

June 2010 Council motion:

The Council moves the following suite of alternatives for preliminary analysis of chum salmon bycatch management measures. Note bolded items are additions while strike-outs represent deletions from previous suite of alternatives.

C-1(b) Bering Sea Chum Salmon Bycatch**Alternative 1 – Status Quo**

Alternative 1 retains the current program of the Chum Salmon Savings Area (SSA) closures triggered by separate non-CDQ and CDQ caps with the fleet's exemption to these closures per regulations for Amendment 84 and as modified by the Amendment 91 Chinook bycatch action.

Alternative 2 – Hard Cap

Component 1: Hard Cap Formulation (with CDQ allocation of 10.7%)

- a) 50,000
- b) 75,000
- c) 125,000
- d) 200,000
- e) 300,000
- f) 353,000

Component 2: Sector Allocation

Use blend of CDQ/CDQ partner bycatch numbers for historical average calculations.

- a) No sector allocation
- b) Allocations to Inshore, Catcher Processor, Mothership, and CDQ
 - 1) Pro-rata to pollock AFA pollock sector allocation
 - 2) Historical average
 - i. 2007-2009
 - ii. 2005-2009
 - iii. 2000-2009
 - iv. 1997-2009
 - 3) Allocation based on 75% pro-rata and 25% historical
 - 4) Allocation based on 50% pro-rata and 50% historical
 - 5) Allocation based on 25% pro-rata and 75% historical

For Analysis:

CDQ	Inshore CV	Mothership	Offshore CPS
3.4%	81.5%	4.0%	11.1%
6.7%	63.3%	6.5%	23.6%¹
10.7%	44.77%	8.77%	35.76%

Suboption: Allocate 10.7% to CDQ, remainder divided among other sectors (**see table**).

Component 3: Sector Transfer

- a) No transfers or rollovers
- b) Allow NMFS-approved transfers between sectors

¹ Note the actual midpoint is CDQ = 7.05%, CV 63.14%, Mothership 6.39%, CP 23.43% . However as noted by staff during Council deliberation numbers reflected in the table are an existing option as the historical average from 2005-2009 allocated 50:50 pro-rata AFA to historical average by section.

Suboption: Limit transfers to the following percentage of salmon that is available to the transferring entity at the time of transfer:

- 1) 50%
 - 2) 70%
 - 3) 90%
- c) Allow NMFS to roll-over unused bycatch allocation to sectors that are still fishing

Component 4: Cooperative Provision

- a) Allow allocation at the co-op level for the inshore sector, and apply transfer rules (Component 3) at the co-op level for the inshore sector.

Suboption: Limit transfers to the following percentage of salmon that is available to the transferring entity at the time of transfer:

- 1) 50%
 - 2) 70%
 - 3) 90%
- b) Allow NMFS to rollover unused bycatch allocation to inshore cooperatives that are still fishing.

Alternative 3 – Trigger Closure

Component 1: Trigger Cap Formulation

- Cap level
- a) 25,000
 - b) 50,000
 - c) 75,000
 - d) 125,000
 - e) 200,000

Application of Trigger Caps

- a) Apply trigger to all chum bycatch
- b) Apply trigger to all chum bycatch between specific dates
- ~~c) Apply trigger to all chum bycatch in a specific area.~~

Trigger limit application:

Two options for application of trigger caps for area closure options (applied to caps under consideration)

- 1- Cumulative monthly proportion of cap (left-side of table below)
- 2- Cumulative monthly proportion AND monthly limit (left and right sides of table together.
Note monthly limit should evaluate +/- 25% of distribution below)

Option of cumulative versus monthly limit for trigger area closures (assuming a trigger cap of 100,000 fish). Monthly limit based on minimum of monthly cumulative value and 150% of monthly historical proportion.

Month	Cumulative		Monthly limit	
	Cumulative Proportion	Monthly Cumulative	Monthly proportion	Monthly limit
June	10.8%	10,800	10.8%	10,800
July	31.5%	31,500	20.7%	31,050
August	63.6%	63,600	32.1%	48,150
September	92.3%	92,300	28.6%	42,900
October	100.0%	100,000	7.7%	11,550

Component 2: Sector allocation

Use blend of CDQ/CDQ partner bycatch numbers for historical average calculations.

- a) No sector allocation
- b) Allocations to Inshore, Catcher Processor, Mothership, and CDQ
 - 1) Pro-rata to pollock AFA pollock sector allocation
 - 2) Historical average
 - i. 2007-2009
 - ii. 2005-2009
 - iii. 2000-2009
 - iv. 1997-2009
 - 3) Allocation based on 75% pro-rata and 25% historical
 - 4) Allocation based on 50% pro-rata and 50% historical
 - 5) Allocation based on 25% pro-rata and 75% historical

For Analysis:

CDQ	Inshore CV	Mothership	Offshore CPS
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Suboption: Allocate 10.7% to CDQ, remainder divided among other sectors.

Component 3: Sector Transfer

- a) ~~No transfers or rollovers~~
- b) ~~Allow NMFS approved transfers between sectors~~

Suboption: Limit transfers to the following percentage of salmon that is available to the transferring entity at the time of transfer:

 - ~~1) 50%~~
 - ~~2) 70%~~
 - ~~3) 90%~~
- c) ~~Allow NMFS to roll over unused bycatch allocation to sectors that are still fishing~~

Suboption: Limit transfers to the following percentage of salmon that is available to the transferring entity at the time of transfer:

 - ~~1) 50%~~
 - ~~2) 70%~~
 - ~~3) 90%~~

Component 3Component 4: Cooperative Provisions

- a) Allow allocation at the co-op level for the inshore sector, and apply transfer rules (Component 3) at the co-op level for the inshore sector.

Suboption: Limit transfers to the following percentage of salmon that is available to the transferring entity at the time of transfer:

 - 1) 50%
 - 2) 70%
 - 3) 90%

² Note the actual midpoint is CDQ = 7.05%, CV 63.14%, Mothership 6.39%, CP 23.43% . However as noted by staff during Council deliberation numbers reflected in the table are an existing option as the historical average from 2005-2009 allocated 50:50 pro-rata AFA to historical average by section.

- b) Allow NMFS to roll-over unused bycatch allocation to cooperatives that are still fishing

~~Component 4~~ ~~Component 5~~: Area and Timing Options

- a. ~~Large area closure~~
 b. ~~Discrete, small area closures identified by staff in February Discussion paper (20 ADF&G statistical areas, identified in Table 4)~~
 c. **Groupings of ADFG area closures by month that represent 40%, 50%, 60% of historical bycatch.** ~~the small area closures (as presented) (described in Option b above) into 3 zones that could be triggered independently with subarea, rather than statistical area, level closures~~

The analysis should include quantitative analysis of the 50% closure options and qualitative analysis of the 40% and 60% closure options.

~~Component 5~~ ~~Component 6~~: Timing Option – Dates of Area Closure

- a) ~~Trigger closure of Component 5 areas when the overall cap level specified under Component 1(a) was attained~~
 b) ~~Under Component 5(b) discrete small closures would close when a an overall cap was attained and would close for the time period corresponding to periods of high historical bycatch.; considering both number of salmon. a (i.e. Table 11 in February Discussion Paper) Under Component 5(c) Subareas within a zone would close for the time period corresponding to periods of high historical bycatch within the subarea when a zone level cap was attained.~~
 c) ~~Under Component 5, Areas close when bycatch cap is attained within that area (i.e. Table 12 in February Discussion Paper)~~
 - ~~for the remainder of year~~
 - ~~for specific date range~~

~~Component 6~~ ~~Component 6~~: Rolling Hot Spot (RHS) system ~~Exemption~~ – Similar to status quo (**with RHS system in regulation**), participants in a vessel-level (platform level for Mothership fleet) RHS would be exempt from regulatory triggered closure below.

- A large area trigger closure (encompassing 80% of historical bycatch).**
 - Sub-option: RHS regulations would contain an ICA provision that the regulatory trigger closure (as adopted in Component 4 5) **apply to participants with a rate in excess of 200% of the Base Rate.** ~~that do not maintain a certain level of rate based chum salmon bycatch performance.~~

In constructing an ICA under this component, the following aspects should be considered:

- Closures that would address timing & location of bycatch of Western AK chum stocks.**

In addition, include the following items in the initial review analysis:

- Analyze discrete area approach normalized across years (i.e. proportion of salmon caught in an area in a year rather than numbers of salmon);
- Discuss how Component 6 ~~7~~ and suboption would be applied;
- In depth description of the rolling hot spot regulations (Amendment 84), focusing on parameters that could be adjusted if the Council found a need to refine the program to meet objectives under Component 7. **Specifically analyze:**
 - the base rate within the RHS program;**
 - the options for revising the tier system within the RHS program;**
 - the Council's options for revising the fine structure within the RHS program. Analysis should include a discussion of the meaningfulness of fines, including histograms of number and magnitude of fines over time as well as a comparison of penalties under the RHS program to agency penalties and enforcement actions for violating area closures.**
- Discussion from NMFS of catch accounting for specific caps for discrete areas, and area aggregations described in Component 5 and for areas within those footprints that may have other

shapes that could be defined by geographic coordinates [Component 6(c)] Discussion from NMFS on the ability to trigger a regulatory closure based on relative bycatch within a season (with respect to catch accounting system and enforcement limitations) considering changes in bycatch monitoring under Amendment 91.

5. Contrast a regulatory closure system (Components 5 and 6) to the ICA closure system (Component 7) including data limitations, enforcement, potential level of accountability (i.e., fleet-wide, sector, cooperative, or vessel level).
6. Examine differences between high bycatch years (i.e. 2005) and other years to see what contributes to high rates (i.e. timing/location, including fleet behavior and environmental conditions).
7. Examine past area closures and potential impacts of those closures on historical distribution of bycatch and on bycatch rates (qualitative); include 2008 and 2009 data and contrast bycatch distribution under VRHS versus the Chum Salmon Savings Area.