

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, AP, and SSC Members  
FROM: Chris Oliver *Chris*  
Executive Director  
DATE: September 29, 2004  
SUBJECT: Groundfish Management

ESTIMATED TIME 10 HOURS (all D-3 items)
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**ACTION REQUIRED**

- (e) Final action on FMP updates

**BACKGROUND**

Groundfish FMP amendments 83/75 will implement housekeeping changes that revise outdated information and improve readability of the FMPs. The latest versions of the revised FMPs were distributed to the Council family at the end of August. These versions incorporate changes based on SSC comments.

Attached are the outlines of the revised FMPs (Item D-3(e)1 is from the BSAI FMP, and Item D-3(e)2 is from the GOA FMP). These 'roadmaps' indicate the origin of each section's content, and whether it has been updated or expanded.

At the June meeting, the Council reviewed minor edits that have been suggested for Section 2.2, the Council's groundfish management policy. These edits are included here as Item D-3(e)3, and will be folded into the amendments unless the Council directs otherwise.

Where possible, the revised FMPs include, for illustrative purposes, draft amendment language from recent amendments that have been approved by the Council but have not yet been approved by the Secretary. It is understood that should any changes to the draft amendment language occur, they will be mirrored in the revised FMP. Amendment language is included for 48/48 (changes to TAC-setting), BSAI 71 (CDQ changes), BSAI 82 (Adak allocation), and GOA 72 (IR/IU flatfish exemption). Amendments 62/62 (single geographic location) and BSAI 79 (groundfish retention standard) are not included as amendment language has not been drafted.

## Outline for BSAI Revised Groundfish FMP

<b>BSAI REVISED FMP OUTLINE</b>	<b>new?</b>	<b>old BSAI</b>	<b>Source updated?</b>
Title Page		TP	✓
<b>Executive Summary</b>		3.0, 3.1	✓
ES1 Management Policy		3.2	
ES2 Summary of management measures	✓		
ES3 Organization of the FMP	✓		
<b>Table of Contents</b>	✓		
List of Tables	✓		
List of Figures	✓		
Acronyms and Abbreviations	✓		
<b>1.0 Introduction</b>		3.0, 3.1	✓
1.1 Foreign Fishing	✓		
<b>2.0 Management Policy and Objectives</b>	✓		
2.1 National Standards	✓		
2.2 Management Approach	✓		
2.2.1 Management Objectives	✓		
<b>3.0 Conservation and Fishery Management Measures</b>	✓		
3.1 Areas and Stocks Involved		4.1	✓
3.1.1 Management Area		4.1A	✓
3.1.2 Stocks		4.1B	✓
3.2 Determining Harvest Levels	✓		
3.2.1 Definition of terms		3.3	✓
3.2.2 MSY		10.1	✓
3.2.3 OY		10.2	✓
3.2.4 Overfishing Criteria		3.3	
3.2.5 Procedures for Setting TAC		10.3	✓
3.2.5.1 Framework for setting TAC	✓		
3.2.5.1 SAFE		10.3.1	
3.2.5.2 Reserves		10.3.2	✓
3.2.6 Apportionment of TAC		10.3.3	✓
3.2.6.1 Pollock (gear, season)		13.4.9.3, 13.4.10	
3.2.6.2 Sablefish		13.4.9.1	
3.2.6.3 P cod (gear, season)		13.4.9.2	✓
3.2.6.4 Atka mackerel		13.4.9.4	
3.2.6.5 SRRE		13.4.9.5	
3.3 Permit and Participation Restrictions		13.4.1	✓
3.3.1 LLP		13.4.7.2	
3.3.2 Exempted		13.4.12	

<b>BSAI REVISED FMP OUTLINE</b>	<b>new?</b>	<b>old BSAI</b>	<b>Source updated?</b>
3.4 Gear Restrictions	✓		
3.4.1 Authorized Gear		13.4.4	
3.4.2 Target Fishery-specific		13.4.4	✓
3.5 Time and Area Restrictions	✓		
3.5.1 Fishing Seasons		13.3	
3.5.2 Area Restrictions	✓		
3.5.2.1 Trawl gear only (6 areas)		13.4.3.2, 13.4.2.1	✓
3.5.3 Marine Mammal conservation measures		13.4.3.1	✓
3.5.4 Exemptions		13.8.1	
3.6 Catch Restrictions	✓		
3.6.1 Prohibited Species		13.4.2A	✓
3.6.1.1 Donation Program		13.4.2F	✓
3.6.2 PSC Limits		13.4.3.4	
3.6.2.1 Individual Species Limits (7 species)		13.4.2.2	✓
3.6.2.2 PSC Limitation Zones		13.4.2.1,2	✓
3.6.2.3 Apportionment of PSC limits	✓		
3.6.2.3.1 Target fishery cats		13.4.2.3A	
3.6.2.3.2 Apportionment/seasons		13.4.2.3B	✓
3.6.3 Retention and Utilization Reqs	✓		
3.6.3.1 pollock		13.4.10	
3.6.3.2 IR/IU		13.9.1-2	
3.6.4 Bycatch Reduction incentive programs	✓		
3.6.4.1 Programs to reduce prohibited species bycatch		13.4.2.4	
3.7 Share-based Programs	✓		
3.7.1 Fixed Gear Sablefish Fishery		13.4.7.1	
3.7.1.1 definitions		13.4.7.1.1	
3.7.1.2 mgmt areas		13.4.7.1.2	✓
3.7.1.3-7 other provisions		1347.1.3-7	
3.7.2 AFA Pollock Fishery		13.4.11.1	✓
3.7.2.1 measures to supercede AFA		13.4.11.2	✓
3.7.3 CDQ Multispecies Fishery		13.4.7.3	
3.7.3.1 eligible communities		13.4.7.3.1	
3.7.3.2 sablefish allocation		13.4.7.3.2	
3.7.3.3 pollock allocation		13.4.7.3.3	✓
3.7.3.4 groundfish/PSC allocation		13.4.7.3.4	
3.8 Flexible Management Authority	✓		
3.8.1 Inseason Adjustments		13.4.8	
3.8.2 Measures to address identified habitat problems		13.7	
3.9 Monitoring and Reporting	✓		
3.9.1 Recordkeeping and Reporting		13.4.5A	✓
3.9.1.1 Processor reports		13.4.5B	

<b>BSAI REVISED FMP OUTLINE</b>	<b>new?</b>	<b>old BSAI</b>	<b>Source updated?</b>
3.9.1.2 At-Sea Processor vessels		13.4.5D	
3.9.2 Observer Program		13.4.6	
3.10 Council Review of the FMP	✓		
3.10.1 Schedule and Procedures for Evaluation		16.0	
3.10.2 Review of management policy		3.2	
3.10.3 Review of EFH components		8.17	
3.10.4 PSC limits and areas review		13.4.2E	
<b>4.0 Description of Stocks and Fishery</b>	✓		
4.1 Stocks		4.1.2	✓
4.1.1 Stock units		8.2	✓
4.1.2 Status of stocks	✓		
4.2 Habitat of managed stocks		4.1.1	
4.2.1 Habitat Types		8.8	
4.2.2 Essential Fish Habitat Definitions		8.9	✓
4.2.3 HAPC		8.16	
4.2.4 EFH Habitat Recommendations		8.13, 8.14	
4.3 Fishing Activities Affecting the Stock		7.4	✓
4.3.1 History of exploitation (summary)	✓		
4.3.2 Commercial Fishery	✓		
4.3.3 Subsistence Fishery		7.3	✓
4.3.4 Recreational Fishery		7.2	
4.4 Economic and Socioeconomic Characteristics	✓		
4.5 Fishing Communities	✓		
4.6 Ecosystem Characteristics	✓		
4.6.1 Ecosystem trends in the BSAI	✓		
4.6.2 Climate-implicated change	✓		
4.6.3 Interactions among climate, commercial fishing, and ecosystem characteristics	✓		
<b>5.0 Relationship to Law and Other Fisheries</b>	✓		
5.1 MSA and Federal law		14.0	✓
5.2 International Conventions		9.1	✓
5.3 Other federal fisheries	✓		
5.4 State fisheries		14.0	✓
<b>6.0 References</b>	✓		
6.1 Sources of Available Data	✓		
6.1.1 Council	✓		
6.1.2 NMFS AFSC	✓		
6.1.3 NMFS AKR	✓		
6.2 Management and Enforcement considerations	✓		
6.3 Literature Cited		17.0	✓

<b>BSAI REVISED FMP OUTLINE</b>		<b>new?</b>	<b>old BSAI</b>	<b>Source updated?</b>
<b>Appendix A</b>	History of the FMP	✓		
A.1	Amendments to the FMP		1.1	✓
<b>Appendix B</b>	Geographical Coordinates of Areas Described in the FMP	✓		
B.1	Mgmt Area, Subareas, Districts		Appx III	✓
B.2	Closed Areas		Appx III	✓
B.3	PSC Limitation Zones		Appx III	✓
<b>Appendix C</b>	Summary of AFA and Subtitle II	✓		
C.1	Brief Summary		13.4.11	
C.2	Subtitle II	✓		
<b>Appendix D</b>	Habitat types of FMP species (20 species/ species groups)		8.1	✓
<b>Appendix E</b>	Maps of EFH		8.9.2	
<b>Appendix F</b>	Adverse effects on EFH	✓		
F.1	Fishing Activities	✓		
F.1.1	Indirect Effects of Fishing		8.10.1	✓
F.1.2	Effects of gear on Benthic (trawl, dredge, longline, pot, salmon)		8.10.2	✓
F.1.3	Loss of Prey		8.15	
F.1.4	Summary		8.10.2	
F.1.5	Lit cited		8.10.3	
F.2	Non-fishing (12 kinds)		8.11.1	
F.2.12	Summary		Table 10.1	
F.2.13	Refs		8.11.2	
F.3	Cumulative		8.12	
<b>Appendix G</b>	Fishery Impact Statement	✓		
<b>Appendix H</b>	Research Needs	✓		
H.1	Management policy research programs		3.2	
H.2	Council's research priorities		15.0	✓
H.3	NMFS research priorities	✓		
H.4	EFH		15.1	
<b>Appendix I</b>	Information on Marine Mammal and Seabird Populations	✓		
I.1	Marine mammals		annex IV	✓
I.2	Seabirds	✓		

## Outline for GOA Revised Groundfish FMP

<b>GOA REVISED FMP OUTLINE</b>	<b>new?</b>	<b>old GOA</b>	<b>Source updated?</b>
Title Page		TP	✓
<b>Executive Summary</b>		1.0	✓
ES1 Management Policy		2.1	✓
ES2 Summary of management measures	✓		
ES3 Organization of the FMP	✓		
<b>Table of Contents</b>	✓		
List of Tables and Figures	✓		
Acronyms and Abbreviations	✓		
<b>1.0 Introduction</b>		1.0	✓
1.1 Foreign Fishing	✓		
<b>2.0 Management Policy and Objectives</b>	✓		
2.1 National Standards	✓		
2.2 Management Approach	✓		
2.2.1 Management Objectives	✓		
<b>3.0 Conservation and Fishery Management Measures</b>		4.3.1.2.1	✓
3.1 Areas and Stocks Involved		3.0	✓
3.1.1 Management Area		3.0	✓
3.1.2 Stocks		2.2, 3.0-1	✓
3.2 Determining Harvest Levels	✓		
3.2.1 Definition of terms		2.2	✓
3.2.2 MSY		4.2.1.2	✓
3.2.3 Optimum Yield		4.2.1.2	✓
3.2.4 Overfishing Criteria		2.2	
3.2.5 Procedures for Setting TAC		4.2.1.1	✓
3.2.5.1 Framework for TAC		4.2.1	✓
3.2.5.2 SAFE		4.2.1.4	
3.2.5.3 Reserves		4.2.1.5	
3.2.6 Apportionment of TAC		4.3.1	
3.2.6.1 Seasonal		3.0, 4.2.1	
3.2.6.2 Geographical area		3.0	✓
3.2.6.3 Gear and Sector		4.3.1.4,6	
3.2.7 Attainment of TAC		4.2.1	
3.3 Permit and Participation Restrictions		4.3.1.1	✓
3.3.1 LLP		4.4.1.3	
3.3.2 Exempted		4.3.1.5	
3.3.3 Access limitation		4.4.1	✓
3.3.4 Sideboards		4.3.1.7	✓
3.4 Gear Restrictions	✓		
3.4.1 Authorized Gear		4.3.1.2.3	
3.4.2 Target Fishery-specific		4.3.1.2.3	

<b>GOA REVISED FMP OUTLINE</b>	<b>new?</b>	<b>old GOA</b>	<b>Source updated?</b>
3.5 Time and Area Restrictions	✓		
3.5.1 Fishing Seasons		2.2, 4.3.3	
3.5.2 Area restrictions	✓		
3.5.2.1 All gear		4.4.6	
3.5.2.2 Trawl gear only		4.3.1.2.3, 4.4.1.3	✓
3.5.3 Marine Mammal conservation measures		4.4.4	
3.5.4 Exemptions		4.4.3	
3.6 Catch Restrictions	✓		
3.6.1 Prohibited Species		4.3.1.2.1	
3.6.1.1 Donation Program		2.2	
3.6.1.2 time area closure authority		4.2.6	
3.6.2 PSC Limits		2.2	
3.6.2.1 halibut		4.2.3	
3.6.2.1.1 Apportionment of PSC limits		4.2.3, 4.2.3.1	
3.6.3 Retention and Utilization Reqs	✓		
3.6.3.1 pollock		4.3.1.2.2	
3.6.3.2 IR/IU		4.4.5	
3.6.3.3 size limits		4.4.2	
3.6.4 Bycatch Reduction incentive programs	✓		
3.6.4.1 Programs to reduce PSC		4.2.4	✓
3.6.4.2 Shallow water flatfish bycatch		4.4.5.1	
3.7 Share-based Programs	✓		
3.7.1 Fixed Gear Sablefish Fishery		4.4.1.1	
3.7.1.1-7 provisions		4.4.1.1.1-7	
3.7.1.8 community QS purchase		4.4.1.1.8	
3.8 Delegated and Flexible Management Authority	✓		
3.8.1 Regulation Delegated to the State of Alaska	✓		
3.8.1.1 Demersal Shelf Rockfish		3.1	
3.8.2 Flexible Management	✓		
3.8.2.1 Inseason Adjustments		4.2.5	
3.8.2.2 Measures to address identified habitat problems		4.3.4.2	
3.8.2.3 Vessel safety		4.3.4.3	
3.9 Monitoring and Reporting	✓		
3.9.1 Recordkeeping and Reporting		4.3.1.3	
3.9.2 Observer Program		4.3.4.1	
3.10 Council Review of the FMP	✓		
3.10.1 ongoing actions		5.6.4	
3.10.2 Review of management policy		2.1	
3.10.3 Review of EFH components		5.10.11	

<b>GOA REVISED FMP OUTLINE</b>	<b>new?</b>	<b>old GOA</b>	<b>Source updated?</b>
<b>4.0 Description of Stocks and Fishery</b>		3.0	
4.1 Stocks		3.0	
4.1.1 Description of groundfish stocks		5.1.2	✓
4.1.2 status of stocks	✓		
<b>4.2 Habitat of managed stocks</b>	✓		
4.2.1 Habitat Types		5.1.3	
4.2.2 Essential Fish Habitat Definitions		5.10, 5.10.1	
4.2.3 HAPC		5.10.9	
4.2.4 EFH Habitat Recommendations		5.10.6-7	
<b>4.3 Fishing Activities Affecting the Stocks of the Management Unit</b>		5.3.5	
4.3.1 History of exploitation (summary)		5.2, table 4-1	
4.3.2 Commercial Fishery	✓		
4.3.3 Subsistence Fishery		5.3.4	
4.3.4 Recreational Fishery		5.3.3	
<b>4.4 Economic and Socioeconomic Characteristics</b>	✓		
<b>4.5 Fishing Communities</b>	✓		
4.5.1 Kodiak	✓		
4.5.2 Eastern reg area communities	✓		
4.5.3 Central reg area communities	✓		
4.5.4 Western reg area communities	✓		
4.5.5 Communities eligible for sablefish QS purchase	✓		
<b>4.6 Ecosystem Characteristics</b>	✓		
4.6.1 Ecosystem trends in the GOA	✓		
4.6.2 Climate-implicated change	✓		
4.6.3 Interactions among climate, commercial fishing, and ecosystem characteristics	✓		
<b>5.0 Relationship to laws and fisheries</b>	✓		
5.1 Federal laws		5.6.2	✓
5.2 International Conventions		5.6.2.1	✓
5.3 Other federal fisheries		5.6.1	✓
5.4 State fisheries		5.6.3	✓
<b>6.0 Reference Material</b>	✓		
6.1 Sources of Available Data	✓		
6.1.1 Council	✓		
6.1.2 NMFS AFSC	✓		
6.1.3 NMFS AKR	✓		
6.2 Management & Enforcement considerations	✓		
6.3 Literature Cited		5.9	✓



<b>GOA REVISED FMP OUTLINE</b>		<b>new?</b>	<b>old GOA</b>	<b>Source updated?</b>
<b>Appendix A</b>	History of the FMP	✓		
	A.1 Amendments to the FMP	✓		
<b>Appendix B</b>	Geographical Coordinates of Areas Described in the FMP	✓		
	B.1 Mgmt Area, Reg areas, Districts		3.1	
	B.2 Closed Areas		4.3.1.2.3, 4.4.6	
<b>Appendix C</b>	Section 211 of AFA	✓		
<b>Appendix D</b>	Habitat types of FMP species (22 species/pecies groups)		5.1.1	✓
<b>Appendix E</b>	Maps of EFH		5.10.2	
<b>Appendix F</b>	Adverse effects on EFH	✓		
	F.1 Fishing Activities		5.10.3	
	F.1.1 Indirect Effects of Fishing		5.10.3	✓
	F.1.2 Effects of gear on Benthic (trawl, dredge, longline, pot, salmon)		5.10.3	✓
	F.1.3 Loss of Prey		5.10.8	
	F.1.4 Lit cited		5.10.3	
	F.2 Non-fishing (11 kinds)		5.10.4	
	F.2.12 Summary		5.10.4	
	F.2.13 Refs		5.10.4	
	F.3 Cumulative		5.10.5	
<b>Appendix G</b>	Fishery Impact Statement	✓		
<b>Appendix H</b>	Research Needs	✓		
	H.1 Management Policy Research Programs		2.1	
	H.2 Council research priorities	✓		
	H.3 NMFS research priorities	✓		
	H.4 EFH research needs		5.10.10	
<b>Appendix I</b>	Information on marine mammal and seabird populations	✓		
	I.1 Marine mammal populations	✓		
	I.2 Seabird populations	✓		

## NMFS SUGGESTED EDITS TO MANAGEMENT APPROACH

### 2.2 Management Approach for the BSAI/GOA Groundfish Fisheries

#### 2.2.1 Management Objectives

##### *Prevent Overfishing:*

2. Continue to use the **existing 2 million mt** optimum yield cap for the BSAI (~~as stated in current law~~) groundfish fisheries. (*NOTE: BSAI only; GOA objective unchanged.*)
4. ~~Initiate a scientific review~~ **Provide for periodic reviews** of the adequacy of  $F_{40}$  and adopt improvements, as appropriate.

##### *Improve Data Quality, Monitoring and Enforcement:*

39. ~~Improve the North Pacific Groundfish Observer Program, and consider ways to address the disproportionate costs associated with the current funding mechanism.~~ **Develop funding mechanisms that achieve equitable costs to the industry for implementation of the North Pacific Groundfish Observer Program.**

## Other notes on the FMP Revisions

- **Review of Section 3.10**

for draft language, see page 2 of this supplemental packet

In June, staff suggested that the Council may wish to review Section 3.10 of the revised FMPs prior to final action. The section addresses the schedule for Council review of the FMP. The SSC, in their June minutes, recommended that this section of the FMP be expanded to address the periodic review of all critical components of the FMP. Staff has revised this section, however a recommendation as to the appropriate period of review for the added components has not been included. Should the Council wish to use the revised Section 3.10 in the FMPs, an appropriate length cycle for review of each of the components should be identified.

- **Addition to the BSAI FMP**

The GOA FMP contains an explicit statement of what occurs when TAC is attained. This would be a useful section to include in the BSAI FMP also. Unless the Council directs otherwise, the following section heading and paragraph will be added to the BSAI FMP:

### ***3.2.7 Attainment of Total Allowable Catch***

*The attainment of a TAC for a species will result in the closure of the target fishery for that species. That is, once the TAC is taken, further retention of that species will be prohibited. Other fisheries targeting on other species could be allowed to continue as long as the non-retainable bycatch of the closed species is found to be non-detrimental to that stock.*

- **Corrections to the ES-2 summary tables**

BSAI - see page 4 of this supplemental packet

GOA - see page 7 of this supplemental packet

In the most recent version of the FMP revisions, staff omitted to update the ES-2 tables. The corrected versions are attached here. Rows that have been updated are indicated with "\*\*\*". The suggested change to the BSAI FMP discussed in the bullet above is also included in the BSAI table. Should the Council adopt the revised Section 3.10, the final row of the tables will be updated accordingly.

## 3.10 Council Review of the Fishery Management Plan

### 3.10.1 Procedures for Evaluation <sup>1</sup>

The Council will maintain a continuing review of the fisheries managed under this FMP through the following methods:

1. Maintain close liaison with the management agencies involved, usually the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and NMFS, to monitor the development of the fisheries and the activity in the fisheries.
2. Promote research to increase their knowledge of the fishery and the resource, either through Council funding or by recommending research projects to other agencies.
3. Conduct public hearings at appropriate times and in appropriate locations to hear testimony on the effectiveness of the management plans and requests for changes.
4. Consider all information gained from the above activities and develop, if necessary, amendments to the FMP. The Council will also hold public hearings on proposed amendments prior to forwarding them to the Secretary for possible adoption.

### 3.10.2 Schedule for Review

Adaptive management requires regular and periodic review. The following paragraphs describe the appropriate length of review cycles for the various components of the FMP.

#### Management Approach <sup>2</sup>

Objectives identified in the management policy statement (Section 2.2) will be reviewed annually by the Council. The Council will also review, modify, eliminate, or consider new issues, as appropriate, to best carry out the goals and objectives of the management policy.

#### Defining Stocks and Determining Harvest Levels <sup>3</sup>

The SSC will review the FMP's species categories and the procedures to determine maximum harvest levels. This review will occur every \_\_\_\_\_ year(s), and will address the definition and specification of MSY and OY, overfishing criteria, procedures for setting TACs, and stock definitions. As necessary, the SSC will recommend to the Council any sections of the FMP that require amendment.

#### Fishery Restrictions <sup>3</sup>

The PSC limits and area closures for groundfish fisheries will be reviewed each year to determine whether changes in prohibited species stock abundance or other factors justify consideration of alternative PSC limits or time/area closures. <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> This section is from the BSAI FMP.

<sup>2</sup> This paragraph is from the BSAI and GOA FMPs.

<sup>3</sup> This paragraph is new based on the SSC recommendation.

The Council will also review other fishery permit, participation, gear, and catch restrictions every \_\_\_\_ year(s) to determine whether restrictions are still appropriate and whether changes are required.

Monitoring and Reporting<sup>3</sup>

The Council will review the monitoring and reporting provisions of the FMP every \_\_\_\_ year(s), and amend the requirements as appropriate.

Essential Fish Habitat Components<sup>2</sup>

To incorporate the regulatory guidelines requirement for review and revision of essential fish habitat (EFH) FMP components, the Council will conduct a complete review of all the EFH components of each FMP once every 5 years and will amend those EFH components to include new information.

In between each five-year comprehensive review, the Council will utilize its annual FMP amendment cycle to solicit proposals on habitat areas of particular concern and/or conservation and enhancement measures to minimize the potential adverse effects from fishing. Those proposals that the Council endorses should be developed independent of the five-year comprehensive EFH review cycle.

An annual review of existing and new EFH information will be conducted and this information will be provided to the BSAI [GOA] Groundfish Plan Team for their review during the annual SAFE report process. This information could be included in the "Ecosystems Considerations" chapter of the SAFE report.

NOTE: Section 3.10.1 in the draft revised GOA FMP, entitled Ongoing Actions, will be moved to Section 3.8.2.2, Measures to Address Habitat Problems, where it fits more appropriately.

Table ES-2 Summary of Management Measures for the BSAI Groundfish Fishery

<b>Management Area</b>	U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the eastern Bering Sea and that portion of the North Pacific Ocean adjacent to the Aleutian Islands which is west of 170° W. up to the U.S.-Russian Convention Line of 1867.  <b>Subareas:</b> The area is divided into two subareas, the Bering Sea and the Aleutian Islands.
<b>Stocks</b>	All stocks of finfish and marine invertebrates in the management area except salmonids, shrimps, scallops, snails, king crab, Tanner crab, Dungeness crab, corals, surf clams, horsehair crab, lyre crab, Pacific halibut, and Pacific herring.  Those stocks and stock complexes that are commercially important and for which an annual TAC is established include: walleye pollock, Pacific cod, sablefish, yellowfin sole, Greenland turbot, arrowtooth flounder, rock sole, flathead sole, Alaska plaice, "other flatfish", Pacific ocean perch, northern rockfish, shortraker and rougheye rockfish, "other rockfish", Atka mackerel, and squid.
<b>**Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY)</b>	The estimate of MSY for the BSAI groundfish complex is in the range of 1.7 to 2.4 million mt.
<b>**Optimum Yield (OY)</b>	The OY of the BSAI groundfish complex (consisting of stocks listed in the 'target species' and 'other species' categories, as listed in Table 3-1) is 85% of the historical estimate of MSY, or 1.4 to 2.0 million mt, plus the incidental harvest of nonspecified species.
<b>Procedure to set Total Allowable Catch (TAC)</b>	Based on the annual Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) report, the Council will recommend to the Secretary of Commerce TACs and apportionments thereof for each target species and the "other species" category. The Secretary will implement annual TACs which may cover up to 2 fishing years, following public comment and Council recommendations at the December Council meeting.  <b>Reserve:</b> 15% of the TAC for each target species (except pollock and fixed-gear sablefish) and the "other species" category is set aside to form the reserve, used for correcting operational problems of the fleets, adjusting species TACs for conservation, or apportionments. The reserve is not designated by species or species groups.
<b>Apportionment of TAC</b>	<b>Pollock:</b> the amount of pollock that may be taken with non-pelagic trawls may be limited; pollock TAC shall be divided into roe-bearing ("A" season) and non roe-bearing ("B" season) allowances.  <b>Sablefish:</b> vessels using fixed gear may harvest no more than 50% of the TAC in the Bering Sea and 75% of the TAC in the Aleutian Islands; vessels using trawl gear may harvest no more than 50% of the TAC in the Bering Sea and 25% of the TAC in the Aleutian Islands.  <b>Pacific cod:</b> TAC shall be allocated 2% to vessels using jig gear, 47% to vessels using trawl gear, and 51% to vessels using hook-and-line or pot gear; the allocation to hook-and-line and pot gear will be further allocated 80% to hook-and-line catcher/processor vessels, 0.3% to hook-and-line catcher vessels, 3.3% to pot catcher/processor vessels, 15% to pot catcher vessels, and 1.4% to catcher vessels less than 60' LOA; allocations may be seasonally apportioned.  <b>Atka mackerel:</b> up to 2% of the eastern Aleutian Islands and Bering Sea TACs will be allocated to vessels using jig gear.  <b>Shortraker and rougheye rockfish:</b> after subtraction of reserves, the Aleutian Islands TAC will be allocated 70% to vessels using trawl gear and 30% to vessels using non-trawl gear.
<b>**Attainment of TAC</b>	The attainment of a TAC for a species will result in the closure of the target fishery for that species. Further retention of that species will be prohibited.
<b>Permit</b>	All vessels participating in the BSAI groundfish fisheries, other than fixed gear sablefish, require a Federal groundfish license, except for: vessels fishing in State of Alaska waters; vessels less than 32' LOA; and jig gear vessels less than 60' LOA that meet specific effort restrictions. Licenses are endorsed with area, gear, and vessel type and length designations. Vessels engaged in directed fishing for Pacific cod must qualify for a Pacific cod endorsement.  Fishing permits may be authorized, for limited experimental purposes, for the target or incidental harvest of groundfish that would otherwise be prohibited.
<b>Authorized Gear</b>	Gear types authorized by the FMP are trawls, hook-and-line, pots, jigs, and other gear as defined in regulations.  <b>Pollock:</b> The use of non-pelagic trawl gear in the directed fishery for pollock is prohibited.

Table ES-2 Summary of Management Measures for the BSAI Groundfish Fishery

<b>Time and Area Restrictions</b>	<p><b>All trawl:</b> Fishing with trawl vessels is not permitted year-round in the Crab and Halibut Protection Zone and the Pribilof Islands Habitat Conservation Area. The Nearshore Bristol Bay Trawl Closure area is also closed year-round except for a subarea that remains open between April 1 and June 15 each year. The Chum Salmon Savings Area is closed to trawling from August 1 through August 31.</p> <p><b>Non-pelagic trawl:</b> The Red King Crab Savings Area is closed to non-pelagic trawling year-round, except for a subarea that may be opened at the discretion of the Council and NMFS when a guideline harvest level for Bristol Bay red king crab has been established.</p> <p><b>Directed pollock fishery:</b> Between September 1 and the date that closes the directed "B" season pollock fishery to the inshore component, vessels in the offshore component or vessels delivering to the offshore component are prohibited from directed fishing for pollock in the Catcher Vessel Operational Area unless they are participating in a community development quota fishery.</p> <p><b>Marine mammal measures:</b> Regulations implementing the FMP may include conservation measures that temporally and spatially limit fishing effort around areas important to marine mammals.</p> <p><b>Gear test area exemption:</b> Specific gear test areas for use when the fishing grounds are closed to that gear type, are established in regulations that implement the FMP.</p>
<b>Prohibited Species</b>	<p>Pacific halibut, Pacific herring, Pacific salmon and steelhead, king crab, and Tanner crab are prohibited species and must be returned to the sea with a minimum of injury except when their retention is authorized by other applicable law.</p> <p>Groundfish species and species under this FMP for which TAC has been achieved shall be treated in the same manner as prohibited species.</p>
<b>**Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) Limits</b>	<p>When a target fishery attains a PSC limit apportionment or seasonal allocation, the bycatch zone or management area to which the PSC limit applies will be closed to that target fishery for the remainder of the year or season.</p> <p><b>Red king crab:</b> Based on the size of the spawning biomass of red king crab, the PSC limit in Zone 1 for trawl fisheries is either 23,000, 97,000 or 197,000 red king crab; attainment closes Zone 1.</p> <p><b>C. bairdi crab:</b> Established in regulation for trawl fisheries based on population abundance; attainment closes Zone 1 or Zone 2.</p> <p><b>C. opilio crab:</b> Established in regulation for trawl fisheries in the C. opilio Bycatch Limitation Zone based on population abundance, with minimum and maximum limits; attainment closes zone.</p> <p><b>Pacific halibut:</b> Halibut mortality limits established in regulation for trawl and non-trawl fisheries.</p> <p><b>Pacific herring:</b> 1% of the annual biomass of eastern Bering Sea herring, for trawl fisheries; attainment may close the Herring Savings Areas.</p> <p><b>Chum salmon:</b> Attainment of 42,000 fish limit in the Catcher Vessel Operational Area between August 15 and October 14 closes the Chum Salmon Savings Area for the rest of that time period.</p> <p><b>Chinook salmon:</b> Attainment of chinook PSC limit established in regulation closes the Chinook Salmon Savings Area to directed pollock trawl fishing.</p> <p><b>Apportionment:</b> For trawl fisheries, may be apportioned by target fishery and season; for non-trawl fisheries, may be apportioned by target fishery, gear type, area, and season.</p>
<b>Retention and Utilization Requirements</b>	<p><b>Pollock:</b> Roe-stripping is prohibited; see also below.</p> <p><b>Improved Retention/Improved Utilization Program:</b> All pollock and Pacific cod must be retained and processed.</p>
<b>Fixed Gear Sablefish Fishery</b>	<p>The directed fixed gear sablefish fisheries are managed under an Individual Fishing Quota program. The FMP specifies requirements for the initial allocation of quota share in 1995, as well as transfer, use, ownership, and general provisions.</p> <p><b>Annual Allocation:</b> The ratio of a person's quota share to the quota share pool is multiplied by the fixed gear TAC (adjusted for the community development quota allocation - see below), to arrive at the annual individual fishing quota.</p>

Table ES-2 Summary of Management Measures for the BSAI Groundfish Fishery

<b>Bering Sea Pollock Fishery</b>	<p>Subtitle II of the American Fisheries Act (AFA), incorporated by reference in the FMP, implemented a cooperative program for the pollock fishery.</p> <p><b>Access:</b> Limits pollock fishery access to named vessels and processors; included a buyout of 9 catcher/processor vessels.</p> <p><b>Allocation:</b> After adjustment for the community development quota allocation (see below) and incidental catch of pollock in other fisheries, the pollock TAC is apportioned 50% to vessels harvesting pollock for inshore processing, 40% to vessels harvesting pollock for catcher/processor processing, and 10% to vessels harvesting pollock for mothership processing.</p> <p><b>Cooperatives:</b> Creates standards and limitations for the creation and operation of cooperatives.</p> <p><b>Sideboards:</b> Establishes harvesting and processing restrictions on AFA pollock participants to protect other fisheries.</p> <p><b>Catch monitoring:</b> Increases observer coverage and scale requirements for catcher/processors.</p>
<b>**Aleutian Islands Pollock Fishery</b>	<p>The directed pollock fishery in the Aleutian Islands is fully allocated to the Aleut Corporation for the purpose of economic development in Adak, Alaska.</p> <p><b>Allocation:</b> To be funded from the difference between the sum of all BSAI groundfish fishery TACs and the 2 million mt OY cap, if the difference is large enough to do so; otherwise from a reduction in the Bering Sea pollock initial TAC. A mechanism for determining "A" and "B" season allowances is specified.</p>
<b>Community Development Quota (CDQ) Multispecies Fishery</b>	<p>Eligible fishery-dependent communities in western Alaska will receive a percentage of all groundfish species or species group TACs, except squid, and a pro-rata share of PSC species.</p> <p><b>Sablefish:</b> 20% of the fixed gear TAC</p> <p><b>Pollock:</b> 10% of the TAC</p> <p><b>Other groundfish species:</b> 7.5% of the TAC</p>
<b>Flexible Authority</b>	<p>The Regional Administrator of NMFS is authorized to make inseason adjustments through gear modifications, closures, or fishing area/quota restrictions, for conservation reasons, to protect identified habitat problems, or to increase vessel safety.</p>
<b>Recordkeeping and Reporting</b>	<p>Recordkeeping that is necessary and appropriate to determine catch, production, effort, price, and other information necessary for conservation and management may be required. May include the use of catch and/or product logs, product transfer logs, effort logs, or other records as specified in regulations.</p> <p><b>Processors:</b> Shall report necessary information for the management of the groundfish fisheries as specified in regulations.</p> <p><b>At-sea processor vessels:</b> Must submit a weekly catch/receipt and product transfer report and record cargo transfer and off-loading information in a separate transfer log. Catcher/processors are also required to check in and check out of any fishing area for which TAC is established, as specified in regulations.</p>
<b>Observer Program</b>	<p>U.S. fishing vessels that catch groundfish in the EEZ, or receive groundfish caught in the EEZ, and shoreside processors that receive groundfish caught in the EEZ, are required to accommodate NMFS-certified observers as specified in regulations, in order to verify catch composition and quantity, including at-sea discards, and collect biological information on marine resources.</p>
<b>Evaluation and Review of the FMP</b>	<p>The Council will maintain a continuing review of the fisheries managed under this FMP.</p> <p><b>Management Policy:</b> Objectives in the management policy statement will be reviewed annually.</p> <p><b>Essential Fish Habitat (EFH):</b> The Council will conduct a complete review of EFH once every 5 years, and in between will solicit proposals on Habitat Areas of Particular Concern and/or conservation and enhancement measures to minimize potential adverse effects from fishing. Annually, EFH information will be reviewed in the "Ecosystems Considerations" chapter of the SAFE report.</p> <p><b>PSC limits and related area closures:</b> Will be reviewed each year to determine whether changes in stock abundance or other factors justify consideration of alternative limits or closures.</p>



Table ES-2 Summary of Management Measures for the GOA Groundfish Fishery

<b>Management Area</b>	U.S. exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the North Pacific Ocean, exclusive of the Bering Sea, between the eastern Aleutian Islands at 170° W. longitude and Dixon Entrance at 132°40' W. longitude. <b>Regulatory areas:</b> Three regulatory areas are defined in the Gulf of Alaska: Eastern, extending from Dixon Entrance to 147° W. longitude; Central, extending between 147° W. and 159° W. longitude, and Western, extending between 159° W. and 170° W. longitude.
<b>**Stocks</b>	All finfish, except salmon, steelhead, halibut, herring, and tuna, which are distributed or exploited in the management area, and are listed in Table 3-1.  Those stocks and stock complexes that are commercially important and for which an annual TAC is established include: walleye pollock, Pacific cod, sablefish, shallow and deep water flatfish, rex sole, flathead sole, arrowtooth flounder, Pacific ocean perch, shortraker/rougeye rockfish, northern rockfish, "other slope" rockfish, pelagic shelf rockfish, demersal shelf rockfish, thornyhead rockfish, Atka mackerel, and skates.
<b>**Optimum Yield (OY) and Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY)</b>	The OY of the GOA groundfish complex (consisting of stocks listed in the 'target species' and 'other species' categories, as listed in Table 3-1) is in the range of 116,000 to 800,000 mt. The upper end of the range is derived from historical estimates of MSY.
<b>Procedure to set Total Allowable Catch (TAC)</b>	Based on the annual Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) report, the Council will recommend to the Secretary of Commerce TACs and apportionments thereof for each target species. TAC for the "other species" category will be set at 5% of the summed target species TACs. Up to two years of TACs may be established for certain species.  <b>Reserve:</b> 20% of the TAC for pollock, Pacific cod, flatfish, and the "other species" category is set aside to form the reserve, which may be reapportioned to these fisheries at any time and in any amount by the Regional Administrator.
<b>Apportionment of TAC</b>	Harvest allocations and management are based on the calendar year. TACs are apportioned by regulatory area, and by district for some stocks. Areas or districts may also be managed together.  <b>Pollock:</b> the Western and Central regulatory areas are combined, and annual TACs are divided into seasonal allowances. 100% of the TAC is allocated to the inshore sector.  <b>Pacific cod:</b> TAC shall be allocated 90% to the inshore sector and 10% to the offshore sector.  <b>Sablefish:</b> the Eastern regulatory area is divided into two districts, West Yakutat and Southeast Outside. In the Eastern regulatory area, vessels using hook and line gear will be permitted to take up to 95% of the TAC, and vessels using trawl gear up to 5%. In the Western and Central regulatory areas, vessels using hook and line gear will be permitted to take up to 80% of the TAC, and vessels using trawl gear up to 20%.  <b>Rockfish:</b> the Eastern regulatory area is divided into two districts, West Yakutat and Southeast Outside.
<b>**Attainment of TAC</b>	The attainment of a TAC for a species will result in the closure of the target fishery for that species. Further retention of that species will be prohibited.
<b>Permit</b>	All vessels participating in the GOA groundfish fisheries, other than fixed gear sablefish and demersal shelf rockfish in Southeast Outside district, require a Federal groundfish license, except for: vessels fishing in State of Alaska waters and vessels less than 26' LOA. Licenses are endorsed with area, gear, and vessel type and length designations.  Fishing permits may be authorized, for limited experimental purposes, for the target or incidental harvest of groundfish that would otherwise be prohibited.
<b>Participation Restrictions</b>	<b>American Fisheries Act (AFA):</b> Vessels or processors participating in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands pollock fishery authorized under the AFA are subject to harvesting and processing sideboard restrictions on GOA groundfish.
<b>Authorized Gear</b>	Gear types authorized by the FMP are trawls, hook-and-line, pots, jigs, and other gear as defined in regulations.  <b>Sablefish:</b> Legal gear for taking sablefish in the GOA is hook and line and trawl gear.

Table ES-2 Summary of Management Measures for the GOA Groundfish Fishery

<b>Time and Area Restrictions</b>	<p>Fishing Year: January 1-December 31.</p> <p><b>All vessels:</b> Fishing or anchoring within the Sitka Pinnacles Marine Reserve is prohibited at all times.</p> <p><b>Non-pelagic trawl:</b> Three types of closure areas are designated around Kodiak Island. Type I areas prohibit non-pelagic trawling year-round; Type II prohibit non-pelagic trawl from February 15 to June 15; adjacent areas designated as Type III may be reclassified by the Regional Administrator as Type I or Type II following a recruitment event. The use of non-pelagic trawl is prohibited in Cook Inlet.</p> <p><b>Marine mammal measures:</b> Regulations implementing the FMP may include conservation measures that temporally and spatially limit fishing effort around areas important to marine mammals.</p> <p><b>Gear test area exemption:</b> Specific gear test areas for use when the fishing grounds are closed to that gear type, are established in regulations that implement the FMP.</p>
<b>**Prohibited Species</b>	<p>Pacific halibut, Pacific herring, Pacific salmon, steelhead trout, king crab, and Tanner crab are prohibited species and must be returned to the sea with a minimum of injury except when their retention is authorized by other applicable law.</p> <p>Groundfish species and species under this FMP for which the quota has been achieved shall be treated in the same manner as prohibited species.</p>
<b>**Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) Limits</b>	<p>The attainment of a PSC limit for a species will result in the closure of the appropriate fishery.</p> <p><b>Pacific halibut:</b> Halibut mortality PSC limits are established annually in regulation; may be apportioned by season, regulatory area, gear type, and/or target fishery.</p>
<b>**Retention and Utilization Requirements</b>	<p><b>Pollock:</b> Roe-stripping is prohibited; see also Improved Retention/Improved Utilization Program (IR/IU).</p> <p><b>IR/IU:</b> All pollock and Pacific cod must be retained and processed.</p>
<b>**Bycatch Reduction Programs</b>	<p><b>Shallow water Flatfish:</b> The Council will annually review the GOA fisheries that exceed a bycatch rate of 5% of shallow water flatfish, and may propose management measures to reduce bycatch in these fisheries.</p>
<b>Fixed Gear Sablefish Fishery</b>	<p>The directed fixed gear sablefish fisheries are managed under an Individual Fishing Quota program. The FMP specifies requirements for the initial allocation of quota share in 1995, as well as transfer, use, ownership, and general provisions.</p> <p><b>Annual Allocation:</b> The ratio of a person's quota share to the quota share pool is multiplied by the fixed gear TAC (adjusted for the community development quota allocation - see below), to arrive at the annual individual fishing quota.</p> <p><b>Community Quota Share Purchases:</b> Specified GOA coastal communities are eligible to hold commercial catcher boat sablefish quota share under the IFQ program.</p>
<b>**Delegated Authority</b>	<p><b>Demersal shelf rockfish:</b> Managed by the State of Alaska under Council oversight. The Council retains the responsibility of setting the demersal shelf rockfish harvest level.</p>
<b>Flexible Authority</b>	<p>The Regional Administrator of NMFS is authorized to make inseason adjustments through gear modifications, closures, or fishing area/quota restrictions, for conservation reasons, to protect identified habitat problems, or to increase vessel safety.</p>
<b>**Recordkeeping and Reporting</b>	<p>Recordkeeping that is necessary and appropriate to determine catch, production, effort, price, and other information necessary for conservation and management may be required. May include the use of catch and/or product logs, product transfer logs, effort logs, or other records as specified in regulations.</p> <p><b>At-sea processor vessels:</b> Catcher/processor vessels and mothership processors vessels may be required to submit check-in and check-out reports for any Federal statistical areas or the U.S. EEZ.</p>
<b>Observer Program</b>	<p>U.S. fishing vessels that catch groundfish in the EEZ, or receive groundfish caught in the EEZ, and shoreside processors that receive groundfish caught in the EEZ, are required to accommodate NMFS-certified observers as specified in regulations, in order to verify catch composition and quantity, including at-sea discards, and collect biological information on marine resources.</p>
<b>Evaluation and Review of the FMP</b>	<p><b>Management Policy:</b> Objectives in the management policy statement will be reviewed annually.</p> <p><b>Essential Fish Habitat (EFH):</b> The Council will conduct a complete review of EFH once every 5 years, and in between will solicit proposals on Habitat Areas of Particular Concern and/or conservation and enhancement measures to minimize potential adverse effects from fishing. Annually, EFH information will be reviewed in the "Ecosystems Considerations" chapter of the SAFE.</p>