

ADVISORY PANEL
Motions and Rationale
October 1-5 2019 - Homer, AK

D4 BSAI Pot Cod CP

AP Motion 1

The AP recommends that the Council adopt the following purpose and need statement and alternatives for analysis:

- *Amendment 85 assigned a portion of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Pacific cod TAC to the pot CP sector with the primary goals of aligning Pacific cod allocations with actual dependency and use and providing stability to all sectors.*
- *Three major changes have occurred since the implementation of Amendment 85, which has resulted in less stability for the dependent vessels on which the Amendment 85 allocation was based:*
 - 1. low crab TACS and consolidation within the crab fisheries has provided increased flexibility for pot CPs,*
 - 2. the total allowable catch for Pacific cod in the BSAI has decreased over the last several years, and*
 - 3. the availability of rollovers to the CP pot sector has declined.*
- *The Council is considering action to eliminate latent capacity in the fishery, in order to increase stability for cod dependent pot CPs, maintain consistently low rates of halibut and crab bycatch, and ensure that condensed fishing seasons do not result in safety-at-sea concerns.*

Alternatives

Alternative 1: No Action.

Alternative 2: Remove the Pacific cod endorsements on C/P pot LLPs unless the license is credited with a minimum directed landing of 1000 mt in the management area based on the following threshold criteria:

Option 1: 2005-2019

Option 2: 2012-2019

Suboptions:

A: In any three years

B: In any four years

Option 3: (applies to either option 1 or 2): Management area endorsement applicability

Suboptions

A: Bering Sea only

B: Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands

Advisory Panel

D4 Motion

October 2019

The AP also recommends that the Council establish a control date of October 8, 2019, for any action considering future participation in the Pacific cod catcher processor pot sector.

Motion passed 19-0

Rationale:

- *This is a fully allocated sector that has harvested its allocation every year since Amendment 85.*
- *This action needs to be considered in the context and goals of the Amendment 85 review, which among other things included, reducing the uncertainty about the availability of yearly harvests within sectors caused by reallocations and providing stability among sectors in the BSAI Pacific cod fishery.*
- *This sector is facing similar issues to other Pacific cod sectors. The season length has dramatically decreased over the last two years. In particular, B season has gone from 122 days to 11 days in 2019 which is the result of declining TACs and the loss of rollovers from other sectors.*
- *It is unlikely those rollovers will come back given the increased effort in over 60' pot CPs and increases in the GHL allocation.*
- *A new LLP participated in 2018, representing about a 20% increase in effort in the sector; this is the equivalent of ten new vessels participating in the CV trawl sector*
- *This motion asks for an initial review of alternatives that would provide information for decision making.*