


MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members

FROM: Jim H. Branson, Executive Director 

DATE: July 14, 1980

SUBJECT: Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP

ACTION REQUIRED

Approval/disapproval of final 3 amendment items for 1981: Kodiak closed trawl area to protect king crab grounds, TAC for prohibited species, and criteria to establish joint venture processing closures.

BACKGROUND

The Gulf of Alaska Groundfish amendment #8 was forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce on June 25th, but is currently hung up in Juneau while general counsel reviews, rewrites, and so on. We don't know when SOC review will begin.

Three items from the original amendment package were deferred by the Council at the May meeting to be considered in July. They are (1) the enlargement of the Kodiak trawl closure to prevent gear conflicts and ground preemption with the U. S. crab fishery; (2) set a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for prohibited species and apply an economic disincentive for catching prohibited species; (3) establish criteria for the regional director to close certain areas around domestic shore-based processors to foreign processing.

Two other items should be considered by the Council at this meeting.

- (1) Revised DAH estimates for 1981.
- (2) Restriction on Pacific Ocean perch catch in the eastern regulatory area.

The revised DAH estimates are included as Attachment G-4(a) and are not greatly different than the estimates that were made for 1980. Since we now have a great deal of flexibility in adjusting DAH and reserve during the season, it may not be necessary to make any changes in the plan (it would take an amendment) for 1981. Current figures may suffice.

The restriction on the catch of Pacific Ocean perch in the eastern regulatory area was discussed at the May Council meeting in terms of a foreign trawl closure for that regulatory area. The Council did not endorse a trawl closure. The PDT now suggests that Pacific Ocean perch be considered an incidental catch with not more than 5% of the total foreign catch comprised of that species.

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Item number 2, Total Allowable Catch for prohibited species, is also being considered in the Bering Sea amendment for 1981 and the concept can best be addressed in that plan. While an innovative concept with considerable merit, it is complicated and far from perfected. I do not believe we can have it in a finished enough form to use as an amendment for the Gulf of Alaska plan for 1981. My recommendation is that it be considered only for the Bering Sea and, even there, deferred for action for the 1982 amendment.

Establishing criteria for the Regional Director to close certain areas to joint venture processing to protect U. S. shore-based processors should properly be done by the Council rather than a plan development team. I recommend a Council subcommittee to do that development, either at this meeting or prior to the August meeting.

Amounts of Groundfish (metric tons) Intended to be Delivered by U.S. Fishermen
to U.S. and Foreign Processors (DAH) In the Gulf of Alaska and
Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands in 1980 and 1981

Fisheries Management
NMFS, Alaska Region
June 13, 1980

	<u>GULF OF ALASKA</u>										
	Pollock	Cod	Atka Mackerel	Flounders	P.O.P.	Rockfish	Sablefish	Squid	Other Groundfish	Thorny- head	Total
	<u>1980</u>										
EASTERN	0	5	0	45	3,511	918	2,450	0	0	0	6,929
CENTRAL	42,678	8,888	2,345	4,327	4,327	1,640	870	300	595	10	65,980
WESTERN	<u>2,444</u>	<u>2,137</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>341</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>141</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>241</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>5,774</u>
TOTAL	45,122	11,030	2,445	4,572	8,179	2,708	3,461	300	836	30	78,683
	<u>1981</u>										
EASTERN	0	1	0	0	4,727	1,242	1,838	0	795	8,603	
CENTRAL	57,319	13,022	3,286	7,880	5,604	4,236	1,145	320	945	93,757	
WESTERN	<u>12,528</u>	<u>11,534</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>1,207</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>1,053</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>336</u>	<u>27,438</u>	
TOTAL	69,847	24,557	3,536	8,180	11,538	5,678	4,036	350	2,076	129,798	

	<u>BERING SEA/ALEUTIAN ISLANDS</u>											
	Pollock	Cod	Atka Mackerel	Yellowfin Sole	Turbot	Flounders	P.O.P.	Rockfish	Sablefish	Squid	Other Groundfish	Total
1980	54,540	12,022	1,068	10,318	650	1,450	1,513	950	813	450	1,000	84,774
1981	97,882	34,341	1,800	15,377	775	2,757	1,754	1,527	1,172	600	1,450	159,435

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Amounts of Groundfish (metric tons) U.S. Processors Intend to Purchase from U.S. Fishermen
In the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands in 1980 and 1981 and
Amounts Designated as Domestic Annual Processing (DAP) for 1980

GULF OF ALASKA
1980

<u>Regulatory Area</u>	<u>Pollock</u>	<u>Pacific Cod</u>	<u>Atka Mackerel</u>	<u>Flounders</u>	<u>P.O.P.</u>	<u>Rockfish</u>	<u>Sablefish</u>	<u>Squid</u>	<u>Other Groundfish</u>	<u>Total</u>
EASTERN										
Intent	0	5	0	45	11	118	2,450	0	0	2,629
DAP	695	280	0	900	80	455	4,700	0	100	7,210
CENTRAL										
Intent	2,278	1,588	45	227	227	90	45	0	45	4,545
DAP	5,380	3,480	0	300	295	200	1,000	0	100	10,755
WESTERN										
Intent	944	1,137	0	0	91	0	91	0	91	2,354
DAP	25	240	0	100	25	45	100	0	100	635
TOTAL										
Intent	3,222	2,730	45	272	329	208	2,586	0	136	9,528
DAP	6,100	4,000	0	1,300	400	700	5,800	0	300	18,600

1981

EASTERN										
Intent	0	1	0	0	227	242	1,838	0	45	2,353
CENTRAL										
Intent	6,819	2,722	136	680	454	136	45	0	45	11,037
WESTERN										
Intent	9,528	9,534	0	0	907	0	953	0	136	21,058
TOTAL										
Intent	16,347	12,257	136	680	1,588	378	2,836	0	226	34,448

BERING SEA/ALEUTIAN ISLANDS

	<u>Pollock</u>	<u>Pacific Cod</u>	<u>Atka Mackerel</u>	<u>Yellowfin Sole</u>	<u>Turbot</u>	<u>Flounders</u>	<u>P.O.P.</u>	<u>Rockfish</u>	<u>Sablefish</u>	<u>Squid</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
1980												
Intent	2,540	2,722	68	68	0	0	113	0	113	0	0	5,624
DAP	10,500	7,200	0	1,200	1,000	1,200	1,100	1,100	1,000	0	1,800	26,100
1981												
Intent	9,982	17,241	0	227	0	907	454	227	522	0	0	29,560

What is the difference?

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Amounts of Groundfish (metric tons) Intended To Be Delivered to Foreign Processors by U.S. Fishermen (JOINT VENTURES) In the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands In 1980 & 1981 and Amounts Presently Designated as Joint Venture Processing (JVP) for 1980.

Fisheries Management
NMFS, Alaska Region
June 12, 1980

GULF OF ALASKA

1980	Pacific Cod	Alaska Mackerel	Flounders	POP	Rockfish	Thorny- head	Sablefish	Squid	Other Groundfish	TOTAL
EASTERN Intent	0	0	0	3,500	800	0	0	0	0	4,300
JVP	1,520	590	460	1,235	120	0	290	60	400	5,375
CENTRAL Intent	40,400	7,300	2,300	4,100	1,550	10	825	300	550	61,435
JVP	7,940	1,370	820	960	50	0	220	60	120	12,620
WESTERN Intent	1,500	1,000	200	250	150	20	50	0	150	3,420
JVP	5,750	1,040	600	320	30	0	170	30	100	8,330
TOTAL Intent	41,900	8,300	4,300	7,850	2,500	30	875	300	700	69,155
JVP	15,210	3,000	1,880	2,515	200	0	680	150	620	26,325

DERING SEA/ALEUTIAN ISLANDS

1981 Intent	Pacific Cod	Alaska Mackerel	Yellowfin Sole	Turbot	Flounders	POP	Rock- fish	Sable- fish	Squid	Other Groundfish	TOTAL
EASTERN	0	0	0	4,500	1,000	0	0	0	0	750	6,250
CENTRAL	50,500	10,300	7,200	5,150	4,100	0	1,100	320	900	82,720	
WESTERN	3,000	2,000	300	300	200	0	100	30	200	6,380	
TOTAL	53,500	12,300	7,500	9,950	5,300	0	1,200	350	1,850	95,350	

1980 Intent	Pacific Cod	Alaska Mackerel	Yellowfin Sole	Turbot	Flounders	POP	Rock- fish	Sable- fish	Squid	Other Groundfish	TOTAL
1980 Intent	52,000	9,300	10,250	650	1,450	1,400	950	700	450	1,000	79,150
JVP	21,550	17,065	6,700	1,200	862	1,660	450	400	50	1,050	51,707
1981 Intent	07,900	17,100	15,150	775	1,850	1,300	1,300	650	600	1,450	129,875

FILE	ACT	INFO	ROUTE TO	INITIAL
			Exec. Dir.	MB
			A. Exec. Dir.	CP
			Admin. Off.	
		July 1, 80	Exec. Sec.	Paul
			Writer/1	
			Writer/2	
			Sec. Recep.	
			Sec. Typist	



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
 Washington, D.C. 20235

AGENDA G-4(b)
 JULY, 1980

JUL 8 1980

JUL 15 1980

Mr. Jim H. Branson
 Executive Director, North Pacific
 Fishery Management Council
 P.O. Box 3136DT
 Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Jim,

I received, on July 1, 1980, Amendment No. 8 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish in the Gulf of Alaska. Enclosed is a tentative schedule for review and (assuming approval) implementation of the amendment.

Sincerely yours,

Terry L. Leitzell
 Assistant Administrator
 for Fisheries

Enclosure



10TH ANNIVERSARY 1970-1980
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 A young agency with a historic
 tradition of service to the Nation

Tentative Schedule
Gulf of Alaska Groundfish
1981 Extension (GOA81)

DATE	EVENT
July 18	Issues meeting.
July 25	FPG meeting on amendment.
August 8	F signs Action Memorandum.
August 15	A concurs.
August 20	Regulations filed.
October 6	Comment period ends.
October 15	Final regulations filed (15-day cooling-off period).

TITLE 50 - WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
CHAPTER VI - FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

PARTS 611 and 672
GROUNDFISH OF THE GULF OF ALASKA

APPORTIONMENT OF RESERVE AMOUNTS

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, (NOAA)/ Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Apportionment of Reserve Amounts and retention of Domestic Annual Harvest (DAH) amounts; Response to comments.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the apportionment of reserve amounts and domestic annual harvest (DAH) amounts of fish that were eligible on July 2, 1980, in the Gulf of Alaska for apportionment to the total allowable level of foreign fishing (TALFF) in accordance with provisions of the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska (see 44 FR 64410) and implementing regulations (50 CFR 611.92(b)(1)(ii) and 672.20(c)).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July , 1980.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Robert W. McVey
Director, Alaska Region
National Marine Fisheries Service
P.O. Box 1668
Juneau, Alaska 99802
Telephone: (907) 586-7221

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Background

Because of uncertainties about specifications of U.S. domestic annual harvest (DAH), including the extent to which U.S. vessels delivering to U.S. and foreign processors would harvest groundfish, the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish in the Gulf of Alaska (FMP) established reserves of fish in the Gulf of Alaska which could be apportioned to DAH anytime or, if U.S. vessels did not harvest at anticipated levels, to the total allowable level of foreign fishing (TALFF) on or as soon as practicable after four scheduled dates: January 2, March 2, May 2, and July 2, 1980. Amounts of any surplus DAH could be apportioned to TALFF on or as soon as practicable after May 2 and July 2, 1980.

On September 7, 1979, the Secretary of Commerce published an approved amendment to the FMP that established initial amounts of TALFF, DAH, and reserves for the November 1, 1979 - October 31, 1980, fishing year.

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Amounts of DAH were determined by surveys conducted by the National Marine Fisheries Service and by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council). Reserves were established to assure that an adequate supply of fish was available to U.S. fishermen wishing to sell U.S.-caught fish to U.S. processors or to foreign processors at sea (joint ventures). Regulations implementing this amendment were effective November 1, 1979.

II. Determination of Amount of Reserve and DAH Apportionment

In accordance with regulations implementing the FMP, (611.92(b)(1)(ii) and 672.20(c)) the Regional Director has determined that:

1. The remaining reserves of all species in the Gulf of Alaska should be apportioned to TALFF.
2. Certain amounts of the DAH of all species in each area of the Gulf of Alaska should be apportioned to TALFF, with the exception of: rockfish in the Western Area, flounder in the Central Area, and idiot rockfish (Sebastes) and rattails in all areas.
3. In the Western Area of the Gulf of Alaska, certain amounts of pollock should be transferred from the JVP to the DAP portion of DAH, and certain amounts of Pacific cod should be transferred from the DNP to the DAP portion of DAH.

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In making this determination, the Regional Director considered the need for DAH in the Gulf of Alaska to be supplemented with reserves, and the extent that U.S. vessels would harvest the present amounts in DAH.

To date, U.S. catches of all species in the Gulf of Alaska have not been as substantial as anticipated. The Gulf of Alaska fishing year is two thirds complete and the traditional peak months of domestic groundfish fishing (except for sablefish) are past. Joint ventures are fishing successfully in the Bering Sea and presently no joint venture activity is occurring in the Gulf of Alaska. In consideration of these facts, and recent and projected catch rates and projected effort, the Regional Director has concluded that U.S. vessels could take only the amounts shown in the table below. Hence it is appropriate that the balances, both reserves and surplus DAH amounts, be transferred to TALFF at this time.

The Regional Director has also determined the pollock and Pacific cod DAP amounts in the Western Area are inadequate and should be increased to provide for an anticipated domestic fishery along the Aleutian Islands east of 170 degrees W longitude. Therefore, amounts of pollock determined to be surplus to joint venture needs were transferred from JVP to DAP, and amounts of Pacific cod surplus to the bait fishery were transferred from DNP to DAP.

July 2, 1980, total Reserve and DAH Apportioned to TALFF
and DAH Retained by Gulf of Alaska Regulatory Area

Species	Western	Central	Eastern	Total
Potllock				
Apportioned	8,031	11,495	2,197	11,290
Retained	3,444	6,585	848	10,877
Pacific cod				
Apportioned	1,656	3,569	2,045	3,828
Retained	1,880	4,158	520	6,558
Flounders				
Apportioned	1,440	735	1,210	3,385
Retained	300	1,120	570	1,990
Pacific Ocean Perch				
Apportioned	340	1,333	1,790	3,463
Retained	275	317	245	837
Other Rockfish				
Apportioned	60	230	662	952
Retained	75	140	238	453
Sablefish				
Apportioned	330	1,429	1,598	3,357
Retained	150	171	4,812	5,133
Atka Mackerel				
Apportioned	718	2,042	809	3,569
Retained	40	80	50	170
Squid				
Apportioned	125	150	150	425
Retained	5	10	10	25
Rattails				
Apportioned	330	355	140	825
Retained	33	33	1,266	1,322
Idiot Rockfish (<u>Sebastolobus</u>)				
Apportioned				186
Retained				6
Other Species				
Apportioned	600	485	880	1,965
Retained	240	365	180	785

III. Response to Public Comment

One comment was received during the comment period. It is summarized and responded to below.

Comment: All the reserves and surplus DAH amounts of sablefish in all areas of the Gulf of Alaska, and all the reserves and surplus DAH amounts of Pacific cod in the Eastern Area of the Gulf of Alaska, should be apportioned to TALFF.

Response: All the reserves in all areas of the Gulf of Alaska for both sablefish and Pacific cod will be apportioned to TALFF. Amounts of sablefish determined to be surplus to DAH in all three areas of the Gulf of Alaska, and amounts of Pacific cod determined to be surplus to DAH in the Central and Eastern Areas of the Gulf of Alaska will be apportioned to TALFF.

IV. Other Matters

An environmental impact statement was prepared for the FMP and is on file with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). A negative assessment of environmental impact was prepared for the reserve and DAH apportionment provisions of the FMP and is also on file with the EPA.

The Regional Director has determined that these regulations should be effective immediately for the following reasons:

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- (
- A. The regulations implementing the FMP provide adequate advance notice and invite public comment on this action;
 - B. No regulatory restrictions are imposed on any person as a result of this action;
 - C. This action relates to the extension of a benefit; and
 - D. Immediate implementation is required to achieve full utilization of the fishery resources concerned (any determinations to waive, and appropriate reasons, must be stated for each apportionment). This action is not significant in relation to criteria prescribed by Executive Order 12044, and a regulatory analysis is not required.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this day of 1980

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Winfred H. Heibohm
Executive Director
National Marine Fisheries Service

Authority: 16 U.S.C. Section 1801 et seq.

(A) 50 CFR 672.20 and 50 CFR 611.92 are amended by revising Table 1 - OY-DAH-DAP-JVP-Reserve - and TALFF by Regulatory Area of paragraphs (a) and (b), respectively, with changes shown in the attached Table 1.

cc: F, CAx2, F/CM, F/IA, F/CM7, F/CMx1, F/SR, GCF, F/CM5, A, AD312, F/CM6, PA13, GCEL/Watson, F/AKR, F/SR1, F/SR2

F/AKR12
JSMOKER:c1 7-15-80 File:

Table 1. OY-DAH-DAP-DNP-JVP-Reserve and TALFF
by Regulatory Area (as amended by the July
Reserve and DAH apportionment) (1,000's mt)

Species	Western	Central	Eastern	Total
Pollock				
1. OY	57,000	95,200	15,600	168,800
2. DAP	1,025	2,278	695	3,998
3. JVP	2,419	4,307	153	6,879
4. DAH	3,444	6,585	848	10,877
5. Reserve	0	0	0	0
6. TALFF	53,556	98,615	15,752	157,923
Pacific cod				
1. OY	16,560	33,540	9,900	60,000
2. DAP	740	1,538	230	2,558
3. JVP	1,040 <u>1/</u>	1,370	90	2,500
4. DNP	100	1,200	200	1,500
5. DAH	1,880 <u>1/</u>	4,158	520	6,558
6. Reserve	0	0	0	0
7. TALFF	14,680	29,382	9,380	53,442
Flounders				
1. OY	10,400	14,700	8,400	33,500
2. DAP	100 <u>1/</u>	300 <u>1/</u>	290	690
3. JVP	200	820 <u>1/</u>	280	1,300
4. DAH	300	1,120 <u>1/</u>	570	1,990
5. Reserve	0	0	0	0
6. TALFF	10,100	13,580	7,830	31,510
Pacific Ocean Perch				
1. OY	2,700	7,900	14,400	25,000
2. DAP	25	227	10	262
3. JVP	250	90	235	575
4. DAH	275	317	245	837
5. Reserve	0	0	0	0
6. TALFF	2,425	7,583	14,155	24,163
Other Rockfish				
1. OY	300	800	6,500	7,600
2. DAP	45 <u>1/</u>	90	118	253
3. JVP	30 <u>1/</u>	50	120 <u>1/</u>	200
4. DAH	75 <u>1/</u>	140	238	453
5. Reserve	0	0	0	0
6. TALFF	225	660	6,262	7,147

Species	Western	Central	Eastern	Total
Sablefish				
1. OY	2,100	3,800	7,100	13,000
2. DAP	100 <u>1/</u>	45	4,700 <u>1/</u>	4,845
3. JVP	50	126	112	288
4. DAH	150	171	4,812	5,133
5. Reserve	0	0	0	0
6. TALFF	1,950	3,629	2,288	7,867
Atka Mackerel				
1. OY	4,678	20,836	3,186	28,700
2. DAP				
3. JVP	40	80	50	170
4. DAH	40	80	50	170
5. Reserve	0	0	0	0
6. TALFF	4,638	20,756	3,136	28,530
Squid				
1. OY	1,000	2,000	2,000	5,000
2. DAP	0	0	0	0
3. JVP	5	10	10	25
4. DAH	5	10	10	25
5. Reserve	0	0	0	0
6. TALFF	995	1,990	1,990	4,975
Rattail				
1. OY	3,300	7,100	2,800	13,200
2. DAP	33 <u>1/</u>	33 <u>1/</u>	1,266 <u>1/</u>	1,332 <u>1/</u>
3. JVP	0	0	0	0
4. DAH	33 <u>1/</u>	33 <u>1/</u>	1,266 <u>1/</u>	1,332 <u>1/</u>
5. Reserve	0	0	0	0
6. TALFF	3,267	7,067	1,534	11,868
Idiot Rockfish (<u>Sebastes</u>)				
1. OY		Gulf-wide OY		3,750 <u>1/</u>
2. DAP				6 <u>1/</u>
3. JVP				0
4. DAH				6 <u>1/</u>
5. Reserve				0
6. TALFF				3,744 <u>1/</u>
Other Species				
1. OY	4,400	8,600	3,200	16,200
2. DAP	90	45	20	155
3. JVP	50	120	10	180
4. DNP	100	200	150	450
5. DAH	240	365	180	785
6. Reserve	0	0	0	0
7. TALFF	4,160	8,235	3,020	15,415

1/ No change

cc: F/AKR12 JSMOKER:c1 7-15-80 File:

