

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

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

NEWS RELEASE Steven Pennoyer 907-586-7221 April 12, 1991

For Immediate Release

NOTICE OF CLOSURE TO ALL GROUNDFISH FISHING
WITH POTS AND TRAWL GEAR IN A PORTION
OF THE CENTRAL REGULATORY AREA OF THE GULF OF ALASKA

Fishermen may not conduct groundfish fisheries with any pot or trawl gear in the western lower Cook Inlet within the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska in the waters of the EEZ west of a line off Cape Douglas at 58° 54' N. latitude, 153° 12' W. longitude to a point at 59° 20' N. latitude, 152° 40' W. longitude, then north along 152° 40' W. longitude to a point intersecting the western boundary of the EEZ within Cook Inlet at 59° 52' N. latitude (Figure 1) from April 12, 1991, until 12:00 noon Alaska local time, August 1, 1991 according to Steven Pennoyer, Director, Alaska Region, National Marine Fisheries Service.

This action is necessary to prevent the overfishing of the king crab stock in this portion of the Central Regulatory Area during the time that this crab stock is mating, molting, and in soft shell condition, and therefore most vulnerable to injury and mortality when captured in pots or trawl gear and subsequently handled.

This press release summarizes regulatory requirements and is for informational purposes only. For more information concerning regulatory requirements, consult the applicable regulations or contact the Fisheries Management Division, NMFS, 907-586-7228.



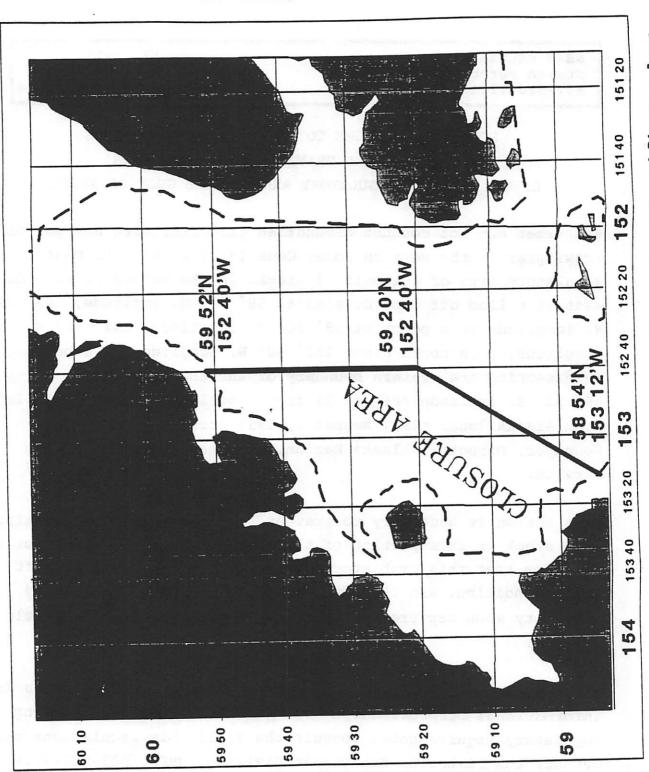


Figure 1. Western Lower Cook Inlet Coundfish Pot and Trawl Closure Area

National Marine Fisheries Service P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668 Prepared: 04/10/91 NHFS/AKR Fish Management (907) 586-7229

## 1991 BERING SEA & ALEUTIANS APPORTIONMENTS TO DOMESTIC ANNUAL PROCESSING (DAP) AND PRELIMINARY CATCH IN ROUND METRIC TONS (includes weekly production reports through 04/07/91)

|                        | TOTAL<br>RETAINED | TOTAL<br>DISCARD | TOTAL<br>CATCH | DAP<br>APPORT. | REMAINING<br>FOR DAP                  | X<br>TAKEN |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| BERING SEA             | WE INTIMED        |                  |                | ATTOKI.        |                                       | 1700011    |
| Other Rockfish         | 48                | 55               | 103            | 340            | 237                                   | 30         |
| Pacific Ocean Perch    | 1015              | 323              | 1338           | 3885           | 2547                                  | 34         |
| Other Red Rockfish     | 75                | 32               | 107            | 1420           | 1313                                  | 8          |
|                        | 457180            | 33639            | 490819         | 441500         |                                       | 111        |
| Pollock (Roe Season)   | 188               | 1                | 189            | 1317           | 1128                                  | 14         |
| Sablefish (Fixed Gear) | 71                | ò                | 71             | 1317           | 1246                                  | '5         |
| Sablefish (Trawl)      | ~ ~               | U                | 71             | 1311           | 1240                                  |            |
| ALEUTIAN ISLANDS       |                   |                  |                |                |                                       |            |
| Other Rockfish         | 37                | 226              | 263            | 786            |                                       | 33         |
| Pacific Ocean Perch    | 755               | 350              | 1105           | 9159           |                                       | 12         |
| Other Red Rockfish     | 19                | 0                | 19             | 3982           |                                       | 0          |
| Pollock                | 76879             | 1276             | 78155          | 85000          |                                       | 92         |
| Sablefish (Fixed Gear) | 494               | 4                | 498            | 2040           |                                       | 24         |
| Sablefish (Trawl)      | 41                | 0                | 41             | 680            | 639                                   | 6          |
|                        |                   | •                |                |                |                                       |            |
| BERING SEA & ALEUTIANS | 400               | 720/             | 3394           | 17000          | 13606                                 | 20         |
| Arrowtooth Flounder    | 100               | 3294             |                | 20400          |                                       | 107        |
| Atka Mackerel          | 20380             | 1526             | 21906          |                |                                       |            |
| Greenland Turbot       | 192               | 398              | 590            | 5950           |                                       | 10         |
| Other Flatfish         | 907               | 6943             | 7850           | 54974          |                                       | : 14       |
| Other Species          | 371               | 3961             | 4332           | 12750          |                                       | 34         |
| Pacific Cod            | 70042             | 2833             | 72875          | 194650         |                                       | 37         |
| Rock Sole              | 14141             | 14635            | 28776          | 76500          |                                       | 38         |
| Squid                  | 14                | 879              | 893            | 850            |                                       | 105        |
| Yellowfin Sole         | 37                | 3409             | 3446           | 114750         | 111304                                | 3          |
| TOTALS:                | 642986            | 73784            | 716770         | 1049250        | 332480                                | 68         |
| TOTALS BY SPECIES      |                   |                  |                | 4              | 47/0/                                 |            |
| Arrowtooth Flounder    | 100               | 3294             | 3394           | 17000          |                                       | 20         |
| Atka Mackerel          | 20380             | 1526             | 21906          | 20400          |                                       | 107        |
| Greenland Turbot       | 192               | 398              | 590            | 5950           |                                       | 10         |
| Other Flatfish         | 907               | 6943             | 7850           | 54974          | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | 14         |
| Other Red Rockfish     | 94                | 32               | 126            | 5402           |                                       | 2          |
| Other Rockfish         | 85                | 281              | 366            | 1126           |                                       | 33         |
| Other Species          | 371               | 3961             | 4332           | 12750          |                                       | 34         |
| Pacific Cod            | 70042             |                  | 72875          | 194650         |                                       | 37         |
| Pacific Ocean Perch    | 1770              | 673              | 2443           | 13044          |                                       | 19         |
| Pollock                | 534059            |                  | 568974         | 526500         |                                       | 108        |
| Rock Sole              | 14141             | 14635            | 28776          | 76500          |                                       | 38         |
| Sablefish              | 794               | 5                | 799            | 5354           |                                       | 15         |
| Sguid                  | 14                | 879              | 893            | 850            | -43                                   | 105        |
| Yellowfin Sole         | 37                | 3409             | 3446           | 114750         | 111304                                | 3          |

Notes: 1) Pacific Ocean Perch is Sebastes alutus only in 1991.

 Other Red Rockfish includes Shortraker, Rougheye, Northern and Sharpchin rockfishes.

3) A change has been made in the species group:
- Arrowtooth Flounder

Species groups are defined at 50 CFR 675.20(a)(1).

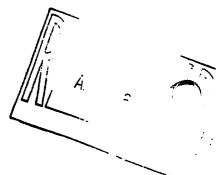
4) BS Pollock apportionment is for the Roe season. The non-roe BS Pollock apportionment is 663,500 MT. BS Pollock includes Bogoslof District. AGENDA B-3 APRIL 1991 SUPPLEMENTAL



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## 1991 GULF OF ALASKA APPORTIONMENTS TO DOMESTIC ANNUAL PROCESSING (DAP) AND PRELIMINARY CATCH IN ROUND METRIC TONS . (includes weekly production reports through 04/07/91)

|   | TOTAL<br>RETAINED      | TOTAL<br>DISCARD | TOTAL<br>CATCH | DAP<br>APPORT. | REMAINING<br>FOR DAP | X<br>TAKEN |
|---|------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|------------|
| WESTERN GULF                                      |                        | 0.00             | <b></b>        |                |                      |            |
| Arrowtooth Flounder                               | 4                      | 904              | 908            | 5000           | 4092                 | 18         |
| Deep Water Flatfish Shallow Water Flatfish        | 231<br>488             | 196<br>875       | 427<br>1363    | 2000<br>3000   | 1573<br>1637         | 21<br>45   |
| Flathead Sole                                     | 19                     | 59               | 78             | 2000           | 1922                 | 74         |
| Pacific Ocean Perch                               | 628                    | 16               | 644            | 1624           | 980                  | 40         |
| Shortraker/Rougheye                               | 63                     | 0                | 63             | 100            | 37                   | 63         |
| Other Rockfish                                    | 29                     | 27               | 56             | 1212           | 1156                 | 5          |
| Pacific Cod                                       | 28043                  | 250              | 28293          | 30000          | 1707<br>782          | 94<br>2    |
| Pelagic Shelf Rockfish<br>Sablefish (Hook & Line) | 14                     | 6                | 18<br>1        | 800<br>2340    | 762<br>2339          | ő          |
| Sablefish (Trawl)                                 | 15                     | ŏ                | 15             | 585            | 570                  | 3          |
| WESTERN & CENTRAL GULF                            |                        |                  |                |                |                      |            |
| Pollock   | 17114                  | 3795             | 20909          | 17500          | -3409                | 119        |
| CENTRAL GULF                                      |                        |                  |                |                |                      |            |
| Arrowtooth Flounder                               | 235                    | 2029             | 2264           | 10000          | 7736                 | 23         |
| Deep Water Flatfish                               | 1394<br>990            | 363<br>267       | 1757<br>1257   | 10000<br>7000  | 8243<br>5743         | 18<br>18   |
| Shallow Water Flatfish Flathead Sole              | 128                    | 207<br>55        | 183            | 5000           | 4817                 | 4          |
| Pacific Ocean Perch                               | 1773                   | 53               | 1826           | 1798           | -28                  | 102        |
| Shortraker/Rougheye                               | 434                    | 5                | 439            | 1320           | 881                  | 33         |
| Other Rockfish                                    | 505                    | 121              | 626            | 5454           | 4828                 | 11         |
| Pacific Cod                                       | 30172                  | 167              | 30339          | 45000          |                      | 67         |
| Pelagic Shelf Rockfish                            | 63<br>8                | 43<br>0          | 106<br>8       | 3100<br>8460   |                      | 3<br>0     |
| Sablefish (Hook & Line)<br>Sablefish (Trawl)      | 353                    | ŏ                | 353            | 2115           | 1762                 | 17         |
| WEST YAKUTAT                                      |                        |                  |                |                |                      |            |
| Sablefish (Hook & Line)                           | 0                      | 0                | 0              | 3850           | 3850                 | 0          |
| Sablefish (Trawl)                                 | 2                      | Ŏ                | 2              | 200            |                      | 1          |
| EAST YAKUTAT & SOUTHEAST                          |                        |                  |                |                |                      |            |
| Sablefish (Hook & Line)                           | 0                      | 0                | 0              | 4700           |                      | 0          |
| Sablefish (Trawl)                                 | 139                    | 0                | 139            | 250            | 111                  | 56         |
| EASTERN GULF                                      | _                      |                  |                |                |                      | _          |
| Arrowtooth Flounder                               | 0                      | 51               | 51             | 5000<br>3000   |                      | 1          |
| Deep Water Flatfish<br>Shallow Water Flatfish     | 0                      | 37<br>3          | 37<br>3        | 2000           |                      | ò          |
| Flathead Sole                                     | 0                      | õ                | ő              | 3000           |                      | ŏ          |
| Pacific Ocean Perch                               | 719                    | 31               | 750            | 2378           |                      | 32         |
| Shortraker/Rougheye                               | 1                      | 21               | 22             | 580            | 558                  | 4          |
| Other Rockfish                                    | 39                     | 65               | 104            | 3434           |                      | 3          |
| Pelagic Shelf Rockfish                            | 64                     | 0                | 64             | 900            |                      | 7          |
| Pacific Cod                                       | 57<br>7244             | 0                | 57<br>3215     | 2900<br>850    |                      | 2<br>378   |
| Pollock   | 3214                   | 1                | 3213           | 630            | -2303                | 310        |
| SOUTHEAST   | 205                    | 10               | 215            | 425            | 210                  | 51         |
| Demersal Shelf Rockfish                           | 205                    | 10               | 213            | 463            | 210                  | ,,         |
| ENTIRE GULF OF ALASKA                             |                        | A94              | 4088           |                | 47044                | 44         |
| Other Species                                     | 869                    |                  | 1800<br>203    |                |                      | 11<br>15   |
| Thornyhead  | 182                    |                  | CU3            | 1370           | ) 1177<br>           | 17         |
| TOTALS:   | 88195                  | 10400            | 98595          | 216039         | 117444               | 46         |
| TOTALS BY SPECIES                                 |                        |                  |                |                |                      |            |
| Arrowtooth Flounder                               | 239                    |                  | 3223           |                |                      | 16         |
| Deep Water Flatfish                               | 1625                   |                  | 2221           |                |                      | 15         |
| Demersal Shelf Rockfish                           | 205                    |                  | 215            |                |                      | 51         |
| Flathead Sole                                     | 147                    |                  | 261<br>786     |                |                      | 3<br>8     |
| Other Rockfish                                    | 573<br>8 <del>69</del> |                  | 786<br>1800    |                |                      | 11         |
| Other Species Pacific Cod                         | 58272                  |                  |                |                |                      | 75         |
| Pacific Ocean Perch                               | 3120                   |                  | 3220           | 5800           | 2580                 | 56         |
| Pelagic Rockfish                                  | 141                    | 47               | 188            | 4800           | 4612                 | 4          |



## Summary of NMFS Management 1991 (Compiled from FR Notices and News Releases)

- April 14: Central GOA closed to directed fishing for shortraker-rougheye rockfish group.
- April 12: Lower Cook Inlet closed to pot and trawl gear for groundfish to protect molting king crab.
- April 12: Closed Southeast Outside/East Yakutat District to retention of sablefish taken in trawls.
- April 8: Following fisheries are closed to retention by any gear: Eastern Gulf pollock, Central Gulf Pacific Ocean Perch, and Western Gulf shortraker/rougheye rockfish group.
- April 1: BSAI reopens to non-pelagic trawling for Pacific cod in the DAP 'Other Fishery'. The opening is the result of the second quarter's apportionment of halibut bycatch becoming available. About 950 mt halibut are available because of excessive bycatch in the first quarter. Fishermen were cautioned that the <u>C. bairdi</u> bycatch limit in Zone 1 is being approached.
- March 29: Prohibited retention of Atka mackerel in BSAI for rest of 1991.
- March 23: WGOA Pacific cod closed to directed fishing.
- March 23: AI pollock closed to directed fishing by all gears. TAC is 85,000 mt with 83,000 mt for directed fishery.
- March 21: Southeast Outside (Area 65) demersal shelf rockfish closed to directed fishing. Includes Canary, China, Copper, Quillback, Redbanded, Rosethorn, Tiger and Yelloweye rockfish.
- March 15: Domestic rock sole fishery closed in Zones 1 and 2H of the Bering Sea for rest of year due to primary halibut PSC being taken.
- March 8: Closed DAP Other fishery in BSAI because secondary halibut PSC attained. Will reopen April 1.
- March 1: Closed Western and Central GOA to further retention of pollock.
- February 25: Closed Western and Eastern GOA to directed fishing for shortraker-rougheye rockfish species group.
- February 22: Closed Bering Sea subarea to directed pollock fishing until non-roe season starts on June 1.
- February 17: Closed Zones 1 and 2H BSAI "DAP other fishery" to directed fisheries by non-pelagic gear because primary first quarter halibut PSC (1200 mt) was reached. Fishery will reopen April 1 when second quarter PSC becomes available.

- February 17: Closed Bogoslof District to directed fishing for pollock. Directed fishery will resume on June 1 with the beginning of the non-roe season.
- February 15: Closed W/C Gulf of Alaska to directed fishing for pollock after harvest of 16,500 mt, leaving 1,000 mt of the quarterly interim TAC of 17,500 mt for bycatch.
- February 4: Closed directed fisheries for demersal shelf rockfish in portions of Southeast Outside District: east of 137 West Longitude in EEZ and between 57 13 25 N and 56 40 12 N latitudes in ADFG Central Southeast Outside section.
- February 4: Shelikof District closed to directed pollock fishing.
- January 15: Closed directed trawling for sablefish in W/C GOA.
- January 1: Closed directed trawling for sablefish in Eastern Gulf.