



NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Action Memo

File Number:BYC 15-016

Agenda Date4/6/2015

Agenda Number:C3

Dan Hull, Chairman
Chris Oliver, Executive Director

SUBJECT:
Salmon ICA/IPA and GOA Salmon Excluder EFP Reports

ESTIMATED TIME:
2 hours

ACTION REQUIRED:
Review reports

BACKGROUND:

Salmon ICA/IPA reports

In addition to the AFA Cooperative Reports (under C-1) participants in the Bering Sea pollock fishery are required to submit two additional annual reports to the Council by April 1 of each year. These reports are the following:

Chinook salmon IPA annual report

Under regulations to implement the Amendment 91 Bering Sea Chinook salmon bycatch management program, annual reports are required of each IPA entity and provided to the Council at the April Council meeting. Regulations at 50 CFR 679.21(f)(13) stipulates that IPA entities report annually on the following:

- Incentive measures in effect in the previous year;
- How incentive measures affected individual vessels;
- How incentive measures affected salmon's savings beyond current levels;
- IPA amendments approved by NMFS since the last annual report and the reasons for amendments;
- Sub allocation to each participating vessel;
- Number of Chinook PSC and amount of pollock (mt) at the start of each fishing season;
- Number of Chinook PSC and amount of pollock (mt) caught at the end of each season;
- In-season transfers among entities of Chinook salmon PSC or pollock among AFA cooperatives;
- Transfers among IPA vessels; and amount of pollock (mt) transferred.

Reports from each of the 3 IPAs are attached.

Non-Chinook salmon intercooperative agreement (ICA) annual report

In conjunction with requirements under Amendment 84, the Non-Chinook Inter-Cooperative Agreement (ICA) provides an annual report on the efficacy of Chum (Non-Chinook) salmon bycatch management measures under the rolling hot spot (RHS) program. The ICA report to the Council which contains the following:

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1. Number of salmon taken by species and season.
2. Estimate of number of salmon avoided as demonstrated by the movement of fishing effort away from salmon hot-spots.
3. A compliance/enforcement report which will include the results of an internal compliance audit and an external compliance audit if one has been done.
4. List of each vessel's number of appearances on the weekly vessel performance lists (note this is a requirement of the AFA coop reports).
5. Acknowledgement that the Agreement term has been extended for another year (maintaining the 3-year lifespan) and report of any changes to the Agreement that were made at the time of the renewal.

An annual third party audit is also conducted to ensure compliance (or report on non-compliance) with the provisions of the ICA. The third party audit is attached in conjunction with the annual performance review.

Representatives from each IPA and ICA will provide summary presentations to the Council of their annual reports.

GOA salmon excluder report

A report on the results of an exempted fishing permit (EFP) to test the effectiveness of salmon excluder devices in trawl nets in the GOA is attached. Modified "flapper" and "over/under" salmon excluder styles previously tested to different degrees in the Bering Sea were used in the GOA. Testing occurred on two Central Gulf of Alaska pollock catcher vessels (the 98 foot F/V Alaska Beauty at 850 hp and the 86 foot F/V Caravelle at 1,200 hp) during the spring and fall of 2013 and 2014 (four separate seasonal testing phases). Principal investigators for the project will provide an overview of the results.