **Obviously, the community's processing sector depends upon a healthy and viable trawl sector.**

Table 1. Total Fishery resource landings in the Port of Kodiak in 2008 by month: trawl and no-trawl gear types. Includes all State and Federally managed groundfish and non-groundfish (including salmon, crab, herring, IFQ halibut) species combined.¹

Month	Trawl	Non-trawl	Total
January	5,617,521	9,838,564	15,456,085
February	20,764,189	7,777,481	28,541,670
March	39,385,362	6,278,129	45,663,491
April	26,490,068	7,764,672	34,254,740
May	8,866,646	3,621,911	12,488,557
June	6,235,426	5,225,651	11,461,077
July	11,094,221	19,689,936	30,784,157
August	15,976,129	34,450,217	50,426,346
September	19,101,033	9,156,123	28,257,156
October	33,924,292	4,795,086	38,719,378
November	3,684,988	3,084,045	6,769,033
December	1,229,823	11,455	1,241,278
Total	192,369,698	111,693,270	304,062,968
% of Total	63.3%	36.7%	100.0%

¹Source: Stephen E. Wright, ADF&G: confidential landings and trawl PSC landings are excluded.

Table 2. Ex-vessel value of all fishery resource landings in Kodiak in 2008 by month: trawl and non-trawl gear types. Includes all State and Federally managed groundfish and non-groundfish (including salmon, crab, herring, IFQ halibut) species combined.¹

Month	Trawl	Non-trawl	Total
January	\$2,249,106	\$6,452,526	\$8,701,631
February	\$5,840,172	\$4,865,043	\$10,705,215
March	\$7,565,556	\$5,352,884	\$12,918,440
April	\$3,742,751	\$6,486,826	\$10,229,578
May	\$2,075,949	\$8,795,823	\$10,871,772
June	\$1,592,860	\$9,916,131	\$11,508,992
July	\$3,031,428	\$15,680,685	\$18,712,113
August	\$2,892,618	\$21,706,906	\$24,599,524
September	\$5,259,861	\$9,937,277	\$15,197,138
October	\$7,456,468	\$9,528,913	\$16,985,381
November	\$910,942	\$6,269,165	\$7,180,107
December	\$346,798	\$25,086	\$371,884
Total	\$42,964,509	\$105,017,265	\$147,981,774
% of Total	29.0%	71.0%	100.0%

¹Source: Stephen E. Wright, ADF&G: confidential landings and trawl PSC landings are excluded.

Figure 1. Total Fishery resource landings in the Port of Kodiak in 2008 by month: trawl and no-trawl gear types. Includes all State and Federally managed groundfish and non-groundfish (including salmon, crab, herring, IFQ halibut and sablefish) species combined.

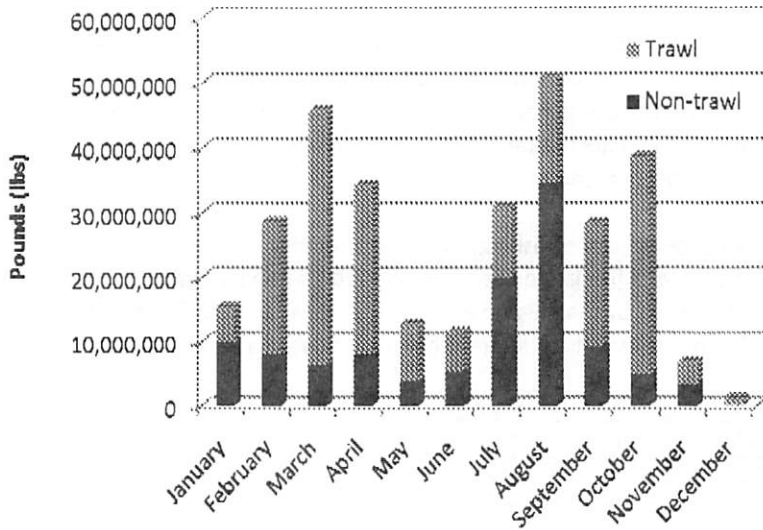
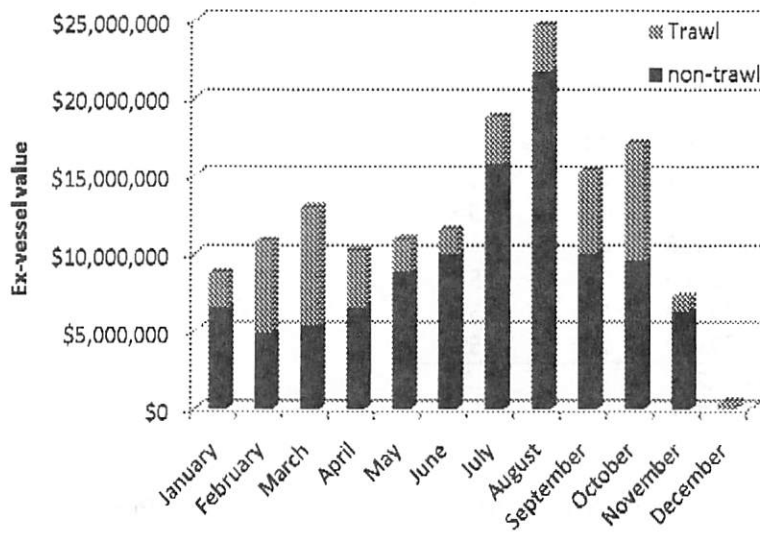


Figure 2. Ex-vessel value of all fishery resource landings in Kodiak in 2008 by month: trawl and non-trawl gear types. Includes all State and Federally managed groundfish and non-groundfish (including salmon, crab, herring, IFQ halibut and sablefish) species combined.



Kodiak Island Borough: Tax revenues

The Kodiak Island Borough (KIB) general fund revenue comes from three primary sources; property taxes, Severance taxes, and State Shared Revenues. The KIB FY2008 general fund revenue was \$14,714,342 of which property taxes contributed \$8,900,560 (60.5%), severance taxes contributed \$1,436,210 (9.8%) and State shared revenues contributed \$2,131,673 (14.5%) representing 85% of the overall KIB revenues.

Real property taxes are mostly generated from residences in the City of Kodiak and the Service Districts (~\$7,800,000) with ~\$1,100,000 generated by the KIB villages, other remote island locations, and remote areas along the road system (such as Chiniak, Pasagshak). The top twenty tax payers (see Table 3) generated 17% of the total property taxes. Seven of the Kodiak processors are within the top twenty payers. There are a total of 5,463 real accounts and 1,764 personal accounts that feed into the collection of the overall real property tax amount.

Severance taxes are collected by the KIB from three resource industries; fishing, logging and mining. Of the \$1,436,210 collected in FY 2008 \$1,409,253 (98%) was based on the value of fish landed at shoreside and stationary floater processors operating within the KIB. Severance taxes are levied by the KIB and are based on the KIB tax mill rate. The mill rate is based on the financial needs to support KIB services as well as different bond initiatives passed by voters.

Table 3. Top twenty KIB tax payers: FY 2009¹

Taxpayer	Assessed Value	Ranking	% of Total
Ocean Beauty Seafoods, Inc	\$ 14,245,989	1	1.7%
Westward Seafoods, Inc	\$ 11,852,090	2	1.4%
Alaska Communications Systems	\$ 11,645,093	3	1.4%
International Seafoods of Alaska, Inc	\$ 10,879,502	4	1.3%
Mill Bay Plaza Assoc LTD	\$ 8,648,400	5	1.0%
Brechan Interprises, Inc	\$ 8,496,630	6	1.0%
Wal-Mart Real Est Bus Trust	\$ 8,322,087	7	1.0%
Horizon Lines of Alaska, LLC	\$ 7,320,949	8	0.9%
Koncor	\$ 6,797,500	9	0.8%
Afognak Native Corp	\$ 6,730,109	10	0.8%
Kodiak Fish Meal Co.	\$ 5,936,294	11	0.7%
Trident Seafoods Corp.	\$ 5,868,500	12	0.7%
Alaska Pacific Seafoods	\$ 5,006,366	13	0.6%
Dane Larsen	\$ 4,920,000	14	0.6%
Alascom, Inc	\$ 4,871,621	15	0.6%
Lash Corp.	\$ 4,548,727	16	0.5%
GCI Communication Corp.	\$ 4,290,738	17	0.5%
North Pacific Seafoods	\$ 3,972,100	18	0.5%
Alagnak, Inc	\$ 3,950,600	19	0.5%
Progress Fisheries	\$ 3,950,000	20	0.5%
Total	\$ 142,253,295		17.0%
Total Assessed Value	\$ 835,525,537		

¹Source: Kari Short, Kodiak Island Borough Finance Department

The State levy taxes on fishery businesses. A portion of the tax is refunded to municipalities and boroughs. There are two types of fishery taxes. One is the fishery business tax and it levies the tax on businesses and persons who process or export fisheries resources from Alaska (inside three miles). The tax is based on the value paid to commercial fishers. The rate of the tax is based on the processing activity of the business. Currently, the tax rates for "established" fisheries are 3% for fishery resources processed at shorebased plants and 5% for those processed by floating processors inside 3 miles.

Municipalities receive 50% of the tax collected from businesses within their jurisdiction. If the tax is collected within a city as well as a borough, the payment is split equally between the borough and the city. Five KIB villages (Larsen Bay, Old Harbor, Ouzinkie, Port Lions, and Akhiok) receive their portion of the raw fish tax directly from the State of Alaska. Karluk is not organized correctly so receives pass through funds directly from the KIB. The FY2008 amount was approximately \$20,200 for Karluk.

The other fishery tax is the fishery resource landing tax, which is levied on processed fishery resources first landed in Alaska. The tax is based on the unprocessed value of the resource. This tax is primarily collected from factory trawlers and floating processors which process fishery resources outside the state's 3-mile limit and bring their products to Alaska (i.e. inside 3-miles) for transshipment. The ADF&G determines whether the resource is "established" or "developing". The rates are 3% for established resources and 1% for developing resources. For FY2008 the KIB received \$1,059,161 from fishery business tax and \$41,811 from fishery resource landing tax.

The KIB benefits the rural communities around the Island in several ways. The KIB tax base supports many capital fund projects thru bonds. Presently the total bonds dedicated to the KIB villages' totals \$4,932,204 (see table 4).

Table 4. Present KIB Bonds that benefit KIB villages

Village	Project	Amount	Source	KIB/State split
Old Harbor	Gym/Voc Ed	\$2,251,134	2004A	40%-60%
Larsen Bay	School Floors	\$339,883	2004A	30%-70%
Ouzinkie	Gym	\$1,923,187	2004 A	30%-70%
Ouzinkie	Sprinkler System	\$330,000	Bond interest	100%-0%
Ouzinkie	Generator	\$88,000	Bond interest	100%-0%
All Villages		\$4,932,204		

Additionally, the KIB administers grants that are 100% financed by the State of Alaska and have been legislated as pass through grants for the KIB to manage. In 2008 the following pass-through grants were received for a total amount of \$958,344 (See table 5). Generally the Borough receives no compensation for administrating any of these grants.

Table 5. State of Alaska grants for FY2008 administered by the KIB

Village	Project	Amount
Larsen Bay	Equipment	\$70,000
Port Lions	Community Workshop	\$10,000
Ouzinkie	Dock Replacement	\$570,000
Ouzinkie	Scholl Seismic	\$308,344
All Villages		\$958,344

The mandatory powers of the KIB include Education, General Administration and Finance, Tax assessment and Collection, Planning and Zoning. The KIB main expenditure is for education (see Table 6 and 7). In FY 2008, the KIB contributed almost a million dollars to support the village schools.

Table 6. Proposed FY2008 KIBSD budget for village schools

Village School	# of students	FY08 Budget
Akhiok	10	\$238,920
Karluk	14	\$183,510
Larsen Bay	18	\$284,961
Old Harbor	51	\$713,334
Ouzinkie	39	\$648,194
Port Lions	36	\$587,426
Village -Wide Services	n/a	\$814,896
Grand Total	168	\$3,471,241
KIB Funded		\$937,531

*Source: Luke Fulp, Kodiak Island Borough School District Finance Department

Table 7. KIBSD FY2008 Funding Sources

Source	Amount	Percentage
State	\$22,981,800	66%
KIB	\$9,420,412	27%
Other Local	\$680,427	2%
Federal	\$1,796,774	5%
Total	\$34,879,413	100%

The economic engine of the fishing industry supplies a large tax base that flows to the KIB coffers and, in turn, millions of dollars flow into the KIB village communities courtesy of this economic engine. While the mothership component proposed under component 8 may be appealing to some of these communities to create a local village tax base, the net result is the villages may ultimately end up worse off financially. Damaging the KIB tax base means that the Borough will receive less overall revenue and thus will have less revenue to share with the villages.

City of Kodiak Infrastructure that supports the fishing industry

Enterprise funds are used to account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises. The intent of the Kodiak’s City Council is that the costs of providing goods and services to the public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or where the City Council has decided that periodic determination of net income is appropriate for accountability purposes. There are a total of seven enterprise funds; four of these enterprise funds directly support the fishing fleets while the fifth fund (water utility fund) supports the Kodiak processing sector.

Cargo Terminal Fund – Funds all activities of the City owned and operated cargo terminal, which includes a warehouse and three piers. This fund finances three multi-purpose deep-draft facilities for commercial vessels. Primary users are Horizon Lines of Alaska with twice-weekly service at Pier III, about 20 port calls by various cruise lines at Pier II, 200 calls by the Alaska Marine Highway System at Pier I & II, and calls by NOAA’s home-ported research vessel, the R/V Oscar Dyson at Pier II. Additionally, local fishing vessels and wide variety of other vessels including processors, tugs and research ships use the facilities.

Boat Harbor Fund – All activity for the Port of Kodiak, which is City owned and operated and includes two harbors. The harbor department operates two large boat harbors, ferry dock, fisherman’s terminal, and transient boat dock. Moorage, dock scheduling, emergency pumping, VHF radio communication and used oil collection are a few of the many services provided. The harbor department also schedules use of all the port facilities, boat docks and gridirons, stages transient vessels, rents exclusive moorage, and registers vessels.

Boat Yard / Vessel Lift Fund – A fund designed to support all activities for the Boat Yard / Vessel Lift Facility. The new Kodiak boatyard opens in late September of 2009. Kodiak now has the largest Marine Travelift in Alaska and can haulout vessels up to 660 tons and up to 43’ wide and 180’ long. The total cost of the boatyard and lift is \$16.5 million funded by the State of Alaska (\$4 million), Federal Government (\$2.3 million), City savings (\$5.2 million) and a bond (\$5 million). For the Kodiak boat yard to break even, it will require 70 boat lifts per year. The lift is expected to be heavily dependent on the Kodiak-based trawl sector to reach the needed annual lifts.

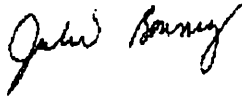
Harbor Electric Fund – Fund accounts for the use of electrical power for the Boat Harbor.

Water Utility Fund – This fund accounts for all activity of the City owned and operated water utility. In 2008, the total water service charge was \$2.3 million of which \$900,000 (40%) was paid by the seafood processing sector. The water service has been built to support the large water use by the shorebased processors.

The Kodiak city infrastructure has been built to support the fishing industry as it exists today – the composition of the fleets – vessel gear types and vessel size classes and the shorebased processors that have businesses within the city of Kodiak. These enterprise funds are dependent on users to pay for the infrastructure; if the number and type of users decline the, enterprise funds cannot be supported.

Finally, regulatory changes that result in fish that is now being processed in communities moving to offshore platforms will erode community stability and cause the loss of revenue and jobs to Alaskans and their communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,



Julie Bonney
Executive Director, Alaska Groundfish Data Bank

Sources:

An Assessment of the Socioeconomic impacts on Kodiak of Management alternatives in the Alaska Groundfish Fisheries Draft Programmatic Supplement Environmental Impact Statement. McDowell Group, July 2001.

Kodiak Island Borough Comprehensive Annual Financial Report July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008. Official Issuing Report, Karleton G. Short, Finance Director.

Personal Communication, Luke Fulp, Kodiak Island Borough School District, Finance Director.

Third Quarter Kodiak Community Profile and Economic Indicator Report, prepared by the Kodiak Chamber of Commerce.

September 28, 2009

Eric Olson, Chair
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 W. Fourth Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Agenda Item C-1 GOA P. cod sector split

Chairman Olsen,

C-1 Pacific Cod Sector Allocations

Component 5: Allocation of Pacific cod to jig sector

Jig Allocation- (pg.5), I support an initial allocation of one (1) percent, with a stair step provision to increase the allocation by 1 percent a year. The Council should retain the 5 percent cap as a minimum, with consideration to increase the cap to 7 percent, in order to ensure opportunities exist for existing participants that have been displaced from other sectors due to fleet reduction that occurred with latent LLP removal.

Options for management of the jig allocation

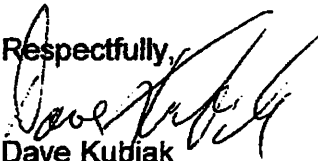
The Council should select **Option 1** as the preferred alternative for management of the jig allocation. This provides fisheries management with a single, consolidated jig account which may be more efficient to manage than the other options. It also benefit's the jig sector by avoiding timing conflicts between State and Federal seasons, and closures that result in lost harvesting time.

Component 6: Management of unharvested sector allocations

With options that defer management of rollovers of unharvested sector allocations to NMFS in season management, stranded jig quota will be minimal.

The only reason the jig sector has not taken their quota in the past is the fact that they have been constrained to inside state waters. This highly selective gear type is capable of taking plenty of cod. It is time the Council recognized and rewarded this clean fishery and its contributions to local economies.

Respectfully,

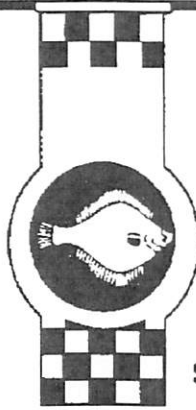

Dave Kubiak
F/V Mythos

F/V HAZEL LORRAINE

202 Center Street
Suite 315-274
Kodiak, AK 99615

Tel: 907-486-7599

Mr. Eric Olson, Chairman
N P F M C
6605 W. 4th, Suite 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252
Fax 907.271.2817



September 29, 2009

Re: GOA Sector Split, Option #1

Dear Eric,

My vessel along with many others began trawling for cod in the GOA in 1990-1991. We fished primarily for cod up to 10 months a year, which also greatly facilitated the sole fishery. Some of the processors in the beginning of groundfish were only focused on cod.

Cod is a very important segment of our annual fishing plan, with a direct effect on the earnings of my Kodiak crew and vessel. It is my hope that a fair sector split of fishing history between the dates 1995-2005 will end the race between gear types and inside each gear type e.g., 40-foot longliners would not have to compete with factory longliners in January weather. We need a fair solution that slows the fishery for safety, and allows for those that made early investments in the fishery to continue to thrive in a very tight economy.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Albert Geiser', written over a horizontal line.

Albert Geiser
42277 Garrison Lake Road
Port Orford, Oregon
97465

cc: Al Burch, Alaska Draggers
Julie Bonney, AGDB

PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP SHEET

Agenda Item: C-1 GOA P. Cod Allocation

	NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	TESTIFYING ON BEHALF OF:
1	Paul Gunkelott	Self
2	David Polushkin	K-Bay fishing Assoc.
3	Bill Connor	Cape Reliant
4	Jerry Bongen	Fair Weather Fisheries
5	Bern Stewart	AEB
6	Gale & Vick	GOAC3
7	Freddie Christiansen	54/20
8	Kenny Down	Frozen Longline Coalition
9	Bob Krueger	Alaska Whitefish Trawlers Assoc.
10	DON TVERSON	JUBILEE FISHERIES
11	Clay McCallum	Lake & Peninsula Per.
12	JOE CHILDERS	WESTERN GULF FISHERMEN
13	GERRY MERRIGAN	PROWLER FISHERIES
14	Susan Robinson	Fishermen's First
15	Dennis Kasprzak	F/V Malika
16	Lori Swanson	Groundfish Forum
17	Jody Cook	F/V Cape Reliant
18	Al Bunch	Bunch Bros.
19	Ken & Chris Hollas	F/V Point Omega
20	Rob Turwin	Alaskan Leader Fisheries
21	Julie Bonney	AK Groundfish Data Bank
22	Stephen Taufen	Groundwell Fisheries Movement
23	Seremie Pitkus & Self Stephan	UFMA
24	Jeff Stephens	
25		

NOTE to persons providing oral or written testimony to the Council: Section 307(1)(I) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act prohibits any person "to knowingly and willfully submit to a Council, the Secretary, or the Governor of a State false information (including, but not limited to, false information regarding the capacity and extent to which a United State fish processor, on an annual basis, will process a portion of the optimum yield of a fishery that will be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States) regarding any matter that the Council, Secretary, or Governor is considering in the course of carrying out this Act.

Jeff Stevens
handout

CI

Pot Sector Equitable Allocation Proposal for the Central Gulf of Alaska
North Pacific Fishery Management Council; October 2009
C-1 GOA P. cod Sector Split
Submitted by UFMA

I. Component 4: We support the AP motion with the noted modifications.

We propose that the pot sector % that is chosen in Component 4 should be enhanced through an "Equity Adjustment" that is determined through Component 9 (See "III. Equity Adjustment for the Pot Sector"); that is, through a combination of Component 4 with provisions of Component 9.

Table of Options 1-6 taken from table E-2 as modified by the AP

	<u>HAL CP</u>	<u>HAL CV</u>	<u>JIG CV</u>	<u>POT CP</u>	<u>POT CV</u>	<u>TRAWL CP</u>	<u>TRAWL CV</u>
1. 2000-2006: Best 5	4.2	20.8	0.3	1.0	25.3	4.4	44.1
2. 2000-2006: Best 3	4.7	19.4	0.4	1.4	27.9	4.4	41.9
3. 2002-2007: Best 5	5.2	22.6	0.3	0.4	25.8	3.5	42.3
4. 2002-2007: Best 3	4.9	21.5	0.4	0.5	28.1	3.3	41.3
5. 2002-2008: Best 5	5.5	22.3	0.3	0.3	25.7	3.3	42.6
6. 2002-2008: Best 3	5.2	21.4	0.4	0.5	28.0	3.3	41.2

We support the AP action to include the following option for analysis:

Average of all Options	5.0	21.3	0.4	0.7	26.8	3.7	42.2
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We do not support the AP action to include the following option for analysis:

Average of Options 2, 4, 6, 8	5.0	21.9	0.3	0.6	25.6	3.7	43.0
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We propose that the Council also add the following option for analysis:

Midpoint of Options 1-6	4.9	20.9	0.4	0.9	26.6	3.9	42.5
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The "Midpoint of Options" that we propose as an addition to the AP motion is an average of the high and the low for each sector, and has the advantage of not repeatedly averaging later years.

- Notes:**
1. Trawl Recency Qualifying Years were 2000 – 2006.
 2. Fixed-Gear Recency Qualifying Years were 2002 – 2008.
 3. LLP Program was implemented in 2000.
 4. Steller Sea Lion RPAs were implemented in 2001.

II. Proposed language for Purpose and Need Statement and Component 9

A. Purpose and Need Statement. We support the AP motion to add the language suggested by NMFS language to the Purpose and Need Statement, with the addition of the phrase "equity of access" (illustrated in bold):

"Allocations to each sector would be based primarily on qualifying catch history, but may be adjusted to address conservation, catch monitoring, **equity of access**, and social objectives including considerations for small boat sectors and coastal communities."

B. Component 9 Language. We support the AP motion to replace the Component 9 wording with the following:

“The council may adjust Sector allocations to incorporate considerations that are associated with conservation, catch monitoring, equity of access, bycatch reduction and social objectives.”

III. Equity Adjustment for the Pot Sector

A. Incidental Catch and the “Steller Sea Lion RPA Loophole” years 2002 and 2003 (table 2-15)

	<u>Incidental catch</u>	<u>Incidental %</u>	<u>Difference from average (12.7)</u>	<u>Adjusted Incidental %</u>
2001	3,302	13.1	0.4	13.1
2002	5,742	25.3	12.6	12.7
2003	4,627	20.4	7.7	12.7
2004	3,318	13.0	0.3	13.0
2005	2,523	11.3	1.4	11.3
2006	2,492	11.4	1.3	11.4
2007	2,499	9.9	2.8	9.9
2008	4,694	17.4	4.7	17.4
	Average of all	15.2		12.7
	Average of 2001, 2004-2008	12.7		

B. Equity Adjustments:

Equity Adjustment for 2002 & 2003 Steller Sea Lion RPA Loophole: The manner of managing the incidental catch of CGOA p. cod by the trawl sector during 2002 and 2003 created the “Steller Sea Lion RPA Loophole”. That is, during 2002 and 2003, all sectors realized an ‘Incidental catch as a percentage of total catch’ rate of 25.3% (5,742 / 22,665) in 2002, and 20.4% in (4,627 / 22,629) in 2003, the predominance of which was contributed by the trawl sector. This is in stark contrast to the average rate of 12.7 % that is otherwise realized during the combined years of 2001 and 2004 through 2008 (i.e., excluding 2002 and 2003). We believe that the CGOA trawl sector p. cod catch history that occurred during 2002 and 2003 as a result of the Steller Sea Lion RPA Loophole should not all be credited to the trawl sector for purposes of the proposed Sector Split action, and should be reduced to reflect an amount of incidental catch that otherwise would have been realized had the ‘incidental catch as a percentage of total catch’ rate been nearer to the average of 12.7% during these years (12.7% which is still in excess of the natural rate of incidental catch). It should be noted that the general practice of “Top-Off-Targeting” is used by the trawl sector to maximize the achievement of Maximum Retainable Allowance (MRA), and generally results in a high rate of incidental catch that is in excess of the otherwise natural rate of incidental catch. Please see the above table for reference to the incidental catch that occurred during 2001 through 2008, with special note of the abnormal rates and incidental catch history demonstrated during 2002 & 2003 (Table 2-15, pg. 28).

Equity Adjustment For 2004 Trawl Sector Halibut PSC: The trawl sector exceeded the 2004 GOA trawl halibut psc limit by approximately 800 mt during 2004. NMFS did not close the 2004 CGOA B Season p. cod trawl fishery at the time that the trawl sector met their halibut psc limit. Therefore, the trawl sector continued to harvest CGOA p. cod beyond the point in time that NMFS otherwise should have closed the trawl fishery. Consequently, the trawl sector harvested an amount of p. cod significantly in excess of that which they otherwise would have harvested. We believe that the CGOA trawl sector p. cod catch history for 2004 should not be credited with the amount of p. cod that it harvested between the date on which the trawl sector met their halibut psc limit, and the date on which NMFS acted to close the directed p. cod trawl fishery.

C. Conservation. One of the goals of Component 9 is to allow the Council to adjust sector allocations on the basis of conservation issues. We present below several points on this issue that we believe the Council should consider.

- Pots have minimal impact on the environment, including the seafloor. Trawls have impact on the seafloor, bycatch, etc.
- 2004: The trawl sector caught all of their 2004 3rd and 4th quarter halibut PSC and exceeded their annual PSC limit by 800 mt all in the 3rd quarter during the directed p. cod fishery due to lack of management oversight. The trawl sector exceeded their 2005 halibut PSC limit by 100 mt. Halibut PSC is not an issue in the pot fishery.
- Trawl CV sector discards during 2001-2008 represented 32.6% of their incidental catch (table 2-25, pg. 45). Discarded p. cod brings no benefit to the coastal communities, counts against the TAC, is a waste of the resource, and reduces the commercial, economic and social benefits that would otherwise be realized by other sectors and coastal community commerce.

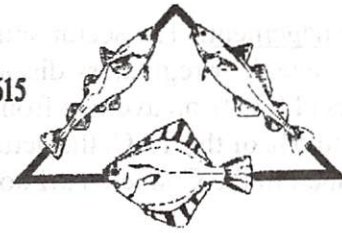
If the Council's intent is to make conservation a priority in the proposed Sector Split action, then we feel that the pot sector's allocation should be increased above the percentage determined in Component 4.

*Julie Bonney
Handout
C1*

Alaska Groundfish Data Bank

PH: 907-486-3033 FAX: 907-486-3461 P.O. BOX 788 - KODIAK, AK. 99615

Julie Bonney, Executive Director jbonney@gci.net
Katy McGauley, Fisheries Biologist agdb@gci.net



GOA Pacific Cod Sector Split AGENDA C-1 October 2009

Component 4: Factors potentially affecting Trawl Sector Allocation

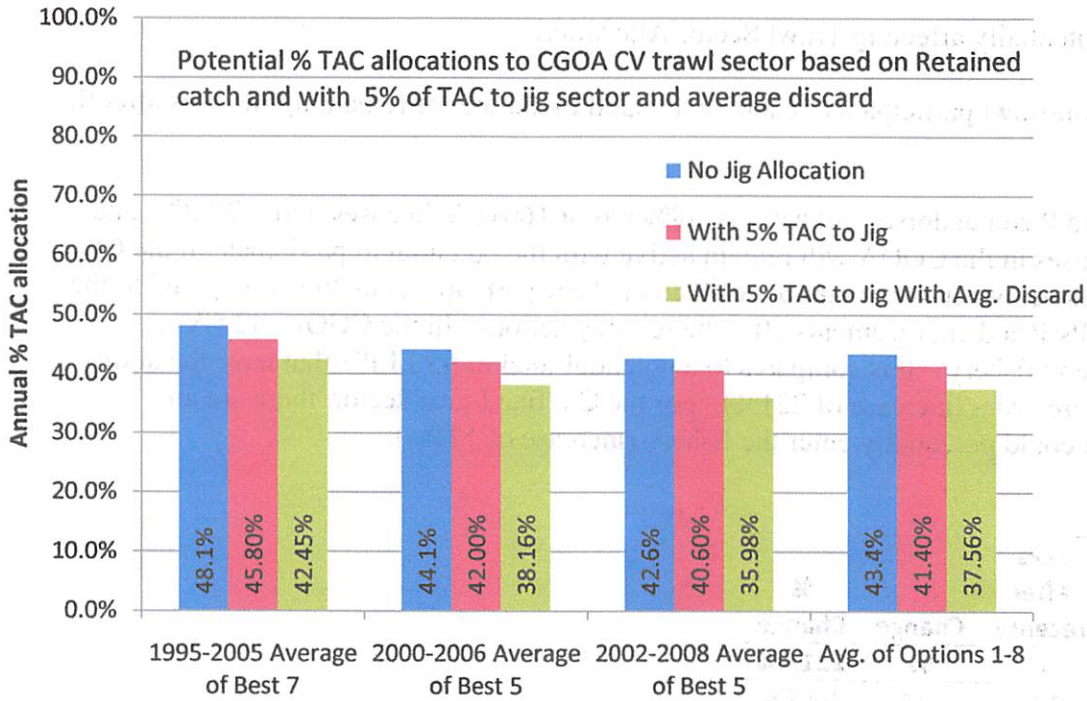
1. CV LLP's: trawl v. non-trawl participants in 2008 compared to number of remaining licenses after the LLP reductions.

After the LLP recency and P cod endorsement actions, 48% (76 of 160) CV licenses in the WGOA and 53% (93 of 176) CV licenses in the CGOA will remain active with the potential to participate in the GOA Pa cod fishery. The tables below show the number of P cod fishery participants in 2008 compared to the number of remaining LLPs/P cod endorsements after the recency actions. In the CGOA, 42 CV's participated in the GOA cod fishery – this compares to a potential total of 93 LLP's that have the ability to enter the fishery in future years (increase of 221%). For the CV fixed-gear sector, there are an additional 44 vessels that could potentially enter the fishery (increase of 121%).

CGOA	CV	Fishers in '08	LLPs after recency	Change	% Change
Trawl		42	93	51	221.4%
HAL	< 60	137	123	-14	89.8%
HAL	≥ 60	19	7	-12	36.8%
Pot	< 60	39	51	12	130.8%
Pot	≥ 60	19	27	8	142.1%
CQE	na	na	50	50	na
Total Fixed		214	258	44	120.6%

WGOA	CV	Fishers in '08	LLPs after recency	Change	% Change
Trawl		28	76	48	271.4%
HAL	< 60	30	7	-23	23.3%
HAL	≥ 60	3	3	0	100.0%
Pot	< 60	43	59	16	137.2%
Pot	≥ 60	16	21	5	131.3%
CQE	na	na	21	21	na
Total Fixed		92	111	19	120.7%

2. Incidental catch management. The sector split will require in-sector management of incidental catch – the trawlers need to reduce their regulatory discards or lose out on their retained catch. If the current discard trend continues (11.39% on average from 2002-2008) and taking into account that the jig sector could be allocated up to 5% of the TAC, the actual % retained by the trawlers could amount to less than the percentages published in the Council staff documents.



*Darius Kasprzak
handout*

North Pacific Fishery Management Council
194th Plenary Session — Anchorage, AK — October 3-9, 2009

For the Record: C-1 GOA Pacific Cod Allocation

Public Comment — Darius Kasprzak, F/V Malka & Kanerva.

Mr. Secretary, Chairman Olson & NPFMC members:

My name is Darius Kasprzak, a long-term dedicated jig fisherman. I own the 39 ft. jig vessel F/V Malka; and also skipper the 57 ft. jig vessel F/V Kanerva. Today, I am testifying on behalf of myself and fellow jig fishermen from Kodiak.

Component 5: Allocation of P.Cod to Jig Sector

Initial allocation — Although we anticipate an initial allocation of one percent (as the AP recommended) — we can expediently harvest in excess of this amount given the pending opportunity to do so in federal waters during the post-spawn and fair weather months of April-June. At this time, we feel that it is more important to focus on the long-range benefits to our community through increasing the harvest under the yearly step-up provisions.

Allocation cap — please consider the AP minority report and move to replace the 5% allocation cap with 7%. The socioeconomic and environmental gains realized by GOA communities from allowing the jig harvest to grow to this stature would be markedly significant. In the GOA, many fisherman are displaced from other fisheries by the cumulative effects of various rationalization/privitization programs. Meanwhile, many young men and women are coming of age and are eager for an opportunity to join the fishing workforce as their parents and grand parents did before them. Most money earned by the jig fleet is spent locally and nourishes our land based businesses. We have an excellent safety record, and our environmental and seafloor impact is minimal compared to the other sectors.

Options — we support option 1 (state parallel/federal managed cod fishery). Although this option may require additional time and presentation before the Alaska Board of Fish, this is the best long-term solution for our fleet. Please consider delaying implementation until after Board of Fish action, thereby minimizing potential delay on sector split action.

We are adamantly opposed to option 2 (distinct parallel/federal and state water jig fisheries). Under this scenario, the Federal A season would close for jig fishermen on March 15 or sooner, precluding us from fishing outside 3-miles during the favorable months of April to September. This would totally negate the gains we have made in realizing a LLP exemption, and hardly improve our present situation.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these issues.

Darius Kasprzak

Sincerely, Darius Kasprzak — F/V Malka & F/V Kanerva

Tel: 907.942.2504 Email: kas_dar@yahoo.com

C.) Percent Halibut PSC Use by Sector in the GOA P-cod target: (WGOA and CGOA combined, from Table 3-9, p. 124). PSC is managed under separate GOA-wide sector caps for trawl and hook-and-line gear.

Year	H&L CP	H&L CV	Trawl CP	Trawl CV	Pot CP	Pot CV	Total mt PSC used
1995	12.28%	29.98%	6.53%	49.13%	0.02%	2.09%	847.8
1996	12.89%	22.18%	10.82%	61.09%	0.00%	3.83%	430.5
1997	5.68%	13.19%	9.07%	74.16%	0.00%	1.30%	724.2
1998	5.26%	22.00%	25.00%	46.42%	*	1.35%	971.9
1999	8.98%	10.60%	11.31%	66.53%	1.77%	0.81%	1585.4
2000	13.68%	25.65%	10.19%	49.43%	0.16%	1.05%	646.8
2001	11.69%	13.59%	17.21%	57.27%	0.08%	0.42%	1060.8
2002	37.74%	17.53%	1.28%	42.94%	0.01%	0.51%	430.8
2003	16.64%	11.53%	7.76%	62.68%	*	1.39%	655.7
2004	10.02%	13.31%	6.88%	68.50%	*	1.28%	1245.0
2005	3.76%	18.32%	3.70%	70.54%	*	3.69%	894.2
2006	22.34%	26.12%	*	48.76%	0.00%	2.78%	668.2
2007	15.36%	22.10%	*	60.18%	*	2.34%	772
2008	10.00%	29.98%	*	57.03%	*	3.00%	1006.5
1995-1999 avg.	78.82 mt (8.64%)	160.46 mt (17.60%)	117.82 mt (12.92%)	535.22 mt (58.69%)	7.08 mt (0.78%)	13.86 mt (1.52%)	911.96/yr
2000-2004 avg.	121.80 mt (15.08%)	125.38 mt (15.52%)	96.25 mt (11.91%)	475.22 mt (58.83%)	0.90 mt (0.11%)	7.32 mt (0.81%)	807.82/yr
2005-2008 avg.	101.03 mt (12.10%)	202.65 mt (24.26%)	*	498.80 mt (59.72%)	*	24.98 mt (2.99%)	835.23/yr
2008	100.6 mt	301.7 mt	*	574 mt	*	30.2 mt	1006.5

* = confidential (totals do not include confidential data).

D.) Halibut PSC use in WGOA and CGOA (from Table 3-9, p. 124)

1995-2008 average = 24% WGOA/76% CGOA

1995-1999 average = 25% WGOA/75% CGOA

2000-2004 average = 26% WGOA/74% CGOA

2005-2008 average = 18% WGOA/82% CGOA

A.) Dependence on GOA P-cod: percent of revenues by sector, 2001 -2008 average
 (from initial review draft EA/RIR/IRFA 09/18/09, Tables 2-37, 2-38, 2-40, 2-41)

Sector	CGOA federal/parallel p-cod	State GOA p-cod (vessels with CGOA participation in directed fishing)	WGOA federal/parallel p-cod	State GOA p-cod (vessels with WGOA participation in directed fishing)
H&L CV	8.6%	1.7%	1.3%	2.6%
Jig	3.7%	24%	7.1%	11.6%
Pot CV (with BSAI crab)	7.1%	Conf.	11.8%	Conf.
Pot CV (w.o. BSAI crab)	17.5%	11.5%	13.1%	13.4%
AFA Trawl CV	11.6%	0.0%	1.5%	0.0%
Non-AFA Trawl CV	22.8%	0.7%	13.4%	8.6%
H&L CP	9.0%	0.0%	10.5%	0.0%
Pot CP	21.5%	<0.1%	19.8%	<0.1%
Trawl CP	3.9%	0.0%	1.5%	0.0%

1 § 3

Note: 1.) There is a degree of overlap with columns 2 and 4 (GOA state water p-cod) and those columns cannot be summed together. 2.) Vessels that use longline and trawl gear do not have access to the state water state-managed p-cod fishery with those gear types. (3.) Individual vessels and companies within a sector may have a higher (or lower) dependence on GOA cod than the sector average.

B.) Qualifying Years: There have been a number of significant regulatory changes in the GOA p-cod fishery in recent years (Table 2-2, p. 19). Catch history in the years prior to 2000 will not reflect the current regulatory and management structure and may include catch history of vessels that are no longer fishing or are no longer eligible to fish in the GOA. Additionally, catch in 1995 and 1996 would have been prior to the establishment of the statewater allocation by the BOF and that portion of the TAC is no longer available to the federal fishery.

- 1.) Fixed gear recency: based on 2002-2008
- 2.) Trawl gear recency: based on 2000-2006
- 3.) SSL management measures: implemented in 2000/revised 2001 with 60/40 apportionment
- 4.) Groundfish LLP with area endorsements: implemented in 2000
- 5.) AFA CV sideboards established in 2000.
- 6.) AFA CPs prohibited from GOA groundfish in 1998
- 7.) State water allocation of GOA p-cod established by BOF in 1997.



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NPFMC meeting
October 2009

October 4, 2009

*Public Testimony on Agenda item:
CI*

**ALLOCATION OF PACIFIC COD AMONG SECTORS IN
THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL GOA**

Chairman Olson,

Council members, thank you very much for your time here today and for your consideration of the various issues surrounding the GOA P. cod sector split and all items on the current agenda.

My Name is Kenny Down and I am here today representing the Freezer Longline Coalition (FLC). The FLC represents a Washington and Alaska based and owned fleet with operations in the Western and Central GOA. By far our primary source of revenue for these vessel owners and crew is Pacific cod.

I want to concentrate what time I have on the motion at hand and ask the Council to select preliminary preferred alternatives at this meeting and ask that the recommendation be made that the package be moved forward for final action at the December meeting.

Bringing your attention to the attached motion:

I will explain my recommendations to the members as quickly as I can and attempt to point out several recommendations our members feel are necessary for a successful outcome.

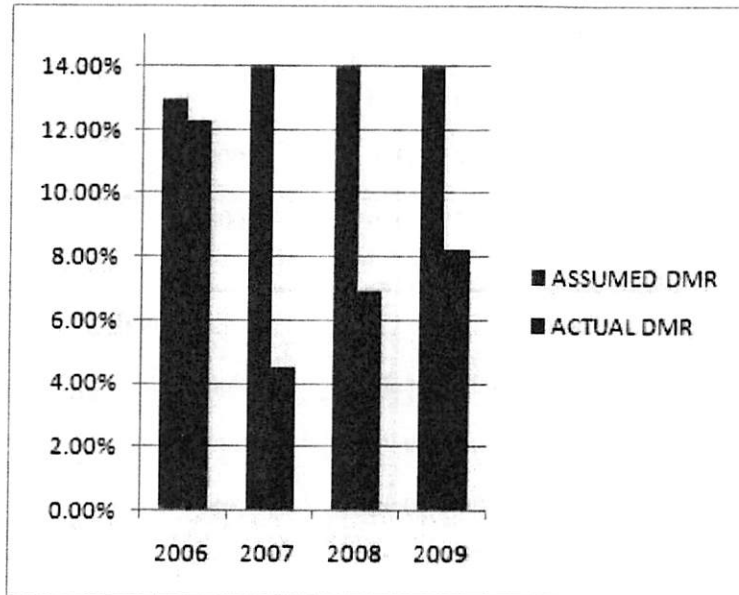
In closing I respectfully bring to the attention of the Council some of the recent and valuable contributions of the GOA Freezer Longline fleet to the Pacific cod fishery in the Gulf of Alaska:

- 1.) Providing observer coverage (Half of all Pcod observed catch is provided by the Freezer Longline fleet. (*Percent Observed Catch in Alaska Groundfish Fisheries, 2004-2006 Jennifer Hogan, NOAA Fisheries, Juneau, Alaska*) Any reduction to historical catch in this fleet will erode already extremely low observer coverage in the GOA.
- 2.) Voluntarily carrying 100% observer coverage even on regulatory 30% observed vessels during informal coop's.
- 3.) Cutting observed halibut mortality rates through informal coop participation cut as much as 50% in some years and consistently set low rates for the H&L fleet as a whole (See attached). This action will give our fleet the tools we need to continue with these efforts at a higher and more consistent effort. Again meeting the needs of the problem statement. "*development of management measures and fishing practices to address conservation (e.g. Steller sea lion mitigation measures, bycatch reduction, and prohibited species catch (PSC) mortality)*"
- 4.) Freezer Longliners rarely fish within three miles providing effort over a widely dispersed area. Reductions of historical participation may move more activity inside three miles, 40-45% of all catch already occurs.
- 5.) Reduction of Seabird incidental takes has been reduced by as much as 80% (page 133, Figure 3-2) of the analysis.

Halibut Mortality Information for Gulf H&L Coop Cod Fisheries

	2006	2007	2008	2009
assumed DMR	13.00%	14.00%	14.00%	14.00%
Coop actual* DMR	12.30%	4.56%	6.94%	8.27%
NMFS halibut mort. (metric tons)	113.95	49.99	34.03	17.15
Halibut mort. using actual DMR	107.79	16.28	16.87	10.13
Difference	6.16	33.71	17.16	7.02

*based on inseason observer data on sampled halibut condition



Data Provided By NMFS inseason management May 2008
GOA Pacific Cod

Total State Waters Catch State fishery and Parallel Fishery combined		Total Catch Federal and State Combined		State Waters Catch State fishery and Parallel Fishery combined By percentage	
State waters CV		All Catch CV			
2006	20,686	2006	41,418	2006	50%
2007	20,026	2007	43,890	2007	46%
2008	16,446	2008	35,776	2008	46%
State Waters CP Catch		All Catch CP			
<i>Breif overview of VMS indicated none</i>		2006	4,906	2006	0%
<i>CP's don't record catch by state stat area</i>		2007	6,350	2007	0%
		2008	5,026	2008	0%
Total		Total		Total	
2006	20,686	2006	46,324	2006	45%
2007	20,026	2007	50,240	2007	40%
2008	16,446	2008	40,802	2008	40%

Thank you for your time, hard work, and dedication towards moving forward with this and other tools that will allow and encourage continued sustainable fishing practices in the Gulf of Alaska.

Kenny Down
Executive Director
Freezer Longline Coalition



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**October 2009- Anchorage, Alaska
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
Motion**

Agenda item C-1

Gulf of Alaska Pacific Cod Sector Allocations

The GOA Pacific cod sector split action should be pursued immediately following resolution of the LLP recency issue. It is also highly desirable that the State waters parallel fishery problems be resolved. Concepts for addressing the State waters fishery issues are contained within this motion. In order to refine and incorporate recent public input into this package, the Council directs staff to develop an initial review draft of the Pacific cod sector split analysis based upon the following purpose and need statement, components, and options.

Purpose and Need Statement

The limited access derby-style management of the Western GOA and Central GOA Pacific cod fisheries has led to competition among the various gear types (trawl, hook-and-line, pot and jig) and operation types (catcher processor and catcher vessel) for shares of the total allowable catch (TAC). Competition for the GOA Pacific cod resource has increased for a variety of reasons, including increased market value of cod products, rationalization of other fisheries in the BSAI and GOA, increased participation by fishermen displaced from other fisheries, reduced Federal TACs due to the State waters cod fishery, and Steller sea lion mitigation measures including the A/B seasonal split of the GOA Pacific cod TACs. The competition among sectors in the fishery may contribute to higher rates of bycatch, discards, and out-of-season incidental catch of Pacific cod.

Participants in the fisheries who have made long-term investments and are dependent on the fisheries face uncertainty as a result of the competition for catch shares among sectors. Allocation of the catch among sectors may reduce this uncertainty and contribute to stability across the sectors. Dividing the TACs among sectors may also facilitate development of management measures and fishing practices to address conservation (e.g. Steller sea lion mitigation measures, bycatch reduction, and prohibited species catch (PSC) mortality) and social objectives, including considerations for small boat sectors and coastal communities. Given that harvest sector allocations would supersede the inshore/offshore processing sector allocations for Pacific cod by creating harvest limits, the Council may need to consider regulatory changes for offshore and inshore floating processors.

The timing of the Pacific cod A and B seasons may have limited the participation of jig vessels in the parallel and Federal fisheries of the GOA. Additionally, the State waters jig allocation has gone uncaught in some years, potentially due to the lack of availability of Pacific cod inside three miles. A non-historical Federal catch award, together with the provision of access in Federal waters for the State Pacific cod jig allocations, offers entry-level opportunities for the jig sector.

The Council, in consideration of options and recommendations for the parallel fishery, will need to balance the objectives of providing stability to the long term participants in the sectors, while providing opportunities for new entrants who do not hold Federal permits or licenses to participate in the parallel fishery.

ALTERNATIVE 1.

No Action. The GOA Pacific cod TACs would not be allocated to the sectors.

ALTERNATIVE 2.

The GOA Pacific cod TACs would be allocated to the sectors.

Component 1: Management areas

The Western and Central GOA Pacific cod TACs will be allocated among the various gear and operation types, as defined in Component 2 (the management areas could be treated differently within Component 2).

Component 2: Sector definitions

The Western and Central GOA Pacific cod TACs will be allocated among the following sectors. The Council has the option to either give a single allocation to each sector, or to divide any allocation by vessel length based on the option(s) listed below.

- Trawl catcher processors
- Trawl catcher vessels
- ~~Hook-and-line catcher processors~~
Option: Hook-and-line catcher processors <125 ft
Hook-and-line catcher processors ≥125 ft
- Hook-and-line catcher vessels
Option: Hook-and-line catcher vessels <60 ft
Hook-and-line catcher vessels ≥60 ft

Option (CG only): Hook-and-line catcher vessels <50 ft
Hook-and-line catcher vessels ≥ 50 ft

- Pot catcher processors
- Pot catcher vessels
Option: Pot catcher vessels <60 ft
Pot catcher vessels ≥60 ft
- Jig vessels

Option: For Western GOA only create a combined sector allocation for trawl and pot catcher vessels.
Suboption: Applies only to vessels <60 ft.

Option: Restrict vessels from participating in the GOA Pacific cod fishery using more than one operation type.

~~Suboption 1: Restrict CP licenses to the operation type on their license (licenses with a catcher processor designation could only fish off the catcher processor sector allocation).~~

Suboption 2: Add a CV/CP Pacific cod endorsement to both trawl and non-trawl CP licenses that have operated as catcher vessels during the qualifying period. These CP/CV licenses will elect to participate as either a CP or CV in the GOA Pacific cod fishery either:

annually

(i) as a permanent, one-time election

(ii)

Component 3: Definition of qualifying catch

Qualifying catch includes all retained legal catch of Pacific cod from the Federal and parallel waters fisheries in the Western and Central GOA.

- Catch will be calculated using Fish Tickets for catcher vessels and Catch Accounting/Blend data for catcher processors.
- Under all options, incidental catch allocated to trawl catcher vessels for the Central GOA Rockfish program (currently, 2.09% of the Central GOA Pacific cod TAC) will be deducted from the Central GOA trawl catcher vessel B season allocation.

- Each All sector allocations will be managed to support incidental and directed catch needs for that sector.

Component 4: Years included for purposes of determining catch history

- ~~Option 1: Qualifying years 1995-2005: average of best 5 years~~
- ~~Option 2: Qualifying years 1995-2005: average of best 7 years~~
- Option 13: Qualifying years 2000-2006: average of best 3 years
- Option 24: Qualifying years 2000-2006: average of best 5 years
- Option 35: Qualifying years 2002-2007: average of best 3 years
- Option 46: Qualifying years 2002-2007: average of best 5 years
- Option 57: Qualifying years 2002-2008: average of best 3 years
- Option 68: Qualifying years 2002-2008: average of best 5 years

Note: The Council has the option to choose separate qualifying years for each sector and scale them to equal 100%

- When sectors are divided into subsectors (e.g., by vessel length), the allocation will be calculated using the best set of years for the sector, and the sum of the subsector allocations will equal the allocation to the sector.

Seasonal apportionment of sector allocations (different options may be selected for the management areas):

- Option 1: Apportion each sector's annual allocation 60% to the A season and 40% to the B season.
- Option 2: Apportion each sector's annual allocation based on that sector's seasonal catch history during the qualifying years, while maintaining the overall 60%/40% apportionment of the TAC.
- Option 3: For the WGOA, only the A season TAC will be apportioned among sectors; the B season TAC will not be apportioned among sectors.

- These seasonal apportionment options do not apply to the jig sector.

Component 5: Allocation of Pacific cod to jig sector

Set aside 1%, ~~3%, or 5%~~ of the Western and 1% of the Central GOA Federal Pacific cod TACs for the initial allocation to the jig vessel sector, with a stairstep provision to increase the jig sector allocation by 1% if 90% of the Federal jig allocation in an area is harvested in any given year. The jig gear allocation will be capped at 5% of the respective Western and Central GOA Federal Pacific cod TACs.

Subsequent to the jig allocation increasing, if the harvest threshold criterion described above is not met during three consecutive years, the jig allocation will be stepped down by 1% in the following year, but shall not drop below the level initially allocated.

The jig allocation could be set aside from the A season TAC, the B season TAC, or divided between the A and B season TACs.

The Council requests that staff continue to work with the State of Alaska and NMFS to explore considerations required to implement possible options for the jig fishery management structure (both State parallel/Federal and State) that create a workable fishery and minimize the amount of stranded quota, focusing on Option 1. Possible solutions that could be explored are:

Option 1: State parallel/Federal managed Pacific cod jig fishery. Federal allocation managed 0-200 miles through a parallel fishery structure. Any State waters jig GHJL could (under subsequent action by the Alaska Board of Fisheries) be added to this State parallel/Federal managed jig sector allocation so that the jig sector is fishing off of a single account. If the Board of Fisheries chooses not to take the jig GHJL, it would roll into the Federal jig allocation.

If a combined parallel/Federal fishery is created the fishery would be managed as follows. There would be no seasonal split of the combined parallel/Federal TAC. The fishery would open on Jan 1st and close when the TAC is reached.

Option 2: If a distinct Parallel/Federal and State waters fisheries continue to exist the two fisheries will be managed as follows:

The Federal TAC would be divided into an A/B season of 60%/40%. The A season would open on Jan 1st and close when the TAC is reached or on March 15th. The State jig fishery could open either when the Federal season closes due to TAC or on March 15th. The Federal B season would open on Sept 1st.

Option 3: State managed Pacific cod jig fishery. Federal management authority delegated to the State of Alaska to manage the Pacific cod jig fisheries in the Western and Central GOA from 0-200 miles.

Component 6: Management of unharvested sector allocations

Any portion of a CV, CP, or jig allocation determined by NMFS to remain unharvested during the remainder of the fishery year will become available as soon as practicable to either:

Option 1: ~~The other respective CV or CP sectors first, and then to all sectors taking into account the capacity of the sector, as determined by the Regional Administrator, to harvest the reallocated amount of Pacific cod as necessary to harvest~~
~~available TAC.~~

Option 2: ~~All sectors.~~

Component 7: Apportionment of hook-and-line halibut PSC (other than DSR) between catcher processors and catcher vessels

Option 1: ~~No change in current apportionments of GOA halibut PSC.~~

Option 2: Apportion the GOA hook-and-line halibut PSC to the CP and CV sectors in proportion to the total Western GOA and Central GOA Pacific cod allocations to each sector. No later than November 1, any remaining halibut PSC not projected by NMFS to be used by one of the hook-and-line sectors during the remainder of the year would be made available to the other sector. Final division between CV and CP to be based on historical use using years
considered at final action.

Component 8: Community protection provisions

This component would protect community participation in the processing of Pacific cod and protect community delivery patterns established by the inshore/offshore regulations. For the purposes of Options 1, 2, and 3 under Component 8, motherships include catcher processors receiving deliveries over the side and any floating processor that does not meet the regulatory definition of a stationary floating processor in 679.2. Stationary floating processors may only process groundfish at a single geographic location during a given year.

For each management area, the mothership processing cap will be:

Option 1: No motherships.

Option 2: A percentage of the Pacific cod TAC based on the same qualification criteria as selected for the harvesting sector allocations, but calculated from mothership processing activity.

Option 3: A percentage of the Pacific cod TAC to be selected by the Council (5-10%).

- Under Option 2 and Option 3, mothership processing will end for the year when the processing cap is reached. All cod catch counts towards the cap.

Suboptions that apply to Options 1, 2, and 3:

Suboption 1: Choose different options for each management area.

Suboption 2: Applies only to directed landings of Pacific cod.

Suboption 3: Exempt motherships operating within the municipal boundaries of a community.

Option: Limit weekly processing by exempted motherships to (a) 125 mt per week, (b) 200 mt per week, or (c) 300 mt per week.

- (i) Applies to all cod landings
- (ii) Applies to directed cod landings

Component 9: To address conservation, catch monitoring, and social objectives, potential allocations to any sector based on catch history may be adjusted.

Component 10: Potential models for resolving parallel fishery issues

Option 1. Develop recommendations for the Alaska Board of Fisheries on the parallel fishery that could complement Council action, such as:

- gear limits
- vessel size limits
- exclusive registration

Option -2. Limit access to the parallel fishery for Federal fishery participants;

- Require any pot or longline vessel with an LLP or an FFP to have the appropriate Pacific cod endorsement and area endorsement on the LLP; and the GOA area designation and the appropriate gear and operation type designations on the FFP in order to participate in the Western GOA or Central GOA Pacific cod parallel waters fishery.
- Require any trawl vessel with an LLP or an FFP to have the appropriate gear and area endorsements on the LLP; and the GOA area designation and the appropriate gear and operation type designations on the FFP in order to participate in the Western GOA or Central GOA Pacific cod parallel waters fishery.

Suboption 1:

- ~~In addition,~~ Require the above Federally-permitted or licensed vessels that fish in the parallel waters to adhere to Federal seasonal closures of the Western/Central GOA sector allocations corresponding to the sector in which the vessel operates.

Suboption 2:

- Vessels with a GOA area designation and the gear and operation type designations specified in ~~this~~ Option cannot remove these designations from the FFP and can only surrender or reactivate the FFP:
 - a. ~~Once per calendar year~~
 - b. ~~Once every eighteen months~~
 - a. Once every three years