



NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Action Memo

File Number:GF 14-009

Agenda Date10/6/2014

Agenda Number:C6

John Henderschedt, Acting Chairman
Chris Oliver, Executive Director

SUBJECT:
MRA Enforcement Period

ESTIMATED TIME:
2 Hours

ACTION REQUIRED:
Review Discussion Paper to Change MRA Enforcement Period

BACKGROUND

At the February meeting, the Council tasked staff to prepare a discussion paper on adjusting the maximum retainable allowance (MRA) enforcement period for all groundfish species harvested in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) and Gulf of Alaska (GOA). Specifically, the proposed action would change the MRAs from instantaneous (at any point in time during a trip) to at the time of offload. The benefit of this action is that vessels could choose to retain species that are closed to directed fishing in excess of the MRA as long as the amount retained at the time of offload is at or below the MRA percentage with respect to the basis species or species groups retained. At this meeting, the Council is scheduled to review the discussion paper and to take action as necessary.