# Use of Bering Sea Sablefish Total Allowable Catch in IFQ/non-IFQ Fisheries North Pacific Fishery Management Council <br> Discussion Paper <br> March 2013 

Summary
Why In response to public testimony during the December 2012 Council meeting, the Council initiated this discussion paper to identify issues associated with separating the Bering Sea (BS) sablefish total allowable catch (TAC) into a fixed gear apportionment and a trawl gear apportionment when recommending annual harvest specifications. The Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BSAI) Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) sets the BS sablefish TAC apportionments to the fixed gear sector and trawl sector at 50 percent of the BS sablefish TAC to each gear type. The Council typically sets the sablefish TACs equal to the acceptable biological catch ( ABC ) in an effort to maximize the individual fishing quota (IFQ)/community development quota (CDQ) allocations to sablefish quota share holders. The sablefish TACs subsequently are apportioned to the IFQ/ CDQ fixed gear fisheries and the BS sablefish trawl fisheries under the authority of the FMP and Federal regulations. As a result the BS sablefish trawl TAC is set at the maximum level even though harvest is well below its allocation each year.
What The Council may wish to reallocate unused sablefish trawl allocation to:

1) The sablefish fixed gear sector to increase attainment of sablefish optimum yield (OY) by each IFQ holder; and/or
2) Any other BSAI groundfish TAC(s) to increase total groundfish yield under the 2 million mt OY .

How Staff has identified two potential management approaches to reallocate unused sablefish trawl allocations and increase yield under the OY.

1) Reapportion some of the non-specified reserve during the annual harvest specifications cycle (this would recover a small amount of foregone OY but could be accomplished in the next harvest specification cycle) ; and/or
2) Amend the BSAI Groundfish FMP to allow the Council to recapture some or all of the foregone OY (equal to the unharvested sablefish TAC) through greater flexibility in the annual harvest specification process.

Approach \#1, which uses the non-specified reserve, could be adopted as part of the 2014/2015 harvest specification cycle to recapture some foregone OY if some of the non-specified reserve is reallocated to either sablefish fixed gear sector (some recaptured OY) and/or any or multiple TACs of other groundfish TAC categories (more recaptured OY). The Council would recommend each year to which TAC category it would reassign some of the non-specified reserve.

Approach \#2 would require a BSAI Groundfish FMP amendment and regulatory amendment in order to authorize the Council to reapportion unused sablefish TAC which is apportioned to the trawl sector 1) directly to the sablefish fixed gear sector or (to result in some recaptured OY) and/or 2) any or multiple TACs of other groundfish TAC categories (to result in more recaptured OY). The Council would decide each year to which TAC category it would reassign some of the unused sablefish trawl apportionment. For the reapportionment to occur, a BS sablefish fixed gear TAC and BSA sablefish trawl gear TAC would be required in order to reapportion (only) unused trawl TAC.
When The Council is scheduled to review this paper in April 2013, in order to determine if staff could identify a management solution that could be taken through the annual harvest specifications process in fall 2013 for the 2014 fishing season. Approach \#1 could occur for the 2014 fishing year, while implementation of Approach \#2 could occur for the 2015 fishing year, at the earliest.

## Purpose and Need for Action

The purpose of the proposed action would be to increase the attainment of OY, in accordance with National Standard 1. The attainment of OY for BS sablefish only or all BSAI groundfish would be increased, depending on future Council action.

The sum of TACs for all groundfish stocks must remain within the OY range defined in the FMP. In the BSAI, the upper limit of the range is 2 million mt , which is constraining on commercial groundfish fisheries. As biomasses increase, commercial fishing sectors compete for increased allocation(s). More species and species groups have been separated for management of their own harvest specifications. This increased number of specification categories results in more of the 2 million mt OY limit being allocated to more TAC categories to prevent fisheries from being closed prematurely, due to incidental harvest. Some of those necessitate a buffer to prevent overages. In 2013 the Council is scheduled to consider whether to include grenadiers as a new TAC category in the future, which would further constrain the OY limit.
Table 1. Sablefish landings in 2012 by management area.

| Sablefish <br> Management <br> Area | Vessel <br> Landings | Total <br> Catch <br> Pounds | Allocation <br> Pounds | Remaining <br> Pounds | Percent <br> Landed |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Al | 109 | $1,806,117$ | $2,710,776$ | 904,659 | 67 |
| BS | 159 | $1,060,884$ | $1,966,503$ | 905,619 | 54 |
| CG | 656 | $9,762,447$ | $10,158,797$ | 396,350 | 96 |
| SE | 608 | $6,878,168$ | $6,995,196$ | 117,028 | $\mathbf{9 8}$ |
| WG | 202 | $2,806,219$ | $3,139,350$ | 333,131 | 89 |
| WY | 236 | $4,237,514$ | $4,356,290$ | 118,776 | $\mathbf{9 7}$ |
| Total | $\mathbf{1 , 9 7 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 6 , 5 5 1 , 3 4 9}$ | $\mathbf{2 9 , 3 2 6 , 9 1 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 , 7 7 5 , 5 6 3}$ | $\mathbf{9 1}$ |

Table la. Sablefish allocation and weight posted by trawl and fixed gear in the BS.

| Metric tons | Fixed Gear |  |  | Trawl Gear |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Initial <br> Quota | Catch <br> Weight | Percent | Initial <br> Quota | Catch <br> Weight | Percent |
| 2002 | 772 | 710 | $92 \%$ | 821 | 300 | $37 \%$ |
| 2003 | 1159 | 701 | $61 \%$ | 1233 | 226 | $18 \%$ |
| 2004 | 1450 | 745 | $51 \%$ | 1341 | 293 | $22 \%$ |
| 2005 | 1220 | 792 | $65 \%$ | 1129 | 273 | $24 \%$ |
| 2006 | 1410 | 952 | $68 \%$ | 1305 | 84 | $6 \%$ |
| 2007 | 1490 | 1081 | $73 \%$ | 1378 | 92 | $7 \%$ |
| 2008 | 1430 | 952 | $67 \%$ | 1323 | 183 | $14 \%$ |
| 2009 | 1360 | 798 | $59 \%$ | 1258 | 93 | $7 \%$ |
| 2010 | 1395 | 725 | $52 \%$ | 1291 | 30 | $2 \%$ |
| 2011 | 1425 | 651 | $46 \%$ | 1318 | 44 | $3 \%$ |
| 2012 | 1115 | 647 | $58 \%$ | 1032 | 93 | $9 \%$ |
| Total Period | 14226 | 8754 | $62 \%$ | 13429 | 1711 | $13 \%$ |
| Notes: Includes CDQ and non-CDQ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source: NMFS Alaska Region Catch Accounting System, data compiled by AKFIN |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 2a. Fixed Gear Sablefish allocation and weight posted by CDQ and non-CDQ in the BS.

| Metric tons | CDQ |  |  | Non-coq |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent |
| 2004 | 290 | 141 | 49\% | 1160 | 604 | 52\% |
| 2005 | 244 | 227 | 93\% | 976 | 565 | 58\% |
| 2006 | 282 | 179 | 63\% | 1128 | 774 | 69\% |
| 2007 | 298 | 260 | 87\% | 1192 | 821 | 69\% |
| 2008 | 286 | 240 | 84\% | 1144 | 713 | 62\% |
| 2009 | 272 | 122 | 45\% | 1088 | 676 | 62\% |
| 2010 | 279 | 213 | 76\% | 1116 | 512 | 46\% |
| 2011 | 285 | 162 | 57\% | 1140 | 489 | 43\% |
| 2012 | 223 | 160 | 72\% | 892 | 487 | 55\% |
| Total Period | - 2459 | 1702 | 69\% | 9836 | $\bigcirc 5641$ | 57\% |
| Notes: *Confidential |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source: NMFS Alaska Region Catch Accounting System, data compiled by AKFIN |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 2b. Trawl Gear Sablefish allocation and weight posted by CDQ and non-CDQ in the BS.

| Metric tons |  | CDQ | . |  | Non-CDQ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent |
| 2004 | 109 | 21 | 19\% | 1232 | 272 | 22\% |
| 2005 | 92 | 1 | 1\% | 1037 | 272 | 26\% |
| 2006 | 106 | 32 | 31\% | 1199 | 52 | 4\% |
| 2007 | 112 | 25 | 22\% | 1266 | 67 | 5\% |
| 2008 | 107 | 23 | 22\% | 1216 | 160 | 13\% |
| 2009 | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| 2010 | 105 | 1 | 1\% | 1186 | 29 | 2\% |
| 2011 | 107 | 3 | 3\% | 1211 | 41 | 3\% |
| 2012 | 84 | 7 | 8\% | 948 | 86 | 9\% |
| Total Period | 822 | 114 | 14\% . | - 9295 | \% 978 | 11\% |
| Notes: *Confidential |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source: NMFS Alaska Region Catch Accounting System, data complled by AKFIN |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 3a. Fixed Gear Sablefish allocation and weight posted by Vessel Category in the BS.

| Metric Tons |  | A |  |  | B |  |  | C |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent |
| 2004 | 462 | 209 | 45.29\% | 479 | 253 | 52.73\% | 219 | 61 | 27.83\% |
| 2005 | 388 | 259 | 66.84\% | 404. | 235 | 58.04\% | 184 | 63 | 34.07\% |
| 2006 | 448 | 349 | 77.93\% | 467 | 301 | 64.54\% | 213 | 77 | 36.41\% |
| 2007 | 474 | 406 | 85.58\% | 494 | 315 | 63.73\% | 224 | 82 | 36.48\% |
| 2008 | 455 | 325 | 71.35\% | 474 | 281 | 59.35\% | 215 | 77 | 35.58\% |
| 2009 | 433 | 312 | 72.11\% | 450 | 275 | 61.14\% | 205 | 87 | 42.62\% |
| 2010 | 455 | 177 | 38.99\% | 462 | 242 | 52.40\% | 198 | 71 | 35.81\% |
| 2011 | 454 | 204 | 44.98\% | 471 | 205 | 43.58\% | 215 | 69 | 31.89\% |
| 2012 | 355 | 189 | 53.16\% | 369 | 219 | 59.33\% | 1.68 | 73 | 43.47\% |
| Total Period | 3,924 | 2,430 | $6194 \%$ | 4,070 | 2,326 | 57. $5.15 \%$ | 31,840 | W.659 | 35:81\% |
| Notes: Catch Weight in Product Amounts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source: NMFS Alaska Region IFQ, data compiled by AKFIN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Current procedures for setting sablefish TAC apportionments in the BSAI

- The BSAI Groundfish FMP and 50 CFR 679.20(a)(4)(iii) and (iv) require that sablefish TACs for the BS and Al subareas be allocated between trawl gear and fixed gear (hook-and-line or pot) sectors. Of the TAC for the BS subarea, 50 percent is allocated to vessels using trawl gear, and 50 percent to fixed gear vessels. The TAC for the AI subarea is divided 25 percent to the trawl gear vessels, and 75 percent to fixed gear vessels.
- For all other groundfish TAC categories the CDQ allocations come "off the top" of the TAC before any further gear or sector apportionments. For sablefish the CDQ allocations occur after the gear split. Section $679.20(b)(1)(i)(B)$ requires NMFS to allocate 20 percent of the fixed gear allocation of sablefish to the CDQ reserve. Section 679.20 (b)(1)(ii)(D) requires that 7.5 percent of the trawl gear allocation of sablefish from the non-specified reserves, established under § 679.20(b)(1)(i), be assigned to the CDQ reserve.
- Section 679.20(b)(1)(i) requires that fifteen percent of the BSAI TAC for each target species, except pollock, the hook-and-line and pot gear allocation for sablefish, and the Amendment 80 species, which includes Pacific cod, is automatically placed in the non-specified reserve before allocation to any sector. The remaining 85 percent of each TAC is apportioned to the initial TAC for each target species that contributed to the non-specified reserve. The non-specified reserve is not designated by species or species group. Any amount of the non-specified reserve may be apportioned to target species that contributed to the non-specified reserve, provided that such apportionments are consistent with paragraph (a)(3) of this section and do not result in overfishing of a target species.

As soon as practicable after April 1, June 1, and August 1, and on such other dates as NMFS determines appropriate, NMFS will, by notification in the Federal Register, apportion all or part of the BSAl reserve. Part or all of the BSAI reserve may be withheld if an apportionment would adversely affect the conservation of groundfish resources or prohibited species. NMFS will provide all interested persons an opportunity to comment on the proposed apportionments before such apportionments are made, unless NMFS finds that there is good cause for not providing a prior comment opportunity, and
publishes the reasons therefore in the notification of apportionment. Comments must be received by NMFS not later than 5 days before April 1, June 1, and August 1, or other dates that may be specified.

If NMFS determines for good cause that notification of apportionment must be issued without providing interested persons a prior opportunity for public comment, comments on the apportionment will be received for a period of 15 days after its effective date. NMFS will consider all timely comments in deciding whether to make a proposed apportionment or to modify an apportionment that previously has been made, and shall publish responses to those comments in the Federal Register as soon as practicable.

BSAI trawl halibut prohibited species catch (PSC) limits are allocated to the BSAl trawl limited access sector and the Amendment 80 sector. The BSAI trawl limited access sector does not apportion a halibut PSC limit to the trawl Greenland turbot/arrowtooth/sablefish fishery category. Therefore, directed fishing for sablefish is prohibited for this sector. Since 2008 the PSC cooperative quota (CQ) assigned to Amendment 80 cooperatives is not allocated to specific fishery categories. Therefore, directed fishing for sablefish is open for this sector. However, sablefish has high halibut PSC rates and low catch rates; therefore, the Amendment 80 sector has not pursued directed fisheries for sablefish.

## Two potential management approaches for Council consideration

1. Non-specified reserves. One approach to separate sablefish trawl and fixed gear TAC apportionments would be to reapportion the $7.5 \%$ of the trawl TAC that is placed in the non-specified reserve. The reallocation of the non-specified reserve to fixed gear would occur in the harvest specifications and would not require additional rulemaking ${ }^{1}$. In December, the Council would need to recommend to NMFS that the amount of the non-specified reserves from the sablefish trawl apportionment of the ITAC be reallocated either to the sablefish fixed gear TAC (then the CDQ groups would get 20\% of the reallocation) or to the sablefish fixed gear ITAC (then the reallocation would not include CDQ groups). NMFS would do this in the final harvest specifications (usually Table 2) and would not be effective until they were published in the Federal Register and effective.
Since 1995, the non-specified reserves have not been used to increase the trawl allocation of sablefish. From 1995 to 2008, trawl sablefish was closed to directed fishing because no PSC limit was allocated to the trawl Greenland turbot/arrowtooth/sablefish fishery category.
Section 679.20(b)(1) is species specific, does not address gear types, and does not prohibit the allocation of non-specified reserves to the sablefish fixed gear sector, even though this sector does not contribute to the non-specified reserve. This discrepancy might not have been the intended result when the regulations were drafted. And while the regulations may not prohibit such an allocation, it would have

[^0]to comply with applicable IFQ and CDQ sablefish regulations relating to allocations/apportionments. RAM Division previously has noted that any reapportionment to IFQ holders should be accomplished prior to issuance of annual IFQ permits. Mid-year implementation of the proposed action would require the reissuance of thousands of IFQ permits, increasing the costs of administrating the IFQ Program and potentially cause considerable confusion.

The following table indicates that the BS and Al trawl sablefish non-specified reserve amounts are fairly small (2012: BS = 84 mt and 2013: BS = 59 mt ). Even if 7.5\% of the trawl sablefish TAC placed in the nonspecified reserve was reallocated to the sablefish fixed gear sector, it would only recapture about ten percent of the unused trawl sablefish apportionment. But the Council may choose this approach as an interim solution while it pursued a more comprehensive, long term approach. ${ }^{2}$


## 2. FMP Amendment.

Prior to the implementation of the sablefish IFQ Program, Amendment 15 to the BSAI Groundfish FMP allocated the sablefish quota by gear type, $50 \%$ to fixed gear and $50 \%$ to trawl gear in the eastern BS, and $75 \%$ to fixed gear and 25\% to trawl gear in the Aleutian Islands, effective 1990. Without permanently changing the gear allocations, the Council could adopt an amendment to the FMP to modify the text to allow the Council to set the fixed gear sablefish at a minimum of $50 \%$ and trawl gear at a maximum of $50 \%$ in the eastern BS. The intent here is not to reopen what may be a controversial reallocation of sector TAC splits, but allow the Council to annually reapportion projected unused sablefish trawl TAC until such time that the sablefish TAC is fully utilized.

[^1]Possible FMP amendment text follows; similar revisions could be made to the text pertaining to the AI or the GOA (although the benefit of a similar action in the eastern GOA is small due to the prohibition on the use of trawl gear and the markedly higher sablefish landings as a percent of TAC (see Table 1)). An Environmental Assessment/Regulatory Impact Review/Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis would be required. Proposed and final rulemaking would be required. After implementation the reapportionment would occur under annual harvest specifications rulemaking.

If the Council does not identify this potential action as controversial, this action could be scheduled for initial review/final action at the same meeting in order to streamline the implementation timeline, but given the timing of consideration of this discussion paper and the need to develop the required analyses it is unlikely to be in effect for the 2014/2015 harvest specification cycle.

## Possible FMP Text for revising Bering Sea (only) TAC setting:

BSAI: Separate Bering Sea sablefish TACs would be set for fixed gear and trawl gear. Vessels using fixed gear may be allocated here than $50 \%$ or more of the $\mp A \in A B C$ in the Bering Sea and $75 \%$ of the TAC in the Aleutian Islands; vessels using trawl gear may be allocated harvent more than $50 \%$ of the TAG-ABC in the Bering Sea and $25 \%$ of the TACABC in the Aleutian Islands.

## Two management results of proposed action

Both management approaches described above would result in increased flexibility for the Council to attain BSAI groundfish OY. No preference as to which species categories could benefit from increased TACs needs to be preordained by the Council to proceed with either or both management approaches. During each annual harvest specification cycle the Council could have the flexibility to reallocate BS sablefish trawl apportionment as it best determines from the information it has at the time of its decision. So while Council would have the prerogative at any time of adopting a policy of how it wishes to reapportion the TACs, it would not be required to do so. The Council may identify a specific species or species group in which to reallocate unused BS trawl sablefish as a strawman or to elicit public comment or it may leave itself maximum flexibility by not doing so.

BS sablefish: Reapportioning unused trawl sector sablefish TAC to the sablefish fixed gear sector in the BS likely would recapture a small percentage of OY from unused trawl sablefish apportionments. The limit on increased achievement of sablefish OY occurs as only a small percent of IFQ holders are currently taking their entire individual allocations. Only 3 IFQ holders are at or over the sablefish use cap from direct QS holdings (3,229,721 QS units); two hold category A QS and one holds category B QS. See Figure 1 for a distribution of harvest rates per BS sablefish IFQ holder.
CDQ holders, who are allocated $20 \%$ of the $50 \%$ BS fixed gear sablefish apportionment, also do not all attain their entire allocations (see above tables). Note that any reassignment of sablefish TAC to sablefish IFQ and CDQ holders must occur prior to the issuance of IFQ permits by the NMFS Restricted Access Management Division in order to not introduce inefficiencies and costs to management of the IFQ/CDQ programs.


Figure 1 Harvest rates for individual Bering Sea sablefish IFQ permit holders. Source: AKFIN.
BSAI groundfish: Reapportioning unused sablefish trawl TAC to all groundfish sectors in the BS likely would recapture a larger percentage of OY from unused sablefish trawl apportionments. During the annual harvest specification process the Council would decide how to redistribute the recaptured sablefish OY among the various species TACs and gear apportionments, based on its own objectives, as well as recommendations from the Advisory Panel, industry, and general public. Note that constraints on other fisheries have been increased when stock biomasses are high and the Council reduces inefficiencies for harvesting TAC. The Council has several initiatives that affect BSAI groundfish OY on its 2013 agendas, including adding grenadiers to the FMP and "flatfish specification flexibility ${ }^{3}$."

[^2]
## Next Steps

If it wishes to take further action to address National Standard 1, the Council should:

- identify which or both approaches to pursue
- interim solution under authority of the harvest specification process
- long term solution through FMP and/or regulatory amendments

For reapportioning the non-specified reserve:

- request NMFS staff to assist the Council during its consideration of proposed and final harvest specifications in October 2013 and December 2013

For FMP and/or regulatory amendments:

- identify the purpose and need for action
- identify the action area
- Bering Sea
- Aleutian Islands
- Gulf of Alaska
- range of alternatives
- timeline for action


## Conclusions

In response to a Council request, Council staff and NMFS staff have identified two potentially complementary approaches to increase the attainment of OY in the Bering Sea. The Council will consider both approaches and decide on a course of action at its April 2013 meeting.

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## APPENDIX 1. Additional information on sablefish management in the Aleutian Islands.

Table 1b. Sablefish allocation and weight posted by trawl and fixed gear in the AI.

| Metric tons | Fixed Gear |  |  | Trawl Gear |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Initial <br> Quota | Cateh <br> Weight | Percent | Initial <br> Quota | Catch <br> Weight | Percent |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2002 | 1530 | 933 | $61 \%$ | 541 | 57 | $11 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2003 | 1860 | 974 | $52 \%$ | 659 | 35 | $5 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2004 | 2325 | 924 | $40 \%$ | 717 | 32 | $4 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2005 | 1965 | 1366 | $70 \%$ | 606 | 115 | $19 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2006 | 2250 | 1071 | $48 \%$ | 694 | 60 | $9 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2007 | 2108 | 1108 | $53 \%$ | 649 | 40 | $6 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2008 | 1830 | 824 | $45 \%$ | 565 | 76 | $13 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2009 | 1650 | 1021 | $62 \%$ | 509 | 75 | $15 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2010 | 1552 | 1002 | $65 \%$ | 479 | 74 | $16 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2011 | 1425 | 972 | $68 \%$ | 440 | 47 | $11 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2012 | 1537 | 1054 | $69 \%$ | 474 | 148 | $31 \%$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Period | 20032 | 11249 |  |  |  |  |  | $56 \%$ | 6333 | 759 | $12 \%$ |
| Notes: Includes CDQ and non-CDQ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source: NMFS Alaska Region Catch Accounting System, data compiled by AKFIN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 2c. Fixed Gear Sablefish allocation and weight posted by CDQ and non-CDQ in the AI.

| Metric tons |  | CDQ |  |  | Non-CDQ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent |
| 2004 | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| 2005 | 393 | 319 | 81\% | 1572 | 1048 | 67\% |
| 2006 | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| 2007 | 422 | 336 | 80\% | 1686 | 773 | 46\% |
| 2008 | 366 | 131 | 36\% | 1464 | 693 | 47\% |
| 2009 | 330 | 235 | 71\% | 1320 | 785 | 59\% |
| 2010 | 310 | 283 | 91\% | 1242 | 719 | 58\% |
| 2011 | 285 | 198 | 69\% | 1140 | 774 | 68\% |
| 2012 | 307 | 221 | 72\% | 1230 | 833 | 68\% |
| Total Period | 2413 | 1723 | 71\% | 9654 ? | - 5624 | 58\% |
| Notes: *Confidential |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source: NMFS Alaska Region Catch Accounting System, data compiled by AKFIN |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 2d. Trawl Gear Sablefish allocation and weight posted by CDQ and non-CDQ in the AI.

| Metric tons |  | CDQ |  |  | Non-CDQ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent |
| 2004 | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| 2005 | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| 2006 | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| 2007 | 52 | 5 | 10\% | 597 | 35 | 6\% |
| 2008 | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| 2009 | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| 2010 | * | * | * | * | * | * |
| 2011 | 36 | 3 | 8\% | 404 | 44 | 11\% |
| 2012 | 38 | 4 | 11\% | 436 | 144 | 33\% |
| Total Period | 126 | 12 | 10\% | 1437 | 224 | 16\% |
| Notes: *Confidential |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source: NMFS Alaska Region Catch Accounting System, data compiled by AKFIN |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table 3b. Fixed Gear Sablefish allocation and weight posted by Vessel Category in the AI.

| Metric Tons |  | A |  |  | B |  |  | C |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent | Initial Quota | Catch Weight | Percent |
| 2004 | * | * | 56.13\% | * | * | 45.16\% | * | * | 38.37\% |
| 2005 | 884 | 542 | 61.32\% | 557 | 343 | 61.52\% | 131 | 61 | 46.65\% |
| 2006 | * | * | 40.89\% | * | * | 31.66\% | * | * | 55.11\% |
| 2007 | 948 | 414 | 43.72\% | 598 | 273 | 45.70\% | 140 | 42 | 29.94\% |
| 2008 | 823 | 409 | 49.64\% | 519 | 191 | 36.77\% | 122 | 44 | 35.82\% |
| 2009 | 742 | 443 | 59.75\% | 468 | 275 | 58.77\% | 110 | 34 | 30.55\% |
| 2010 | 705 | 431 | 61.15\% | 442 | 181 | 40.98\% | 95 | 29 | 30.80\% |
| 2011 | 698 | 521 | 74.55\% | 440 | 222 | 50.47\% | 103 | 21 | 20.39\% |
| 2012 | 691 | 510 | 73.74\% | 436 | 276 | 63.42\% | 102 | 33 | 32.05\% |
| Total Period | 5,49] | 3,270 | 59.54\% | $\cdots 3,460$ | 1,761, | 50.91\% | 804 | 264 | . $32.78 \%$ |
| Notes: *Confidential, Catch Weight in Product Amounts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Source: NMFS Alaska Region IFQ, data compiled by AKFIN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |




Figure 2 Harvest rates for individual Aleutian Islands sablefish IFQ permit holders. Source: AKFIN.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ An example from 76 FR 71269: "The 2011 initial total allowable catch (ITAC) of Greenland turbot in the Bering Sea subarea was established as 2,975 metric tons (mt) by the final 2011 and 2012 harvest specifications for groundfish of the BSAI (76 FR 11139, March 1, 2011). In accordance with § 679.20(a)(3) the Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, has reviewed the most current available data and finds that the ITAC for Greenland turbot in the Bering Sea subarea needs to be supplemented from the non-specified reserve in order to promote efficiency in the utilization of fishery resources in the BSAI and allow fishing operations to continue. Therefore, in accordance with $\S 679.20$ (b)(3), NMFS apportions from the non-specified reserve of groundfish 150 mt to the Greenland turbot ITAC in the Bering Sea subarea. This apportionment is consistent with § 679.20 (b)(1)(i) and does not result in overfishing of a target species because the revised ITAC is equal to or less than the specifications of the acceptable biological catch in the final 2011 and 2012 harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI ( 76 FR 11139, March 1, 2011). The harvest specification for the 2011 Greenland turbot ITAC included in the harvest specifications for groundfish in the BSAI is revised as follows: $3,125 \mathrm{mt}$ for Greenland turbot in the Bering Sea subarea."

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ Note also that there is no sablefish "reserve" for the Gulf of Alaska. The amounts remaining for trawl sablefish in the GOA is low compared with the BS and AI because the GOA trawl fleet has higher catch rates, but is still high as a percentage of the Western area sablefish TAC.
    2012 GOA sablefish trawl sector
    Western: $\quad$ TAC $=\mathbf{3 2 4} \mathrm{mt}$; Catch $=\mathbf{5 4} \mathrm{mt}$; Remaining $=\mathbf{2 7 0} \mathrm{mt}$ or $\mathbf{8 3} \%$
    Central: $\quad$ TAC $=948 \mathrm{mt}$; Catch $=918 \mathrm{mt}$; Remaining $=30$ or $3 \%$
    West Yakutat: $\quad$ TAC $=247 \mathrm{mt}$; Catch $=109 \mathrm{mt}$; Remaining $=138 \mathrm{mt}$ or $56 \%$ Southeast: no trawl allocation

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ This action would allocate the ABC reserve for three flatfish species among Amendment 80 cooperatives and CDQ groups, using the same formulas that are used in the annual harvest specifications process. These entities would exchange their flatfish quota share for an equivalent amount of their allocation of the ABC reserve for these species.

