



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

*National Marine Fisheries Service*

*P.O. Box 21668*

*Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668*

March 29, 2013

Eric Olson, Chairman  
Chris Oliver, Executive Director  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
605 W. Fourth Avenue, Suite 306  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Chairman Olson and Mr. Oliver:

At its February 2013 meeting, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) considered a draft analysis examining active participation requirements for persons acquiring or holding vessel owner quota share in the BSAI crab fisheries (agenda item C-4(b)) and a discussion paper considering measures for BSAI crab cooperatives to address various crew issues (agenda item C-4(c)). As you know, the Council decided to take no further action on either of these agenda items. However, the Council passed a motion requesting that each cooperative in the Crab Rationalization program voluntarily provide an annual report to the Council that describes the measures the cooperative is taking "to facilitate the transfer of quota share to active participants and crew members" and "available measures which affect high lease rates and crew compensation." The motion also states that the reports should describe the "effectiveness of the measures implemented through the cooperatives, the estimated level of member participation in any voluntary measures, and include supporting information and data." According to the Council's February 2013 newsletter, these reports are to be provided to the Council at its October meeting.

During Council deliberation on the motion, NOAA General Counsel expressed a concern that the Council's motion may be a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). She indicated that further research would be needed to make a definitive determination and that the agency would report back to the Council on our findings.

We have had an opportunity to examine the requirements of the PRA and its implementing regulations. Based on that review, and with guidance from NOAA General Counsel, we have determined that the motion passed by the Council and described above constitutes a collection of information subject to the review and approval requirements of the PRA. The following paragraphs provide additional explanation for our determination.



The PRA applies to (1) agency (2) collections of (3) information using identical questions posed to, or reporting or recordkeeping requirements imposed on, (4) ten or more persons. The Department of Commerce and NOAA have long considered councils to be "agencies" for purposes of the PRA. PRA regulations at 5 C.F.R. § 1320.3(h) define "information" as "any statement or estimate of fact or opinion, regardless of form or format, and whether oral or maintained on paper, electronic or other media." PRA regulations at 5 C.F.R. § 1320.3(c) define a "collection of information" as "... soliciting ... the disclosure to an agency ... of information ... for an agency by means of identical questions posed to, or identical reporting, recordkeeping, or disclosure requirements imposed on, ten or more persons, whether such collection of information is mandatory, voluntary, or required to obtain or retain a benefit." "Collection of information" includes "any requirement or request for persons to obtain, maintain, retain, report, or publicly disclose information." *Id.* The Council's motion requests each crab cooperative to voluntarily submit to the Council statements or estimates of fact or opinion concerning various measures taken by the cooperative and is an agency collection of information under the PRA. The fact that the Council's request for this information is voluntary does not exempt it from the requirements of the PRA.

As to the last criterion, NOAA General Counsel noted during the February meeting that the Council's motion may be exempt from the PRA because there are currently less than ten crab cooperatives.<sup>1</sup> Our additional research revealed that PRA regulations at 5 C.F.R. § 1320.3(c)(4) state that "ten or more persons" refers to "the persons to whom a collection of information is addressed by the agency within any 12-month period, and to any independent entities to which the initial addressee may reasonably be expected to transmit the collection of information during that period ...." Furthermore, regulations at 5 C.F.R. § 1320(c)(4)(ii) state that if a collection of information is addressed to all or a substantial majority of an industry, the collection is presumed to be addressed to ten or more persons. The Council's motion is directed to the crab cooperatives, but these cooperatives will have to turn to their members to obtain the information requested by the Council. Also, NMFS currently issues over 99 percent of the individual fishing quota annually issued in all crab fisheries under the Crab Rationalization Program to these crab cooperatives.<sup>2</sup> Therefore, we have determined that the collection of information is addressed to ten or more persons, thus triggering the review and approval requirements of the PRA. I have attached a copy of a memorandum from the Administrator of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), which provides a concise summary of the central requirements of the PRA that may assist the Council in the development of future information collections.

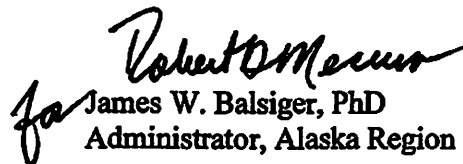
---

<sup>1</sup> Crab cooperatives are "persons" under the PRA. Regulations at 5 C.F.R. § 1320.3(k) define "person" as "an individual, partnership, association, corporation ... business trust, or legal representative, an organized group of individuals, a State, territorial, tribal, or local government or branch thereof, or a political subdivision of a State, territory, tribal, or local government or a branch of a political subdivision."

<sup>2</sup> Initial Review Draft of Provisions Defining Active Participation Requirements for the Acquisition and Use of Owner Shares, prepared for agenda item C-4(b) at the February 2013 Council meeting, at page 9.

Personnel within the NMFS Alaska Region Sustainable Fisheries Division have begun preparation of the documents needed to obtain OMB review and approval of this new annual report from crab cooperatives. We believe that review and approval of this collection of information can be completed prior to the Council's October 2013 meeting.

Sincerely,

  
James W. Balsiger, PhD  
Administrator, Alaska Region

Attachment: Office of Management and Budget Memorandum dated April 7, 2010

cc: Lisa Lindeman: NOAA General Counsel, Alaska Section  
cc: Leonard Herzog: Alaska King Crab Harvesters Cooperative  
cc: Sandra Toomey: Aleutian Gold Crab Cooperative  
cc: Trevor McCabe: Coastal Villages Crab Cooperative  
cc: Rob Rogers: Crab Producers and Harvesters LLC  
cc: Edward Poulsen: Dog Boat Cooperative  
cc: Tim Abena: Independent Crabber's Cooperative  
cc: Erling Jacobsen: Inter-Cooperative Exchange  
cc: Mary Mezich: R & B Cooperative  
cc: Christian Asay: Trident Affiliated Crab Harvesting Corporation  
cc: Mark Gleason: Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers  
cc: Ruth Christiansen: Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers



ADMINISTRATOR  
OFFICE OF  
INFORMATION AND  
REGULATORY  
AFFAIRS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

April 7, 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES,  
AND INDEPENDENT REGULATORY AGENCIES

FROM:

Cass R. Sunstein  
Administrator

SUBJECT:

Information Collection under the Paperwork Reduction Act

On January 21, 2009, the President issued a memorandum calling for the establishment of "a system of transparency, public participation, and collaboration."<sup>1</sup> The memorandum required an Open Government Directive to be issued by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), instructing "executive departments and agencies to take specific actions implementing the principles set forth in this memorandum."

Implementing the President's memorandum, OMB's Open Government Directive requires a series of measures to promote the commitments to transparency, participation, and collaboration.<sup>2</sup> Section 4 of the Directive specifically instructs the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) to "review existing OMB policies, such as Paperwork Reduction Act guidance and privacy guidance, to identify impediments to open government and to the use of new technologies and, where necessary, issue clarifying guidance and/or propose revisions to such policies, to promote greater openness in government."

This Memorandum responds to that requirement by offering clarifying guidance with respect to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA)<sup>3</sup> in order to specify its central requirements and to increase transparency and openness.

The PRA was designed, among other things, to "ensure the greatest possible public benefit from and maximize the utility of information created, collected, maintained, used, shared and disseminated by or for the Federal Government" and to "improve the quality and use of Federal information to strengthen decisionmaking, accountability, and openness in Government and society."<sup>4</sup> Federal agencies play a critical role in collecting and managing information in order to promote openness, reduce burdens on the public, increase program efficiency and

<sup>1</sup> Available at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/presdocs/2009/DCPD200900010.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Available at [http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda\\_2010/m10-06.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/memoranda_2010/m10-06.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> 44 U.S.C. chapter 35; see 5 CFR Part 1320.

<sup>4</sup> 44 U.S.C. § 3501.

effectiveness, and improve the integrity, quality, and utility of information to all users within and outside the government.<sup>5</sup>

Before requiring or requesting information from the public, the PRA requires Federal agencies<sup>6</sup> (1) to seek public comment on proposed collections and (2) to submit proposed collections for review and approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) reviews agency information collection requests for approval or disapproval. When OMB approves an information collection, it assigns an OMB control number<sup>7</sup> that the agency must display on the information collection.<sup>8</sup> OMB has issued regulations and guidance to promote agency compliance with the PRA.<sup>9</sup>

#### What counts as "information" under the PRA?

OMB regulations define "information" as "any statement or estimate of fact or opinion, regardless of form or format, whether in numerical, graphic, or narrative form, and whether oral or maintained on paper, electronic or other media."<sup>10</sup> This category includes:

- (1) requests for information to be sent to the government, such as forms (e.g., the IRS 1040), written reports (e.g., grantee performance reports), and surveys (e.g., the Census);
- (2) recordkeeping requirements (e.g., OSHA requirements that employers maintain records of workplace accidents); and
- (3) third-party or public disclosures (e.g., nutrition labeling requirements for food).<sup>11</sup>

The PRA applies to collections of information using identical questions posed to, or reporting or recordkeeping requirements imposed on, "ten or more persons."<sup>12</sup> For the purpose of counting the number of respondents, agencies should consider the number of respondents within any 12 month period. If a collection of information is addressed to all or a substantial

---

<sup>5</sup> 44 U.S.C. § 3506(b).

<sup>6</sup> With some exceptions, the PRA applies to "any executive department, military department, Government corporation, Government controlled corporation, or other establishment in the executive branch of the Government (including the Executive Office of the President), or any independent regulatory agency." 44 U.S.C. § 3502(1).

<sup>7</sup> The OMB Control Number is two four-digit codes separated by a hyphen. The first four digits identify the sponsoring agency and bureau, and the second four digits identify the particular collection. The public can find OMB's inventory of currently approved collections, with OMB control numbers, online at <http://www.reginfo.gov>.

<sup>8</sup> The PRA prohibits agencies from penalizing or denying a benefit to: (1) those who fail to respond to Federal collections of information that do not display valid OMB control numbers and (2) those who have not been informed that a response is not required unless the collection of information displays a valid control number. Litigants may raise these public protections at any time during an administrative process or judicial action. See 44 U.S.C. § 3512(b); *Center for Auto Safety v. NHTSA*, 244 F.3d 144 (D.C. Cir. 2001); *Saco River Cellular Inc. v. FCC*, 133 F.3d 25 (D.C. Cir. 1998).

<sup>9</sup> Please see OIRA's website: [http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg\\_default/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg_default/).

<sup>10</sup> 5 C.F.R. 1320.3(b).

<sup>11</sup> See 5 C.F.R. 1320.3(c).

<sup>12</sup> 44 U.S.C. § 3502(3)(A)(i). Under the PRA, "person" means "an individual, partnership, association, corporation, business trust, or legal representative, an organized group of individuals, a State, territorial, tribal, or local government or branch thereof, or a political subdivision of a State, territory, tribal, or local government or a branch of a political subdivision." 44 U.S.C. § 3502(10).

majority of an industry or sector in a 12 month period, that collection is presumed to be addressed to ten or more persons.<sup>13</sup>

The requirements of the PRA apply to voluntary collections as well as to mandatory collections and collections required to obtain a Federal benefit (e.g., a job, a grant, a contract).<sup>14</sup> In implementing program activities, agencies should be aware of the applicability of the PRA and address PRA compliance in sufficient time to solicit and respond to public comment.<sup>15</sup>

#### What does not count as information under the PRA?

OMB regulations specify a number of items that are generally not "information" under the PRA.<sup>16</sup> Important examples are

- affidavits, receipts, changes of address, or consents;
- tests of the aptitude, abilities, or knowledge of persons; and
- facts or opinions that are (1) submitted in response to general solicitations of public comments,<sup>17</sup> (2) addressed to a single person, (3) obtained or solicited at or in connection with public hearings or meetings, (4) obtained through direct observation by the agency (e.g., through visual inspection to determine how long it takes for people to complete a specific transaction), or (5) obtained from participants in clinical trials (which typically do not involve answers to "identical questions").

It is worth emphasizing that facts or opinions obtained in connection with public meetings do not count as "information." This "public meeting" exception allows agencies to engage with the public on the Internet so long as the engagement is the functional equivalent of a public meeting (i.e., not a survey). In addition, it is important to underline that general solicitations, such as *Federal Register* notices, do not trigger the PRA. It follows that agencies may offer the public opportunities to provide general comments on discussion topics through the Internet. More generally, agencies may use social media and web-based technologies in a variety of specific ways without triggering the PRA.<sup>18</sup>

#### What information collections do not require OMB approval?

By statute, the PRA does not apply to some types of information collections. OMB approval is not required for information collections during a Federal criminal investigation or prosecution, during a civil action to which the United States is a party, or during the conduct of intelligence activities.<sup>19</sup> Agency collections from "agencies, instrumentalities, or employees of

<sup>13</sup> 5 C.F.R. 1320.3(c)(4)(ii).

<sup>14</sup> See 44 U.S.C. § 3502(3); 5 C.F.R. 1320.3(e).

<sup>15</sup> Given that the required public comment periods total 90 days, agencies should plan for at least 90 days plus time to respond to comments and questions that arise during OMB review.

<sup>16</sup> 5 C.F.R. 1320.3(h). Please see the Appendix for the regulatory text.

<sup>17</sup> Documents such as Advance Notices of Proposed Rulemaking, Requests for Comments, Requests for Information, and Notices of Proposed Rulemaking are generally not information collections.

<sup>18</sup> For additional information, see OIRA Memorandum on Social Media, Web-Based Interactive Technologies, and the Paperwork Reduction Act, available at [http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg\\_default/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg_default/).

<sup>19</sup> 44 U.S.C. § 3518(c). Please see the Appendix for the statutory exemptions.

the United States" in their official capacities are generally not subject to the PRA, unless those collections are for "general statistical purposes."<sup>20</sup> It is worth emphasizing that agencies may ask for facts and opinions of Federal employees without triggering the PRA.

What are the public notice and comment requirements for information collection requests?

To obtain the public's input on an agency's proposal to collect information, the PRA generally requires the agency to publish a 60-day notice in the *Federal Register* soliciting public comment on the agency's proposed collection. The notice must include a specific request that the public evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary; evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden that the collection would impose on respondents; comment on how to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and comment on how to minimize the burden of the collection of information.<sup>21</sup>

After conclusion of the 60-day comment period and the agency's internal consideration of the public's comments, the agency submits the collection to OMB and publishes a second *Federal Register* notice to announce the start of OMB review.<sup>22</sup> This second notice informs the public about how to submit comments to OMB and informs the public that OMB may act on the agency's request only after the 30-day comment period has closed.



When and how may the public notice and comment requirements be reduced?

Under certain circumstances, an agency head or designee may request that it be permitted to seek expedited, or "emergency," OMB review of an information collection request. When expedited review is granted, the agency must take all practicable steps to consult with members of the public, but OMB may modify or, if necessary, waive the public comment requirements.<sup>23</sup> And when review is expedited, OMB acts promptly through a suitably streamlined process, consistent with the purposes of the PRA.

OMB may grant expedited review if: "(i) Public harm is reasonably likely to result if normal clearance procedures are followed; (ii) An unanticipated event has occurred; or (iii) The use of normal clearance procedures is reasonably likely to prevent or disrupt the collection of information or is reasonably likely to cause a statutory or court ordered deadline to be missed."<sup>24</sup>

<sup>20</sup> 44 U.S.C. § 3502(3)(A).

<sup>21</sup> 44 U.S.C. § 3506(c)(2)(A). If a new information collection is associated with a proposed rule, OMB regulations require that only one notice be published. Agencies include this PRA notice in the preamble to the proposed rule and comments are directed to OMB. See 44 U.S.C. § 3506(c)(2)(B); 5 C.F.R. 1320.11.

<sup>22</sup> 44 U.S.C. § 3507(a)(1)(D).

<sup>23</sup> 5 CFR 1320.13(c) and (d).

<sup>24</sup> 44 U.S.C. § 3507(j); 5 C.F.R. 1320.13(a)(2).

As these situations arise, agencies should consult with OIRA to select an approach that permits them to comply with the PRA while meeting their other obligations.<sup>25</sup>

An agency may also request a "generic clearance" in situations in which (a) there is a need for multiple, similar low-burden collections that do not raise substantive or policy issues and (b) the specifics of each collection cannot be determined until shortly before the data are to be collected. Generic clearances have proved useful for customer satisfaction surveys, focus group testing, and website usability surveys. To obtain a generic clearance, agencies provide the public with opportunity for comment as required by the PRA and provide all information that would allow for meaningful comment, including a description of the need for the collection, the general nature of the collection, an estimate of the overall burden, and a description of the methodologies that will be used to collect the data. Once approval is granted for the overall collection, individual collections that fall within the generic clearance are reviewed on an expedited basis and are not generally required to undergo further public comment. Agencies are encouraged to consult with their OMB desk officers before developing a generic clearance to determine if it is appropriate.

#### What does OMB evaluate during its review of proposed collections?

A central goal of OMB review is to help agencies strike a balance between collecting information necessary to fulfill their statutory missions and guarding against unnecessary or duplicative information that imposes unjustified costs on the American public. In this regard, OIRA evaluates whether the collection of information by the agency:

- is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility;<sup>26</sup>
- minimizes the Federal information collection burden, with particular emphasis on those individuals and entities most adversely affected; and
- maximizes the practical utility of and public benefit from information collected by or for the Federal Government.<sup>27</sup>

OIRA also reviews the extent to which the information collection is consistent with applicable laws, regulations, and policies related to privacy, confidentiality, security, information quality, and statistical standards. In addition, OMB coordinates efforts across Federal agencies in shared areas of interest and expertise.

Under the PRA, OMB may approve a collection for up to three years at one time.<sup>28</sup> To extend the expiration date of a collection, an agency must provide the public with an opportunity to comment on the continuation of the collection, with the two notices described above, and

---

<sup>25</sup> This includes setting a schedule for when the agency will provide the public with opportunities for full notice and comment under the PRA.

<sup>26</sup> 44 U.S.C. § 3508.

<sup>27</sup> 44 U.S.C. § 3504.

<sup>28</sup> 44 U.S.C. § 3507(g). Some approvals are for shorter periods of time. In the case of "emergency" requests, OMB approvals are limited to six months. 44 U.S.C. § 3507(j)(2).



resubmit the information collection request.<sup>29</sup> The public may have access to an inventory of currently approved agency collections at <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.<sup>30</sup>

**What resources are available to provide assistance?**

OIRA provides guidance on its website<sup>31</sup> and makes its staff available to assist agencies in determining whether their activities are information collections under the PRA. When questions arise about the applicability of the PRA, an agency's internal resources, coordinated by the agency's Chief Information Officer, are the best sources for guidance and assistance. By working together, for example, OMB and the agencies have been able to minimize the number of PRA violations and to bring agencies into compliance when PRA violations occur. Finally, the PRA requires OMB to report to Congress annually on the Federal Government's major activities under the Act. This report, the Information Collection Budget (ICB), is available on OIRA's website.

---

<sup>29</sup> Agencies may also discontinue collections at any time by submitting a short request to OMB.

<sup>30</sup> To ensure that the public record is accurate, agencies must submit, and OMB must review, documentation of all proposed revisions to an active collection before those revisions may be implemented. If the agency is considering significant or substantive revisions to the collection, it must provide the public with an opportunity to comment on the proposed revisions, as it would with a new collection. For insignificant or non-substantive changes, the agency is not required to seek public comment.

<sup>31</sup> [http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg\\_default/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg_default/)

## Appendix

### Statutory Exemptions<sup>32</sup>

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), this subchapter shall not apply to the collection of information--

(A) during the conduct of a Federal criminal investigation or prosecution, or during the disposition of a particular criminal matter;

(B) during the conduct of--

(i) a civil action to which the United States or any official or agency thereof is a party; or

(ii) an administrative action or investigation involving an agency against specific individuals or entities;

(C) by compulsory process pursuant to the Antitrust Civil Process Act and section 13 of the Federal Trade Commission Improvements Act of 1980; or

(D) during the conduct of intelligence activities as defined in section 3.4(e) of Executive Order No. 12333, issued December 4, 1981, or successor orders, or during the conduct of cryptologic activities that are communications security activities.

(2) This subchapter applies to the collection of information during the conduct of general investigations (other than information collected in an antitrust investigation to the extent provided in subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1)) undertaken with reference to a category of individuals or entities such as a class of licensees or an entire industry.

### OMB Regulations

OMB regulations specify categories of items that are generally not "information" under the PRA.<sup>33</sup> These categories include:

(1) Affidavits, oaths, affirmations, certifications, receipts, changes of address, consents, or acknowledgments; provided that they entail no burden other than that necessary to identify the respondent, the date, the respondent's address, and the nature of the instrument (by contrast, a certification would likely involve the collection of "information" if an agency conducted or sponsored it as a substitute for a collection of information to collect evidence of, or to monitor, compliance with regulatory standards, because such a certification would generally entail burden in addition to that necessary to identify the respondent, the date, the respondent's address, and the nature of the instrument);

(2) Samples of products or of any other physical objects;

(3) Facts or opinions obtained through direct observation by an employee or agent of the sponsoring agency or through nonstandardized oral communication in connection with such direct observations;

(4) Facts or opinions submitted in response to general solicitations of comments from the public, published in the *Federal Register* or other publications, regardless of the form or format thereof, provided that no person is required to supply specific information pertaining to the commenter, other than that necessary for self-identification, as a condition of the agency's full consideration of the comment;

---

<sup>32</sup> 44 U.S.C. § 3518(c).

<sup>33</sup> 5. C.F.R. 1320.3(h).

**(5) Facts or opinions obtained initially or in follow-on requests, from individuals (including individuals in control groups) under treatment or clinical examination in connection with research on or prophylaxis to prevent a clinical disorder, direct treatment of that disorder, or the interpretation of biological analyses of body fluids, tissues, or other specimens, or the identification or classification of such specimens;**

**(6) A request for facts or opinions addressed to a single person;**

**(7) Examinations designed to test the aptitude, abilities, or knowledge of the persons tested and the collection of information for identification or classification in connection with such examinations;**

**(8) Facts or opinions obtained or solicited at or in connection with public hearings or meetings;**

**(9) Facts or opinions obtained or solicited through nonstandardized follow-up questions designed to clarify responses to approved collections of information; and**

**(10) Like items so designated by OMB.**

**NMFS Status of Actions Report  
April 2013**

AGENDA B-2  
NPFMC – April, 2013

| <b>FMP Amendment Status:<br/>Actions Since February 2013</b>                                   | <b>Date of<br/>Council<br/>Action</b> | <b>Start<br/>Regional<br/>Review</b> | <b>Transmittal Date<br/>of Action to<br/>NMFS HQ for<br/>Review</b> | <b>Proposed FMP<br/>Amendment Notice<br/>of Availability<br/>Published in<br/>Federal Register</b> | <b>Proposed Rule<br/>Published in<br/>Federal Register</b> | <b>Final Rule or Notice of<br/>Approval Published in<br/>Federal Register</b> |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Amendment 31 (KTC)<br>C-Share Active<br>Participation/application deadline<br>modification     | April 2008                            | PR:<br>8/22/11                       |   |  |  |   |
| Amendment 41 (KTC)<br>Crab regional emergency relief<br>Approved March 9, 2013                 | December<br>2010                      | PR:<br>4/13/12<br>FR:<br>3/29/13     | PR: 12/4/12   | December 13, 2012<br>77 FR 74161<br>EOC: 2/11/13   | January 30, 2013<br>77 FR 6279<br>EOC: 3/1/13              |   |
| Amendment 42 (KTC)<br>Crab EDR revisions   | February<br>2012                      | PR:<br>9/4/12                        | PR: 3/7/13  | March 12, 2013<br>78 FR 15677<br>EOC: 5/13/13  | March 21, 2013<br>78 FR 17341<br>EOC: 4/22/13              |   |
| Amendment 43 (KTC) and<br>Amendment 103 (BSAI)<br>Pribilof Island Blue King Crab<br>Rebuilding | June 2012                             | PR:<br>3/29/13                       |   |  |  |   |
| Amendment 44 (KTC)<br>Modifications to Right-of-first-<br>refusal provisions                   | February<br>2013                      |                                      |   |  |  |   |
| Amendment 89 (GOA)<br>Tanner crab protection and trawl<br>sweep revisions                      | October<br>2010<br><br>April 2012     | PR:<br>9/10/12                       |   |  |  |   |

## NMFS Status of Actions Report

| <b>FMP Amendment Status:<br/>Actions Since February 2013</b>  | <b>Date of<br/>Council<br/>Action</b> | <b>Start<br/>Regional<br/>Review</b> | <b>Transmittal<br/>Date of<br/>Action to<br/>NMFS HQ<br/>for Review</b> | <b>Proposed FMP<br/>Amendment Notice<br/>of Availability<br/>Published in <i>Federal<br/>Register</i></b> | <b>Proposed Rule<br/>Published in<br/><i>Federal Register</i></b> | <b>Final Rule or Notice of<br/>Approval Published in <i>Federal<br/>Register</i></b> |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Amendment 94 (GOA)<br>Revise CQE vessel use caps and<br>implement other CQE-related<br>regulatory amds (CQE Omnibus)<br><sup>1/</sup> | October<br>2011                       | PR: 7/20/12                          | PR: 2/15/12   | February 22, 2013<br>78 FR 12287<br>EOC: 4/23/13  | March 6, 2013<br>78 FR 14490<br>EOC: 4/5/13                       |  |
| Amendment 95 (GOA)<br>Halibut PSC management  | June 2012                             |                                      |   |   |   |  |
| Amendment 99 (BSAI)<br>Revise Freezer Longline LLP<br>License Maximum Length<br>Overall (Vessel Replacement)                          | October<br>2012                       |                                      |   |   |   |  |
| Amendment 102 (BSAI)<br>CQE Program in Area 4B (Adak)<br>and Area 4B Fish-up  | February<br>2012<br><br>April 2012    | PR: 3/29/13                          |   |   |   |  |
| Amendment xxx (BSAI)<br>Skate HAPC  | February<br>2013                      | FMP only<br>HCD lead<br>staff        |   |   |   |  |

<sup>1/</sup> NMFS is consolidating three Council actions on the CQE Program into Amendment 94 and its associated proposed rule. In addition to the CQE vessel use caps, which are the subject of Amendment 94, this action will include the regulatory amendments to allow Area 3A CQEs to purchase D class halibut QS (Council final action in February 2011) and to add three new CQE communities (Council final action in December 2010).

NMFS Status of Actions Report

| <b>Regulatory Amendment Status:<br/><u>Actions Since February 2013</u></b> | <b>Date of Council<br/>Action</b> | <b>Start<br/>Regional<br/>Review</b>    | <b>Transmittal Date<br/>of Action to<br/>NMFS HQ for<br/>Review</b> | <b>Proposed Rule Published<br/>in <i>Federal Register</i></b>                     | <b>Final Rule Published in<br/><i>Federal Register</i></b>                  |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Groundfish Regulatory Amendments</b>                                    |                                   |   |   |   |   |
| Revisions to MRAs in the BSAI<br>arrowtooth flounder fishery               | October 2010                      | PR: 8/12/11<br>FR: 2/20/13              | PR: 8/28/12   | September 14, 2012<br>77 FR 56798<br>EOC: 10/15/12                                |   |
| Remove GRS, modify reporting<br><b>COMPLETED</b>                           | February 2011                     | PR: 8/11/11<br>FR: 11/30/12             | PR: 9/21/12<br>FR: 1/15/13  | October 15, 2012<br>77 FR 62482<br>EOC: 11/14/12                                  | <b>February 25, 2013</b><br><b>78 FR 12627</b><br><b>Effective: 3/31/13</b> |
| BSAI 2013/2014 Harvest<br>Specifications<br><b>COMPLETED</b>               | Proposed:<br>October 2012         | PR: 10/18/12                            | PR: 11/20/12  | December 6, 2012<br>77 FR 72791<br>EOC: 1/7/13                                    | <b>March 1, 2013</b><br><b>78 FR 13813</b><br><b>Effective: 3/1/13</b>      |
| GOA 2013/2014 Harvest<br>Specifications<br><b>COMPLETED</b>                | Proposed:<br>October 2012         | PR: 10/18/12                            | PR: 11/20/12  | December 5, 2012<br>77 FR 72791<br>EOC: 1/4/13                                    | <b>February 26, 2013</b><br><b>78 FR 13162</b><br><b>Effective: 2/26/13</b> |
| Western GOA Control Date for<br>Trawl Fisheries (ANPR)<br><b>COMPLETED</b> | <b>February 2013</b>              | <b>ANPR<br/>(Notice):<br/>2/20/2013</b> | <b>ANPR (Notice):<br/>2/26/13</b>                                   | <b>March 21, 2013</b><br><b>78 FR 17340</b><br><b>Control Date: March 1, 2013</b> |   |

NMFS Status of Actions Report

| <b>Regulatory Amendment Status:<br/><u>Actions Since February 2013</u></b>                            | <b>Date of Council Action</b> | <b>Start Regional Review</b>                                      | <b>Transmittal Date of Action to NMFS HQ for Review</b> | <b>Proposed Rule Published in Federal Register</b> | <b>Final Rule Published in Federal Register</b>                          |
|---|-------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Halibut Regulatory Amendments</b>  |                               |   |   |  |  |
| Establish new minimum vessel ownership criteria for using hired skipper of 12 months and 20% interest | December 2007                 | PR: 1/20/12   | PR: 10/12/12  | October 31, 2012<br>77 FR 65843<br>EOC: 11/30/12   |  |
| Revise IFQ hired skipper provisions   | April 2011                    | PR: 9/27/12   | <b>PR: 3/19/13</b>                                      |  |  |
| Revised Halibut Catch Sharing Plan for Areas 2C and 3A  | October 2012                  | <b>PR: 3/29/13</b>  |   |  |  |
| International Pacific Halibut Commission Annual Management Measures<br><b>COMPLETED</b>               | January 2013                  | <b>FR: 2/19/2013</b>  | <b>FR: 3/7/13</b>                                       | N/A  | <b>March 15, 2013</b><br><b>78 FR 16423</b><br><b>Effective: 3/15/13</b> |
| Guideline Harvest Level Notice for Area 2C and 3A (corrected)<br><b>COMPLETED</b>                     | N/A                           | <b>March 26, 2013</b><br><b>78 FR 18323</b><br><b>Notice only</b> |   |  |  |

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Catch Report  
(includes CDQ)**

Through: 23-MAR-2013

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting



**Bering Sea**

| Seasons | Account  | Total Catch | Quota   | Remaining Quota | % Taken | Last Week Catch |
|---------|--|-------------|---------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
|         | Other Rockfish (includes CDQ)                          | 17          | 400     | 383             | 4%      | 2               |
|         | Pacific Ocean Perch (includes CDQ)                     | 86          | 8,130   | 8,044           | 1%      | 14              |
|         | Sablefish (Hook-and-Line and Pot)                      | 0           | 632     | 632             | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Sablefish CDQ (Hook-and-Line and Pot)                  | 0           | 158     | 158             | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Sablefish (Trawl)                                      | 0           | 672     | 672             | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Sablefish CDQ (Trawl)                                  | 0           | 59      | 59              | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Greenland Turbot                                       | 12          | 1,369   | 1,357           | 1%      | 0               |
|         | Greenland Turbot CDQ                                   | 0           | 172     | 172             | 0%      | 0               |
| X       | Pollock, AFA Inshore                                   | 171,950     | 549,551 | 377,601         | 31%     | 17,447          |
| X       | Pollock, AFA Catcher Processor                         | 148,496     | 439,640 | 291,144         | 34%     | 26,215          |
| X       | Pollock, AFA Mothership                                | 38,832      | 109,910 | 71,078          | 35%     | 6,479           |
| X       | Pollock CDQ  | 47,973      | 126,600 | 78,627          | 38%     | 3,684           |
|         | Pollock, Incidental Catch, non-Bogoslof (includes CDQ) | 13,304      | 33,669  | 20,365          | 40%     | 1,130           |
|         | Pollock, Incidental Catch, Bogoslof (includes CDQ)     | 0           | 100     | 100             | 0%      | 0               |



**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Catch Report  
(includes CDQ)**

Through: 23-MAR-2013

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting



**Aleutian Islands**

| Seasons | Account  | Total Catch | Quota  | Remaining Quota | % Taken | Last Week Catch |
|---------|--|-------------|--------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
|         | Other Rockfish (includes CDQ)                        | 41          | 473    | 432             | 9%      | 11              |
|         | Pacific Ocean Perch, Eastern                         | 968         | 8,742  | 7,774           | 11%     | 71              |
|         | Pacific Ocean Perch, Eastern CDQ                     | 38          | 1,048  | 1,010           | 4%      | 0               |
|         | Pacific Ocean Perch, Central                         | 0           | 6,233  | 6,233           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Pacific Ocean Perch, Central CDQ                     | 0           | 747    | 747             | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Pacific Ocean Perch, Western                         | 0           | 9,109  | 9,109           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Pacific Ocean Perch, Western CDQ                     | 0           | 1,091  | 1,091           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Rougheye Rockfish (includes CDQ) - BS + Eastern      | 3           | 169    | 166             | 2%      | 0               |
|         | Rougheye Rockfish (includes CDQ) - Central + Western | 0           | 209    | 209             | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Atka Mackerel, Eastern (Jig)                         | 0           | 70     | 70              | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Atka Mackerel, Eastern ICA                           | 3           | 1,000  | 997             | 0%      | 0               |
| X       | Atka Mackerel, Eastern (Trawl)                       | 2,771       | 14,021 | 11,250          | 20%     | 953             |
| X       | Atka Mackerel, Eastern CDQ                           | 0           | 1,808  | 1,808           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Atka Mackerel, Central ICA                           | 0           | 75     | 75              | 0%      | 0               |
| X       | Atka Mackerel, Central (Trawl)                       | 0           | 6,640  | 6,640           | 0%      | 0               |
| X       | Atka Mackerel, Central CDQ                           | 0           | 805    | 805             | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Atka Mackerel, Western ICA                           | 0           | 40     | 40              | 0%      | 0               |
| X       | Atka Mackerel, Western (Trawl)                       | 0           | 1,300  | 1,300           | 0%      | 0               |
| X       | Atka Mackerel, Western CDQ                           | 0           | 161    | 161             | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Sablefish (Hook-and-Line and Pot)                    | 1           | 1,284  | 1,283           | 0%      | 1               |
|         | Sablefish CDQ (Hook-and-Line and Pot)                | 0           | 321    | 321             | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Sablefish (Trawl)                                    | 3           | 455    | 452             | 1%      | 0               |
|         | Sablefish CDQ (Trawl)                                | 0           | 40     | 40              | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Greenland Turbot (includes CDQ)                      | 1           | 383    | 382             | 0%      | 1               |
| X       | Pollock  | 0           | 5,000  | 5,000           | 0%      | 0               |
| X       | Pollock CDQ  | 0           | 0      | 0               | 0%      | 0               |
| X       | Pollock, Incidental Catch (includes CDQ)             | 210         | 1,600  | 1,390           | 13%     | 4               |

# Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Catch Report (includes CDQ)

Through: 23-MAR-2013

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting



## Bering Sea Aleutian Islands

| Seasons       | Account   | Total Catch    | Quota            | Remaining Quota  | % Taken    | Last Week Catch |
|---------------|---|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------|-----------------|
|               | Alaska Plaice (includes CDQ)                          | 8,439          | 17,000           | 8,561            | 50%        | 664             |
|               | Arrowtooth Flounder                                   | 1,664          | 21,250           | 19,586           | 8%         | 44              |
|               | Arrowtooth Flounder CDQ                               | 76             | 2,675            | 2,599            | 3%         | 4               |
|               | Flathead Sole   | 5,696          | 20,270           | 14,574           | 28%        | 229             |
|               | Flathead Sole CDQ                                     | 202            | 2,429            | 2,227            | 8%         | 10              |
|               | Kamchatka Flounder (includes CDQ)                     | 184            | 8,500            | 8,316            | 2%         | 8               |
|               | Northern Rockfish (includes CDQ)                      | 75             | 3,000            | 2,925            | 3%         | 23              |
|               | Other Flatfish (includes CDQ)                         | 452            | 2,975            | 2,523            | 15%        | 16              |
| X             | Pacific Cod, Catcher Processor (Amendment 80)         | 6,425          | 31,112           | 24,687           | 21%        | 932             |
| X             | Pacific Cod, Catcher Processor (AFA)                  | 4,167          | 5,340            | 1,173            | 78%        | 370             |
| X             | Pacific Cod, Catcher Vessel (Trawl)                   | 35,655         | 51,312           | 15,657           | 69%        | 200             |
| X             | Pacific Cod, Catcher Processor (Hook-and-Line)        | 44,707         | 112,671          | 67,964           | 40%        | 3,049           |
| X             | Pacific Cod, Catcher Vessel (Hook-and-Line >= 60 ft)  | 0              | 463              | 463              | 0%         | 0               |
| X             | Pacific Cod, Catcher Processor (Pot)                  | 1,840          | 3,470            | 1,630            | 53%        | 0               |
| X             | Pacific Cod, Catcher Vessel (Pot >= 60 ft)            | 9,900          | 19,434           | 9,534            | 51%        | 0               |
| X             | Pacific Cod (Jig)                                     | 8              | 1,451            | 1,443            | 1%         | 0               |
|               | Pacific Cod (Hook-and-Line and Pot < 60 ft)           | 6,996          | 6,427            | -569             | 109%       | 122             |
|               | Pacific Cod, Incidental Catch (Hook-and-Line and Pot) | 0              | 500              | 500              | 0%         | 0               |
|               | Pacific Cod CDQ                                       | 9,352          | 27,820           | 18,468           | 34%        | 883             |
|               | Rock Sole   | 35,575         | 82,495           | 46,920           | 43%        | 3,126           |
|               | Rock Sole CDQ   | 1,431          | 9,885            | 8,454            | 14%        | 173             |
|               | Shortraker Rockfish (includes CDQ)                    | 6              | 370              | 364              | 2%         | 0               |
|               | Yellowfin Sole  | 32,057         | 176,814          | 144,757          | 18%        | 2,969           |
|               | Yellowfin Sole CDQ                                    | 2,625          | 21,186           | 18,561           | 12%        | 34              |
|               | Octopus (includes CDQ)                                | 98             | 500              | 402              | 20%        | 2               |
|               | Sculpin (includes CDQ)                                | 1,799          | 5,600            | 3,801            | 32%        | 179             |
|               | Shark (includes CDQ)                                  | 15             | 100              | 85               | 15%        | 3               |
|               | Skate (includes CDQ)                                  | 10,743         | 24,000           | 13,257           | 45%        | 772             |
|               | Squid (includes CDQ)                                  | 10             | 595              | 585              | 2%         | 0               |
| <b>Total:</b> |   | <b>644,904</b> | <b>1,993,530</b> | <b>1,348,626</b> | <b>32%</b> | <b>69,822</b>   |

Other flatfish: all flatfish except Pacific halibut, flathead sole, Greenland turbot, rock sole, yellowfin sole, Kamchatka flounder, arrowtooth flounder, and Alaska plaice.

Other rockfish: all Sebastes and Sebastolobus species except for Pacific ocean perch, northern, shortraker, and rougheye rock fish.

For changes to the harvest specifications refer to <http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/2012/hschanges.htm>

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands  
Prohibited Species Report  
(includes CDQ)**

Through: 23-MAR-2013

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting



**Chinook Salmon**

**Trawl Gear**

| Seasons       | Account               | Units | Total Catch  | Limit         | Remaining     | % Taken    | Last Week Catch |
|---------------|-----------------------|-------|--------------|---------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|
| X             | BS Pollock (Pelagic)  | Count | 6,320        | 55,104        | 48,784        | 11%        | 599             |
| X             | BS Chinook Salmon PSQ | Count | 442          | 4,896         | 4,454         | 9%         | 101             |
|               | AI Pollock (Pelagic)  | Count | 0            | 647           | 647           | 0%         | 0               |
|               | AI Chinook Salmon PSQ | Count | 0            | 53            | 53            | 0%         | 0               |
| <b>Total:</b> |                       |       | <b>6,762</b> | <b>60,700</b> | <b>53,938</b> | <b>11%</b> | <b>700</b>      |

**Halibut Mortality**

**Non-Trawl Gear**

| Seasons       | Account                       | Units | Total Catch | Limit      | Remaining  | % Taken    | Last Week Catch |
|---------------|-------------------------------|-------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
|               | Halibut Mortality (Non-Trawl) | MT    | 135         | 833        | 698        | 16%        | 6               |
| <b>Total:</b> |                               |       | <b>135</b>  | <b>833</b> | <b>698</b> | <b>16%</b> | <b>6</b>        |

**Trawl Gear**

| Seasons       | Account                   | Units | Total Catch | Limit        | Remaining    | % Taken    | Last Week Catch |
|---------------|---------------------------|-------|-------------|--------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|
|               | Halibut Mortality (Trawl) | MT    | 938         | 3,200        | 2,262        | 29%        | 38              |
| <b>Total:</b> |                           |       | <b>938</b>  | <b>3,200</b> | <b>2,262</b> | <b>29%</b> | <b>38</b>       |

**Trawl and Hook-and-Line Gear**

| Seasons       | Account               | Units | Total Catch | Limit      | Remaining  | % Taken    | Last Week Catch |
|---------------|-----------------------|-------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
|               | Halibut Mortality PSQ | MT    | 44          | 393        | 349        | 11%        | 2               |
| <b>Total:</b> |                       |       | <b>44</b>   | <b>393</b> | <b>349</b> | <b>11%</b> | <b>2</b>        |

**Herring (includes CDQ fisheries)**

**Trawl Gear**

| Seasons       | Account                                  | Units | Total Catch | Limit        | Remaining    | % Taken   | Last Week Catch |
|---------------|--|-------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|
|               | Pacific Cod                              | MT    | 0           | 40           | 40           | 0%        | 0               |
|               | Rockfish                                 | MT    | 0           | 13           | 13           | 0%        | 0               |
|               | Rock Sole, Flathead Sole, Other Flatfish | MT    | 2           | 30           | 28           | 5%        | 0               |
|               | Pollock, Atka Mackerel, Other Species    | MT    | 0           | 200          | 200          | 0%        | 0               |
|               | Pollock Pelagic                          | MT    | 0           | 2,165        | 2,165        | 0%        | 0               |
|               | Yellowfin Sole                           | MT    | 5           | 180          | 175          | 3%        | 0               |
|               | Turbot, Arrowtooth, Kamchatka, Sablefish | MT    | 0           | 20           | 20           | 0%        | 0               |
| <b>Total:</b> |  |       | <b>7</b>    | <b>2,648</b> | <b>2,641</b> | <b>0%</b> | <b>0</b>        |

**Bering Sea Aleutian Islands  
Prohibited Species Report  
(includes CDQ)**

Through: 23-MAR-2013

**National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting**



**Opilio (Tanner) Crab - COBLZ**

**Trawl Gear**

| Seasons       | Account         | Units | Total Catch    | Limit             | Remaining         | % Taken   | Last Week Catch |
|---------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|
|               | Opilio Crab     | Count | 256,414        | 9,377,690         | 9,121,276         | 3%        | 620             |
|               | Opilio Crab PSQ | Count | 4,078          | 1,123,643         | 1,119,565         | 0%        | 0               |
| <b>Total:</b> |                 |       | <b>260,492</b> | <b>10,501,333</b> | <b>10,240,841</b> | <b>2%</b> | <b>620</b>      |

**Bairdi Crab, Zone 1**

**Trawl Gear**

| Seasons       | Account         | Units | Total Catch   | Limit          | Remaining      | % Taken   | Last Week Catch |
|---------------|-----------------|-------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|
|               | Bairdi Crab PSQ | Count | 1,454         | 104,860        | 103,406        | 1%        | 60              |
|               | Bairdi Crab     | Count | 23,597        | 875,140        | 851,543        | 3%        | 4,443           |
| <b>Total:</b> |                 |       | <b>25,051</b> | <b>980,000</b> | <b>954,949</b> | <b>3%</b> | <b>4,503</b>    |

**Bairdi Crab, Zone 2**

**Trawl Gear**

| Seasons       | Account         | Units | Total Catch   | Limit            | Remaining        | % Taken   | Last Week Catch |
|---------------|-----------------|-------|---------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------------|
|               | Bairdi Crab     | Count | 74,265        | 2,652,210        | 2,577,945        | 3%        | 1,190           |
|               | Bairdi Crab PSQ | Count | 1,484         | 317,790          | 316,306          | 0%        | 0               |
| <b>Total:</b> |                 |       | <b>75,749</b> | <b>2,970,000</b> | <b>2,894,251</b> | <b>3%</b> | <b>1,190</b>    |

**Red King Crab, Zone 1**

**Trawl Gear**

| Seasons       | Account           | Units | Total Catch   | Limit         | Remaining     | % Taken    | Last Week Catch |
|---------------|-------------------|-------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|
|               | Red King Crab PSQ | Count | 1,438         | 10,379        | 8,941         | 14%        | 0               |
|               | Red King Crab     | Count | 11,499        | 86,621        | 75,122        | 13%        | 204             |
| <b>Total:</b> |                   |       | <b>12,937</b> | <b>97,000</b> | <b>84,063</b> | <b>13%</b> | <b>204</b>      |

# Gulf of Alaska Catch Report

Through: 23-MAR-2013

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting



## Western, Central Pollock

| Seasons | Account               | Total Catch | Quota  | Remaining Quota | % Taken | Last Week Catch |
|---------|-----------------------|-------------|--------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
| X       | Pollock, 610 Shumagin | 2,573       | 28,072 | 25,499          | 9%      | 967             |
| X       | Pollock, 620 Chirikof | 35,875      | 51,443 | 15,568          | 70%     | 1,121           |
| X       | Pollock, 630 Kodiak   | 7,024       | 27,372 | 20,348          | 26%     | 991             |

## Western Gulf

| Seasons | Account                   | Total Catch | Quota  | Remaining Quota | % Taken | Last Week Catch |
|---------|---------------------------|-------------|--------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
|         | Arrowtooth Flounder       | 369         | 14,500 | 14,131          | 3%      | 60              |
|         | Deep Water Flatfish       | 15          | 176    | 161             | 9%      | 2               |
|         | Shallow Water Flatfish    | 127         | 13,250 | 13,123          | 1%      | 1               |
|         | Flathead Sole             | 281         | 8,650  | 8,369           | 3%      | 39              |
|         | Rex Sole                  | 24          | 1,300  | 1,276           | 2%      | 14              |
|         | Pacific Ocean Perch       | 2           | 2,040  | 2,038           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Rougheye Rockfish         | 0           | 81     | 81              | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Shortraker Rockfish       | 1           | 104    | 103             | 1%      | 1               |
|         | Thornyhead Rockfish       | 1           | 150    | 149             | 1%      | 1               |
|         | Dusky Rockfish            | 3           | 377    | 374             | 1%      | 0               |
|         | Northern Rockfish         | 6           | 2,008  | 2,002           | 0%      | 5               |
|         | Other Rockfish            | 2           | 44     | 42              | 5%      | 0               |
|         | Pacific Cod               | 11,681      | 21,210 | 9,529           | 55%     | 644             |
|         | Sablefish (Hook-and-Line) | 0           | 1,400  | 1,400           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Sablefish (Trawl)         | 0           | 350    | 350             | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Big Skate                 | 20          | 469    | 449             | 4%      | 3               |
|         | Longnose Skate            | 3           | 70     | 67              | 4%      | 0               |

# Gulf of Alaska Catch Report

Through: 23-MAR-2013

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting



## Central Gulf

| Seasons | Account                   | Total Catch | Quota  | Remaining Quota | % Taken | Last Week Catch |
|---------|---------------------------|-------------|--------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
|         | Arrowtooth Flounder       | 4,339       | 75,000 | 70,661          | 6%      | 523             |
|         | Deep Water Flatfish       | 11          | 2,308  | 2,297           | 0%      | 1               |
|         | Shallow Water Flatfish    | 455         | 18,000 | 17,545          | 3%      | 74              |
|         | Flathead Sole             | 612         | 15,400 | 14,788          | 4%      | 83              |
|         | Rex Sole                  | 584         | 6,376  | 5,792           | 9%      | 92              |
|         | Pacific Ocean Perch       | 46          | 10,926 | 10,880          | 0%      | 7               |
|         | Rougeye Rockfish          | 28          | 856    | 828             | 3%      | 5               |
|         | Shortraker Rockfish       | 25          | 452    | 427             | 6%      | 2               |
|         | Dusky Rockfish            | 16          | 3,533  | 3,517           | 0%      | 4               |
|         | Northern Rockfish         | 101         | 3,122  | 3,021           | 3%      | 30              |
|         | Thornyhead Rockfish       | 0           | 766    | 766             | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Other Rockfish            | 35          | 606    | 571             | 6%      | 12              |
|         | Pacific Cod               | 19,651      | 36,966 | 17,315          | 53%     | 4,972           |
|         | Sablefish (Hook-and-Line) | 3           | 4,432  | 4,429           | 0%      | 2               |
|         | Sablefish (Trawl)         | 1           | 1,108  | 1,107           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Big Skate                 | 787         | 1,793  | 1,006           | 44%     | 84              |
|         | Longnose Skate            | 327         | 1,879  | 1,552           | 17%     | 32              |

## Eastern Gulf

| Seasons | Account             | Total Catch | Quota | Remaining Quota | % Taken | Last Week Catch |
|---------|---------------------|-------------|-------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
|         | Rougeye Rockfish    | 4           | 295   | 291             | 1%      | 3               |
|         | Shortraker Rockfish | 12          | 525   | 513             | 2%      | 4               |
|         | Thornyhead Rockfish | 1           | 749   | 748             | 0%      | 1               |
|         | Pacific Cod         | 6           | 2,424 | 2,418           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Big Skate           | 0           | 1,505 | 1,505           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Longnose Skate      | 0           | 676   | 676             | 0%      | 0               |

Note: All weights are in metric tons.

Report run on: March 29, 2013 1:35 AM

# Gulf of Alaska Catch Report

Through: 23-MAR-2013

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting



## West Yakutat

| Seasons | Account                   | Total Catch | Quota | Remaining Quota | % Taken | Last Week Catch |
|---------|---------------------------|-------------|-------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
|         | Arrowtooth Flounder       | 11          | 6,900 | 6,889           | 0%      | 1               |
|         | Deep Water Flatfish       | 0           | 1,581 | 1,581           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Shallow Water Flatfish    | 0           | 4,647 | 4,647           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Flathead Sole             | 0           | 4,686 | 4,686           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Rex Sole                  | 0           | 832   | 832             | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Pacific Ocean Perch       | 49          | 1,641 | 1,592           | 3%      | 13              |
|         | Dusky Rockfish            | 0           | 495   | 495             | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Other Rockfish            | 0           | 230   | 230             | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Pollock                   | 2,802       | 3,385 | 583             | 83%     | 1,021           |
|         | Sablefish (Hook-and-Line) | 0           | 1,769 | 1,769           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Sablefish (Trawl)         | 1           | 261   | 260             | 0%      | 0               |

## Southeast

| Seasons | Account                   | Total Catch | Quota  | Remaining Quota | % Taken | Last Week Catch |
|---------|---------------------------|-------------|--------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
|         | Arrowtooth Flounder       | 0           | 6,900  | 6,900           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Deep Water Flatfish       | 0           | 1,061  | 1,061           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Shallow Water Flatfish    | 0           | 1,180  | 1,180           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Flathead Sole             | 0           | 1,760  | 1,760           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Rex Sole                  | 0           | 1,052  | 1,052           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Pacific Ocean Perch       | 0           | 1,805  | 1,805           | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Dusky Rockfish            | 6           | 295    | 289             | 2%      | 0               |
|         | Other Rockfish            | 4           | 200    | 196             | 2%      | 0               |
|         | Pollock                   | 0           | 10,774 | 10,774          | 0%      | 0               |
|         | Demersal Shelf Rockfish   | 130         | 303    | 173             | 43%     | 1               |
|         | Sablefish (Hook-and-Line) | 57          | 3,190  | 3,133           | 2%      | 57              |

## Entire Gulf

| Seasons       | Account       | Total Catch   | Quota          | Remaining Quota | % Taken    | Last Week Catch |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
|               | Atka Mackerel | 19            | 2,000          | 1,981           | 1%         | 0               |
|               | Octopus       | 102           | 1,455          | 1,353           | 7%         | 2               |
|               | Sculpin       | 352           | 5,884          | 5,532           | 6%         | 18              |
|               | Shark         | 63            | 6,028          | 5,965           | 1%         | 4               |
|               | Other Skates  | 551           | 2,030          | 1,479           | 27%        | 70              |
|               | Squid         | 127           | 1,148          | 1,021           | 11%        | 2               |
| <b>Total:</b> |               | <b>89,327</b> | <b>436,255</b> | <b>346,928</b>  | <b>20%</b> | <b>10,970</b>   |

**Gulf of Alaska  
Halibut Mortality Report**

Through: 23-MAR-2013

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries  
Catch Accounting



**Trawl Fisheries**

**Deep Water Species Complex**

| Season        | Begin       | End         | Total Catch | Limit      | Limit Remaining | % Taken    |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1st Season    | 20-Jan-2013 | 01-Apr-2013 | 72          | 99         | 27              | 73%        |
| 2nd Season    | 01-Apr-2013 | 01-Jul-2013 | 0           | 296        | 296             | 0%         |
| 3rd Season    | 01-Jul-2013 | 01-Sep-2013 | 0           | 204        | 204             | 0%         |
| 4th Season    | 01-Sep-2013 | 01-Oct-2013 | 0           | 0          | 0               | 0%         |
| <b>Total:</b> |             |             | <b>72</b>   | <b>599</b> | <b>527</b>      | <b>12%</b> |

**Shallow Water Species Complex**

| Season        | Begin       | End         | Total Catch | Limit      | Limit Remaining | % Taken    |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1st Season    | 20-Jan-2013 | 01-Apr-2013 | 235         | 444        | 209             | 53%        |
| 2nd Season    | 01-Apr-2013 | 01-Jul-2013 | 0           | 99         | 99              | 0%         |
| 3rd Season    | 01-Jul-2013 | 01-Sep-2013 | 0           | 197        | 197             | 0%         |
| 4th Season    | 01-Sep-2013 | 01-Oct-2013 | 0           | 148        | 148             | 0%         |
| <b>Total:</b> |             |             | <b>235</b>  | <b>888</b> | <b>653</b>      | <b>26%</b> |

**Year-To-Date**

| Account       | Total Catch | Limit | Limit Remaining | % Taken | Last Week Catch |
|---------------|-------------|-------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|
| Trawl Fishery | 307         | 1,973 | 1,666           | 16%     | 59              |

**Other Hook-and-Line Fisheries**

| Season        | Begin       | End         | Total Catch | Limit      | Limit Remaining | % Taken    |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1st Season    | 01-Jan-2013 | 10-Jun-2013 | 107         | 250        | 143             | 43%        |
| 2nd Season    | 10-Jun-2013 | 01-Sep-2013 | 0           | 5          | 5               | 0%         |
| 3rd Season    | 01-Sep-2013 | 31-Dec-2013 | 0           | 35         | 35              | 0%         |
| <b>Total:</b> |             |             | <b>107</b>  | <b>290</b> | <b>183</b>      | <b>37%</b> |

Deep-water species complex: sablefish, rockfish, deep-water flatfish, rex sole and arrowtooth flounder. Shallow-water species complex: pollock, Pacific cod, shallow-water flatfish, flathead sole, Atka mackerel, and 'other species'.

No apportionment between shallow-water and deep-water fishery complexes during October 1 to December 31 (300 mt allocated).

Other hook-and-line fisheries means all hook-and-line fisheries except sablefish and demersal shelf rockfish in the Southeast District.

Halibut mortality for the demersal shelf rockfish fishery in Southeast District is not listed due to insufficient observer coverage.

Data is based on observer reports extrapolated to total groundfish harvest. Estimates for all weeks may change due to incorporation of late or corrected data.



2013 catch is through March 23 and 2012 catch is through March 24 unless otherwise stated.

**Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands**

Bering Sea Pollock

NMFS reallocated Aleutian Islands pollock TAC increasing the Bering Sea TAC by 1,900 mt for CDQ and 10,500 mt for inshore, C/P, and mothership directed fisheries. The revised Bering Sea A season allocations are:

| Sector     | A season allocation | A season catch | % Taken |
|------------|---------------------|----------------|---------|
| Inshore    | 219,820             | 171,950        | 78      |
| C/P        | 175,856             | 148,496        | 84      |
| Mothership | 43,964              | 38,832         | 88      |
| CDQ        | 50,640              | 47,973         | 95      |
| Total      | 490,280             | 407,251        | 83      |

Salmon in the pollock fishery

In 2013, the total Chinook salmon is 818 salmon lower and pollock catch is 31,632 mt lower than in 2012. For both years the rate is about .017 Chinook salmon per metric ton of pollock.

|         | Chinook |       | Non-Chinook |      |      |
|---------|---------|-------|-------------|------|------|
|         | 2013    | 2012  |             | 2013 | 2012 |
| CDQ     | 442     | 344   | CDQ         | 12   | 1    |
| Non-CDQ | 6,320   | 7,236 | Non-CDQ     | 130  | 10   |
| Total   | 6,762   | 7,580 | Total       | 142  | 11   |

Pacific cod

| Hook-and-line Catcher/Processors | 2013   | 2012   |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Total Catch                      | 44,706 | 40,593 |
| A season TAC                     | 57,462 | 57,684 |
| Remaining TAC                    | 12,756 | 17,091 |
| Number of vessels                | 26     | 27     |

| Pot catcher vessels |            |            |
|---------------------|------------|------------|
| Year                | 2013       | 2012       |
| Total Catch         | 9,900      | 9,854      |
| A season TAC        | 9,911      | 9,950      |
| Remaining TAC       | 11         | 96         |
| Closure             | January 22 | January 20 |
| Number of vessels   | 25         | 27         |

| Pot catcher/processors |            |            |
|------------------------|------------|------------|
| Year                   | 2013       | 2012       |
| Total Catch            | 1,840      | 1,656      |
| A season TAC           | 1,770      | 1,777      |
| Remaining TAC          | -70        | 121        |
| Closure                | January 28 | January 23 |
| Number of vessels      | 3          | 5          |

#### Hook-and-line or pot gear less than 60 feet length overall

NMFS reallocated 1,800 mt of the A season jig allocation to the less than 60 ft allocation. Pot gear effort increased after the Pacific cod pot gear closure in the Western GOA.

| Year              | 2013                               | 2012                               |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Total Catch       | 6,996 (includes 443 after closure) | 7,219 (includes 251 after closure) |
| Annual TAC        | 6,427 (4,627 + 1,800 from jig)     | 6,445 (4,645 + 1,800 from jig)     |
| Remaining TAC     | -569                               | -774                               |
| Closure           | February 7                         | February 17                        |
| Number of vessels | 22 (3 hook-and-line, 19 pot)       | 21 (3 hook-and-line, 18 pot)       |

#### Trawl catcher vessels

The 2013 B season allocation of 5,644 mt becomes available April 1.

| Year              | 2013                   | 2012                   |
|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Total Catch       | 35,655                 | 34,057                 |
| A season TAC      | 37,971                 | 38,117                 |
| Remaining TAC     | 2,316                  | 4,060                  |
| Closure           | March 11               | February 29            |
| Number of vessels | Pacific cod 49, All 93 | Pacific cod 48, All 91 |

#### Flatfish

Catch for all sectors including CDQ

| Species             | 2013   | 2012   |
|---------------------|--------|--------|
| Alaska plaice       | 8,439  | 2,892  |
| Arrowtooth flounder | 1,740  | 654    |
| Kamchatka flounder  | 184    | 61     |
| Flathead sole       | 5,899  | 4,810  |
| Greenland turbot    | 13     | 12     |
| Other flatfish      | 452    | 1,240  |
| Rock sole           | 37,007 | 58,543 |
| Yellowfin sole      | 34,681 | 20,095 |

Halibut mortality - In 2013 compared to 2012 the total halibut mortality in the BSAI is 68 mt higher and in the GOA is 184 mt lower.

| Area and Gear          | 2013              |            |       | 2012              |            |       |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------|-------------------|------------|-------|
|                        | Halibut mortality | Groundfish | Rate  | Halibut mortality | Groundfish | Rate  |
| BSAI non-pelagic trawl | 767               | 137,982    | 0.56% | 650               | 143,204    | 0.45% |
| BSAI pelagic trawl     | 171               | 424,058    | 0.04% | 267               | 459,811    | 0.06% |
| BSAI hook-and-line     | 134               | 62,477     | 0.21% | 87                | 54,484     | 0.16% |
| BSAI Total             | 1,072             | 624,516    | 0.17% | 1,004             | 657,500    | 0.15% |
| GOA non-pelagic trawl  | 298               | 26,223     | 1.14% | 506               | 19,690     | 2.57% |
| GOA pelagic trawl      | 9                 | 43,740     | 0.02% | 3                 | 42,364     | 0.01% |
| GOA hook-and-line      | 107               | 8,924      | 1.20% | 89                | 12,998     | 0.68% |
| GOA Total              | 414               | 78,887     | 0.52% | 598               | 75,052     | 0.80% |

### Gulf of Alaska

#### Pacific cod - Western GOA

| Sector             | 2013 A season |        |        |              | 2012 A season |              |        |                     |
|--------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------|---------------------|
|                    | Allocation    | Catch  | Closed | # of vessels | Allocation    | Catch Mar 24 | Closed | # of vessels Mar 24 |
| Hook-and-line C/Ps | 2,254         | 1,137  | n/a    | <3           | 2,257         | 1,795        | Jun 10 | 5                   |
| Hook-and-line CVs  | 145           | 93     | n/a    | <3           | 145           | n/a          | Apr 2  | <3                  |
| Jig                | 318           | 35     | n/a    | 5            | 189           | 89           | Jun 10 | 17                  |
| Pot CV/CP          | 4,095         | 4,536  | Jan 28 | 32           | 4,100         | 4,225        | Feb 6  | 35                  |
| Trawl CV           | 5,728         | 5,871  | Mar 3  | 25           | 5,736         | 5,449        | Feb 22 | 25                  |
| Trawl C/P          | 186           | 8      | Jan 20 | 0            | 186           | n/a          | Feb 14 | <3                  |
| Total              | 12,726        | 11,680 |        | 46           | 12,613        | 11,558       |        | 32                  |

The 2013 trawl catcher vessel fishery closed February 14 and reopened March 1 through 3.

#### Pacific cod - Central GOA

| Sector                    | 2013 A season |        |        |              | 2012 A season |              |        |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------|---------------------|
|                           | Allocation    | Catch  | Closed | # of vessels | Allocation    | Catch Mar 24 | Closed | # of vessels Mar 24 |
| Hook-and-line C/Ps        | 1,488         | 215    | n/a    | <3           | 1,736         | 1,707        | Feb 23 | 5                   |
| Hook-and-line CVs <50 ft  | 3,375         | 3,324  | Mar 21 | 45           | 3,938         | 4,392        | Mar 4  | 57                  |
| Hook-and-line CVs >=50 ft | 2,032         | 2,026  | Mar 21 | 13           | 2,372         | 2,404        | Mar 20 | 16                  |
| Jig                       | 444           | 56     | n/a    | 20           | 256           | 274          | Mar 6  | 35                  |
| Pot CV/CP                 | 6,459         | 6,044  | Feb 10 | 48           | 7,538         | 5,641        | Feb 10 | 55                  |
| Trawl CV                  | 7,657         | 7,480  | Mar 23 | 50           | 8,936         | 8,390        | Mar 26 | 48                  |
| Trawl C/P                 | 726           | 402    | n/a    | <3           | 847           | n/a          | Apr 8  | <3                  |
| Total                     | 22,180        | 19,547 |        | 176          | 25,623        | 22,808       |        | 216                 |

Pollock

The 2013 Area 610 pollock fishery caught 937 mt of the 4,292 mt A season allocation. All the other fisheries caught their A season allocations.

The Area 610 A season opened January 20 to March 10, and the B season March 10 to 30, 2013.

The Area 620 A season opened January 20 to February 4, and the B season March 10 to 17, 2013.

The Area 630 A season opened January 20 to 22 and February 8 to 14, and the B season March 22 to March 26, 2013.

The Area 640 the fishery opened January 20 to March 3 and reopened March 22.

Salmon

In the 2013 Western and Central GOA pollock fisheries the total Chinook salmon bycatch is 5,035 salmon compared to 3,136 salmon in 2012. The 2013 total pollock catch is 4,337 mt more than 2012.

| Pollock catch and Chinook salmon bycatch in pollock fisheries |       |     |        |       |       |     |       |       |     |        |       |       |     |
|---|-------|-----|--------|-------|-------|-----|-------|-------|-----|--------|-------|-------|-----|
| 2013  | 610   |     | 620    |       | 630   |     | 2012  | 610   |     | 620    |       | 630   |     |
| Week  | P     | CS  | P      | CS    | P     | CS  | Week  | P     | CS  | P      | CS    | P     | CS  |
| 1/26  | 105   | 2   | 3,043  | 327   | 0     | 0   | 1/21  | 0     | 0   | 0      | 0     | 294   | 0   |
| 2/02  | 0     | 0   | 10,144 | 2,028 | 0     | 0   | 1/28  | 777   | 176 | 62     | 0     | 18    | 0   |
| 2/09  | 0     | 0   | 3,074  | 805   | 3,008 | 462 | 2/04  | 916   | 264 | 0      | 0     |       | 0   |
| 2/16  | 0     | 0   | 0      | 0     | 2,610 | 504 | 2/11  | 30    | 16  | 185    | 0     | 75    | 3   |
| 2/23  | 168   | 3   | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0   | 2/18  | 13    | 0   | 2,791  | 548   | 2,135 | 86  |
| 3/02  | 228   | 4   | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0   | 2/25  | 7     | 1   | 8,330  | 1,248 | 3,071 | 115 |
| 3/09  | 213   | 17  | 0      | 0     | 0     | 0   | 3/03  | 21    | 4   | 2,662  | 204   | 0     | 0   |
| 3/16  | 668   | 51  | 18,393 | 755   | 0     | 0   | 3/10  | 72    | 7   | 2,708  | 53    | -     | 0   |
| 3/23  | 964   | 26  | 1,112  | 45    | 951   | 6   | 3/17  | 18    | 4   | 14,148 | 346   | 0     | 0   |
| Total   | 2,346 | 104 | 35,765 | 3,959 | 6,570 | 972 | 3/24  | 712   | 50  | -      | 0     | 1,298 | 11  |
|   |       |     |        |       |       |     | Total | 2,566 | 522 | 30,886 | 2,399 | 6,891 | 215 |

| Total GOA-wide Salmon bycatch in all Fisheries | 2013  | 2012  |
|--|-------|-------|
| Chinook  | 6,929 | 3,973 |
| Non-Chinook                                    | 97    | 48    |

Number of Catcher Vessels Observed by Area and Gear in the GOA

Vessels may use more than one gear type. The total is the number of unique vessels in that area.

2013

| Area | HAL | NPT | POT | PTR | Total |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 610  | 0   | 9   | 6   | 7   | 20    |
| 620  | 2   | 14  | 3   | 27  | 39    |
| 630  | 16  | 12  | 20  | 18  | 59    |

2012

| Area | HAL | NPT | POT | PTR | Total |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 610  | 0   | 0   | 3   | 2   | 5     |
| 620  | 0   | 9   | 1   | 34  | 36    |
| 630  | 2   | 29  | 10  | 19  | 44    |