

ADVISORY PANEL
Motions and Rationale
June 6-8, 2023 - Sitka, AK

C3 Crab C Shares

Motion

The AP recommends the analysis move forward for Final action with the addition of two alternatives:

Alternative 1 – No action

Alternative 2 – Modify the CVC QS and CPC QS recency requirements

Option 1: Restart the recent participation requirement beginning in 2023/24 fishing year. Do not count 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, toward the recent participation requirement.

Option 2: Give the Regional Administrator the authority to suspend the CVC QS and CPC QS recent participation requirement

(1) Option 3: To maintain C share quota holdings, an individual could demonstrate participation by at least 30 days as crew in a commercial fishery off Alaska (federal or state of Alaska) in the previous 3 years

Alternative 3

Remove recent participation requirements for issuance of C share IFQ and maintaining c- shares QS. No changes to the 365 day requirement for acquisition and transfer of c- shares.

Alternative 4 (not mutually exclusive with Alt 2 and 3)

Make this regulation retroactive from before this June 15, 2023, application period, and reissue any c-share that may be revoked.

Amendment 1 - passed 19/0

Main Motion as amended - passed 19/0

Rationale in Favor of Main Motion:

- *The current small TACs for most of the crab fisheries have reduced the number of vessels participating in the fishery. This has resulted in less capacity for crew participation and an inability for C-Share participation/landings to be met.*
- *Alternative 3 maintains the intent of the original motion by keeping the recent participation requirements (have fished crab in the previous 365 days) for any transfer of c-share QS. But the C-share holder would not have to prove active fishing in order to maintain it. This could simplify the rule change and ease the burden on RAM.*
- *Alternative 4 would help alleviate the effect of both Covid and fishery closures which provided little to no access to active fishing participation for many C-share holders.*

Rationale in Favor of Amendment:

- *This amendment allows Crab C share quota holders the same option as those initially allocated quota to demonstrate participation in other fisheries in Alaska. This would give a broader range of possibilities to crew without options during a fishery closure.*
- *Throughout coastal Alaska there has been an uptick in need for experienced hands on vessels and this option could provide a pool of experienced crew in need of positions on fishing vessels.*
- *This amendment's intent is to add a new option and retain the ability to demonstrate participation as currently described. This option is written in the current analysis and would take minimal additional staff time to retain it for final action.*