



Agenda #15  
Nov. 2-3, '78

# HOKUYO HAENAWA SASHIMI KYOKAI

NORTH PACIFIC LONGLINE-GILLNET ASSOCIATION

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October 30, 1978

Clement Tillion, Chairman  
North Pacific Fishery  
Management Council  
Post Office Box 3136DT  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Mr. Tillion:

At the October 26 meeting of the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee in Seattle, Washington, Mr. Bert Larkins informed the Committee concerning the 1977 sablefish catch and fishing effort information from the Japanese longline fleet. Mr. Larkins told the Committee that he was concerned that a declining catch per unit of effort statistic indicated that the sablefish stocks of the Gulf of Alaska area had declined.

We share Mr. Larkins' concern for the resource and we will conduct a prompt review of the preliminary information provided by Mr. Larkins. Further, we will discuss the implications of the data with Japanese scientists and we will endeavor to obtain such other relevant information as bears on the question of the state of the resource.

We request that the Council take no action at the upcoming meeting pending the completion of our review and response. In the interim, Mr. Larkins indicated at the Committee meeting in Seattle that measures were available to protect the sablefish stocks in the near future short of final Council action at the November 2 and 3 meeting.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

NORTH PACIFIC LONGLINE-  
GILLNET ASSOCIATION

H. Nakamura  
Vice Chairman

Summary of Statement

to be

Made by Mr. H. Nakamura  
Vice Chairman of  
North Pacific Longline-Gillnet Ass. (Japan)  
at Public Hearing  
on  
November 2nd, 1978  
at Anchorage, Alaska, USA

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While it is not in the least our intention to delay the implementation of FMP for GOA Groundfish, we should like to mention a few points which would be of vital and unique problems to the members of the association, for the Council's consideration and action at a later and more appropriate time.

1. Relaxation of 500M depth restriction to 400M for sablefish directed fishery in the Gulf of Alaska to allow them more flexibility in operations. Our lawyer, Mr. Mundt, tells us he has completed drafting comments with documentation and the copies will arrive at the Council office tomorrow morning by 9:00 A.M.

2. Opening of Davidson Bank "as is now open" under PMP. We also intend to resubmit our previous request in this regard to the Council and SSC later on the basis of more adequate scientific evidence rather than policy consideration.

3. To keep the statistical sub-areas to a minimum i.e. three. While commending the use of Statistical Areas for statistics and management purposes, we should request this because of operational difficulty.

4. Expansion of Pacific Cod directed fishery areas to east of 157°W to 140°W landward of 500M in depth during off-season of US halibut and line fishery, for with this period restriction, as is now being demonstrated in our operations of the Pacific Cod Fishery in the waters

west of 157°W we believe practically no gear conflict with US fishermen will be anticipated in the waters between 157°W to 140°W.

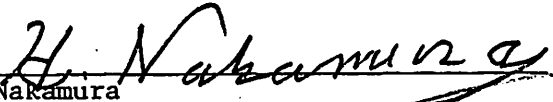
5. Specific Quota to Directed Fisheries (Sablefish and Pacific Cod)  
Finally, for our 1979 operation in the Gulf of Alaska, we request specific quota of sablefish to Japanese longliners which would eventually amount to (with later release of reserve, etc.) approximately 8,000 M.T.

With your kind consideration for 1978 fishing season which is now at its waning stage, we have ultimately received 7,810 mt of sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska alone, which we are certain of catching fully before the end of the season with everything geared to take approximately 1,000 mt per month in October and November.

And we further wish to request specific quota of Pacific Cod in 1979 for Pacific Cod directed fishery at 12,000 mt level, which would be made available to Japanese longliners.

In addition, we earnestly wish that the Council not give up management of a foreign fisheries in the US FCZ. In our opinion, the concept of directed fishery of Sablefish and Pacific Cod have been continually held in bilateral agreement between US and Japan since 1973 and therefore, the Council should continue to take up responsible management of these directed fisheries and specify quota to us. We feel this matter should not be turned over to a foreign government as internal responsibility within its nation.

Again, we wish to stress we are not suggesting the Council taking any action at this time which would in any way cause further delay in implementation of the GOA groundfish FMP., but since 1979 is coming soon we wanted to mention that these are the points we wish to be revised in the plan.

  
H. Nakamura  
Vice Chairman  
NPLG Ass. (Japan)

November 2-3, 1978

AGENDA ITEM: 15

ACTION REQUIRED: Informational

SUBJECT: Gulf of Alaska Groundfish FMP

SUMMARY: Four documents are included:

- ✓ (a) Letter from Leitzell to Lokken, October 3, 1978
- ✓ (b) Federal Register Notice of October 6, 1978
- ✓ (c) Domestic Groundfish catch statistics
- ✓ (d) MPDT report of 1977 Black Cod - foreign longliner CPUE data - Burt Larkins

COMMENTS: The FMP will likely be implemented December 1 with the special reserve amendment included. A serious decline in blackcod CPUE (Larkin) will force a re-evaluation and probable reduction in the 1979 blackcod ABC and OY. This amendment will be advertised for the November 30, December 1 meeting.

15(a)



AGENDA ITEM 15 NOV 1978

Lertzell

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Washington, D.C. 20235

OCT 3 1978

F36/CB

Mr. Harold E. Lokken  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
P.O. Box 3136 DT  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Harold:

On August 29, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council submitted an amendment to the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The amendment increased 1978/79 reserves, and lowered the total allowable level of foreign fishing (TALFF), to accommodate uncertainties in expected U.S. harvest arising from possible joint venture arrangements. After considerable deliberation, with senior NOAA officials, I have approved the amendment.

The issues to which we devoted most of our attention were the legality of the concept of a "reserve" and identifying a procedural mechanism for releasing a reserve which strikes a balance between needed flexibility and legal requirements for the protection of individual interests. I have concluded that the reserve concept is necessary and appropriate in this instance and that the most reasonable means of carrying out this provision is through the use of the rulemaking procedures of the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). I have reached a similar conclusion regarding the "in-season" adjustment provision in the FMP.

The proposed regulations implementing the amendment will establish more specific procedures governing time and manner of determination to release reserves. I anticipate active Council (and public) involvement in making the required determinations. I hope that the Council will make a particular effort to ensure that any Council meeting at which such recommendations will be discussed receives extensive notice--specifically mentioning the allocation of reserves and inviting public testimony.

The proposed regulations establish a public comment period prior to specific dates for allocation. The Regional Director will determine, in each situation, whether an additional "cooling-off" period is necessary. While we do not have flexibility as extensive as that given the State of Alaska by state law, I believe that the procedures established are reasonably designed to provide the flexibility and responsiveness the Council found necessary, without compromising our obligations under the FCMA and other law.

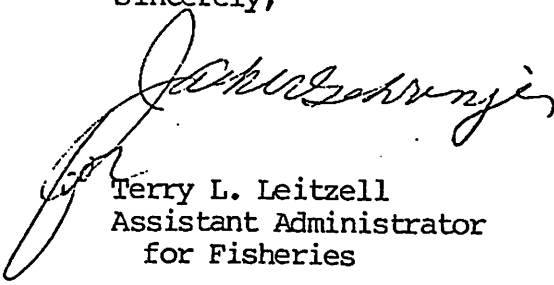
cc: Council (50)



I regret that the necessity for implementing this amendment along with the FMP will cause the FMP implementation to be somewhat delayed. The proposed regulations and the plan amendment must, in the absence of a resource emergency, be subject to a 45-day public review. Additionally, NOAA foreign fishing regulations (611.3(i)(1)) require a minimum 10-day "cooling off" period on an adverse permit action. I now anticipate implementation of the FMP, with its various amendments around December 1, 1978. We could not implement the FMP November 1, and subsequently implement the amendment because the result would be lowering TALFF after the start of the new fishing year.

I trust that you appreciate the legal constraints upon us and will find these compromises acceptable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Terry L. Leitzell". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Terry L. Leitzell  
Assistant Administrator  
for Fisheries

not exceed 10 microvolts per meter at 1600 meters.

[FR Doc. 78-28188 Filed 10-5-78; 8:45 am]

[9-22]

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[50 CFR Parts 611 and 672]

GROUND FISH OF THE GULF OF ALASKA

Fishery Management Plan Amendment;  
Proposed Implementary Regulations

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of approval of fishery management plan amendment; proposed regulations.

SUMMARY: An amendment to the fishery management plan (FMP) for the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Fishery submitted by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is approved. This amendment increases the portion of each species' optimum yield (OY) set aside as a reserve. Amendments to the regulations which were proposed to implement to FMP are proposed. These amendments set forth the procedures and criteria to be used by the Regional Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service in making allocations from the reserve to Total Allowable Level of Foreign Fishing (TALFF) for harvesting by vessels of foreign nations.

DATE: Comments are invited until November 17, 1978.

ADDRESS: Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, Washington, D.C. 20235. Please mark "Alaska Groundfish" on outside of the envelope.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Harry L. Rietze, Director, Alaska Region, National Marine Fisheries Service, P.O. Box 1668, Juneau, Alaska 99802, telephone number 907-586-7221.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 21, 1978, a FMP for the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Fishery prepared by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (the Council) was approved (43 FR 17242). That FMP established conservation and management measures for both the foreign and domestic groundfish fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska under the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976, 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq., as amended. Proposed regulations to implement the FMP were also published on April 21, 1978 (43 FR 17013

for foreign vessels; 43 FR 17242 for vessels of the United States).

On August 7, 1978, an amendment of the FMP submitted by the Council was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER (43 FR 34825). That amendment extended the established optimum yields (OY's), statement of U.S. capacity, and total allowable level of foreign fishing (TALFF) from December 31, 1978 to October 31, 1979.

On August 28, 1978, the Council submitted another amendment to the FMP for approval. This amendment raises the pollock reserve to 133,800 metric tons, with appropriate increases in the reserves of species that will be taken incidental to a directed fishery for pollock, in order to assure that an adequate supply of fish is available for harvest through October 31, 1979 by U.S. fishermen in potential joint venture operations involving sale of U.S. caught fish to foreign processing vessels at sea.

The proposed implementary regulations for this amendment set forth the procedure for making allocations from this reserve to the TALFF during the plan year. In order to assure that any portion of the reserve that will not be utilized by U.S. fishermen is made available to foreign fisheries in an expeditions manner, the proposed regulations provide that 25 percent of the initial reserve will be allocated to the TALFF every 2 months (bimonthly, beginning January 2, 1979, unless it is determined by the Regional Director that United States fishing vessels will harvest all of the remaining reserve during the remainder of the plan year. If such a determination is made, the Regional Director will withhold from allocation to the TALFF all or part of the scheduled bimonthly allocation of the reserve.

A determination that the remaining reserves will be harvested by United States fishing vessels would be based on consideration of: (1) Reported U.S. catches by species and area; (2) projected U.S. catch and effort by species and area; and (3) projected and utilized processing capacity of United States fish processors. Interested persons are afforded a period of 15 days in which to submit comments supported by data or other factual material prior to the time of making each determination. If, on the basis of such a determination, the Regional Director withholds all or a portion the normal bimonthly allocation to the TALFF, and the subsequent performance of United States fishing vessels fails to achieve the anticipated harvest levels upon which the determination was made, then any amount of fish in the reserves previously withheld from allocation are to be added to the next bimonthly allocation to TALFF.

The Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, under a delegation of authority from the Secretary, has determined that this amendment to the FMP is (1) necessary and appropriate to the conservation and management of Gulf of Alaska groundfish resources; (2) is consistent with the national standards and other provisions of the Act and other applicable laws; and (3) does not constitute a major Federal action requiring the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

NOTE.—It has been determined that this amendment does not require a Regulatory Impact Analysis under Executive Order 12044.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 29th day of September, 1978.

WINFRED H. MEIBOHM,  
Acting Executive Director,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.

The FMP (43 FR 17244, Apr. 21, 1978) is revised as follows:

FEDERAL REGISTER, page 17245—No. 2

Recommend the initial foreign allocation of surplus stocks be computed by the following formula: Initial Foreign Allocation = (0.8 OY) — DASH — Special JV Reserve. The 20 percent of OY and the Special Joint Venture Reserves are to be reevaluated beginning January 2, 1979 and reallocated to the domestic or foreign fisheries following reassessment of U.S. development—both in terms of Joint Venture activities and delivery to U.S. shorebased processors.

Page 17245—No. 3: Sentence 1, add after " \* \* \* to U.S. processors" \* \* \* :

\* \* \* and later reallocate from special joint reserves the amounts needed to handle the delivery of raw fish to foreign processors by U.S. fishermen.

(Delete all of sentence 2.)

Page 17312—Section 5.2.1 Domestic annual capacity (DAC).

Add an additional paragraph directly after paragraph No. 1 to read as follows:

In addition to the U.S. shore-based harvesting and processing capacity surveyed, at least two joint U.S./foreign ventures intend to operate in the management areas. Both operations will buy pollock and other groundfish from American fishermen delivered directly to foreign processing ships in the FCZ. The catching and processing capacity identified in this plan for those ventures has been furnished by the two joint U.S./foreign firms active in developing these enterprises.

Page 17312—Section 5.2.1.2 Processing capacity.

And a paragraph directly after paragraph No. 4 to read as follows:

In addition to the purely domestic processing capacity as indicated in the preceding, two U.S./foreign ventures intend to fish in the Gulf of Alaska with foreign processing ships receiving raw fish, primarily pollock, from U.S. fishing vessels. One venture

OCT 10 1978

PROPOSED RULES

has a stated capacity of 300 metric tons of raw product per day while the other has capacity up to 600 tons per day based on up to three processing ships receiving 200 tons apiece. Based on these figures, a total of 900 tons per day for an estimated 200 days, their capacity is 180,000 metric tons.

Page 17312—Section 5.2.1.3 Freezing capacity.

Add a second paragraph to read as follows:

The intended U.S./foreign joint ventures will be working solely on groundfish and their capacity is figured for a 200-day fishing year. The two ventures, involving up to four processing ships, are capable of processing and freezing 900 tons of raw product a day, or 180,000 metric tons for the year.

Page 17312—Section 5.2.1.4 Holding capacity.

Add a second paragraph to read as follows:

Holding capacity for the foreign processing ships that might be involved in joint U.S./foreign ventures in the Gulf of Alaska is not considered a factor since the product will be moved on a regular basis.

Page 17313—Section 5.2.2 Expected domestic annual harvest (DAH).

Delete paragraph 2 and insert the following:

In order to ascertain just how much of the total domestic capacity would be utilized in 1978, the industry representatives were asked to furnish their projections for moving into the groundfish fisheries. Considerable planning has been done to establish joint ventures or contracts for foreign processing ships to purchase raw fish directly from U.S. fishing vessels. This form of domestic utilization will be allowed during the last four months of 1978 and for the fishing year 1979. The expected domestic annual harvest (DAH) for 1978 however, has been considered only from the standpoint of deliveries to domestic processing plants. A special J/V reserve allocation has been created to handle the potential joint venture catches and is described fully in Section 7.0.

Page 17313—Section 5.2.2.2 Delivered to foreign factory ships.

Revise to read as follows:

Delivery of U.S.-caught groundfish for foreign processing vessels has been permitted during the last four months of 1978. It is expected that such delivery will again be permitted for the period from November 1st, 1978, through October 31st, 1979. The two operations that have been currently issued permits estimate a take of 155,000 metric tons of pollock and associated by-catch during that period. If, in fact, this quantity is necessary, it will be reallocated from the reserve to DAH as their ability to catch and process these quantities becomes apparent.

Page 17314—Section 4.0 Foreign allowable catch (FAC).

Completely revise to read as follows:

United States fishermen will have reserved for their use during the 1979 fishing year any amount of any species up to the optimum yield based on credible projections of catch. The optimum yield (OY) of any species or species group shall not be exceeded by the all nation fishery. Optimum yields for each groundfish species or species group in the Gulf of Alaska are shown in Table 53. Expected domestic annual harvest (DAH) projections are shown in Table 61. The foreign allowable catch (FAC) will be determined and applied as described below.

Because: (1) Growth of the domestic groundfish fishery cannot be accurately forecast; (2) constraints against growth of the domestic fishery up to the level of optimum yield are contrary to the intent of Pub. L. 94-265; (3) optimum yield should neither be exceeded nor should it go unrealized; and (4) recognizing that domestic fishermen are often restricted in their activity during a season, it is, therefore, not unreasonable to make in-season amendments to measures applying to foreign fishermen. FAC will be set in a manner so as to allow in-season adjustments between foreign and domestic fisheries. Such adjustments will be dictated by domestic fishery performance and will be accomplished as follows:

The initial FAC for each species for the 1979 fishing year will equal DAH subtracted from 80 percent of OY less specific amounts for each species held in reserve until January 2, 1979 at which time progress of the proposed joint ventures using foreign processing ships can be evaluated.

Initial FAC will be computed as follows:  
 $FAC = (0.8 OY) - DAH - \text{special J/V reserve}$ .  
 The amount of special J/V reserve for each species is shown in the following table.

	Metric tons
Pollock .....	100,000
Other rockfish .....	2,000
POP .....	3,000
Sablefish .....	1,500
Pacific cod .....	3,000
Flounders.....	3,000
Squid.....	500
Atka mackerel.....	500
Other species.....	1,500

The reserve (20 percent of OY + amounts in the preceding table) will be apportioned to foreign or domestic fisheries as the season progresses on the basis of continuing reappraisals of DAH. The gulfwide schedule of OY/reserve/DAH/FAC is given in table 62. FAC and reserve have also been apportioned to individual statistical areas (table 64).

Page 17317—Section 8.3.1.1(D)(2).  
 Revise to read as follows:

(2) December 1 to May 31: When the total incidental trawl catch of halibut in any statistical area exceeds that amount listed below, that statistical area shall be closed to domestic trawling for the remainder of this period.

- Shumagin—29 mt.
- Chirikof—18 mt.
- Kodiak—34 mt.
- Yukutat—17 mt.
- Southeast—14 mt.

Page 17315—Change table 62 to read as follows:



PROPOSED RULES

TABLE 62.—Derivation of Foreign Allowable Catch (FAC)<sup>1</sup> for Gulf of Alaska Groundfish in 1978-79  
(In thousand metric tons)

Species	OY	Reserve	Additional reserve for possible J/V ventures	DAH	FAC <sup>1</sup>
Pollock.....	168.8	33.8	100.0	14.2	20.8
Cod.....	34.8	7.0	3.0	15.5	9.3
Flounders.....	33.5	6.7	3.0	7.2	16.6
Pacific Ocean perch.....	25.0	4.9	3.0	1.1	16.0
Other rockfish.....	7.6	1.5	2.0	2.0	2.1
Sablefish.....	13.0	2.6	1.5	4.0	4.9
Atka mackerel.....	24.8	5.0	.5	0	19.3
Squid.....	2.0	.4	.5	0	1.1
Other species.....	16.2	3.2	1.5	.5	11.0
Totals.....	325.7	65.1	115.0	44.5	161.1
Total reserve.....		180.1			

<sup>1</sup>Initial FAC; may be increased as reserve is apportioned during year.

<sup>2</sup>The area landward of the 500-m isobath and west of 157° west longitude is designated as a longline fishery for Pacific cod.

Proposed amendments to regulations 50 CFR 672: (Revise Table I, page 50 CFR Part 672 (43 FR 17243) and 50 CFR 17243, to read as follows: CFR 611.92 (43 FR 17013).

TABLE I—Metric Tons  
(OY/Reserve/DAH Schedule, by area, in thousand metric tons)

Species	Shumagin	Chirikof	Kodiak	Yakutat	Southeast	Total
Pollock:						
OY.....	57.0	54.4	40.3	12.5	4.1	168.8
Reserve.....	45.2	43.1	32.4	9.9	3.2	133.8
DAH.....	4.8	4.6	3.4	1.1	.3	14.2
Cod:						
OY.....	9.6	4.1	15.3	4.3	1.5	34.8
Reserve.....	2.73	1.15	4.42	1.27	.43	10.0
DAH.....	4.3	1.8	6.8	1.9	.7	15.5
Flounders:						
OY.....	10.4	2.7	12.0	6.4	2.0	33.5
Reserve.....	3.0	.8	3.5	1.8	.6	9.7
DAH.....	2.2	.6	2.6	1.4	.4	7.2
Pacific Ocean perch:						
OY.....	2.7	2.7	5.2	7.9	6.5	25.0
Reserve.....	.9	.9	1.6	2.5	2.0	7.9
DAH.....	.1	.1	.2	.4	.3	1.1
Other rockfish:						
OY.....	.3	.2	.6	3.4	3.1	7.6
Reserve.....	.1	.1	.3	1.6	1.4	3.5
DAH.....	.1	Trace	.2	.9	.8	2.0
Sablefish:						
OY.....	2.1	1.4	2.4	3.4	3.7	13.0
Reserve.....	.6	.4	.7	1.1	1.2	4.1
DAH.....	.1	Trace	.1	.8	3.0	4.0
Atka mackerel:						
OY.....	4.4	3.6	15.8	1.0	0	24.8
Reserve.....	1.0	.8	3.5	.2	0	5.5
DAH.....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Squid:						
OY.....	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	2.0
Reserve.....	.2	.2	.2	.2	.1	.9
DAH.....	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other species:						
OY.....	4.4	3.6	5.0	2.1	1.1	16.2
Reserve.....	1.3	1.0	1.5	.5	.3	4.7
DAH.....	.1	.1	.2	.1	Trace	.5

(2) Revise 50 CFR 672.3(d) to read as follows:

§ 672.3 Domestic annual harvest, optimum yield, and reserve.

(d) The reserves set out in table I of this section represent 20 percent of OY, plus an additional amount set aside as a special reserve for possible joint venture operations.

(1) The reserves for all species will be allocated to the total allowable level of foreign fishing (TALFF) every 2 months (bimonthly) as soon as practicable after each of the following dates, in the amount indicated:

- January 2—25 percent.
- March 2—25 percent.
- May 2—25 percent.
- July 2—25 percent.

(2) The Regional Director may withhold from allocation all or part of each of the bimonthly allocations in

paragraph (d)(1) of this section if he/she determines that the remaining reserves will be harvested by fishing vessels of the United States. Such a determination shall be based upon consideration of the following factors:

- (i) Reported U.S. catches by species and area;
- (ii) Projected U.S. catch and effort by species and areas;
- (iii) Projected processing capacity by U.S. processors; and
- (iv) Utilized processing capability by U.S. processors.

(3) Interested persons may file comments with the Regional Director concerning whether or not, and the extent to which vessels of the United States will harvest all of the remaining reserve during the plan year.

(4) Comments may be submitted no later than 15 days prior to the dates specified in paragraph (d)(1) of this section.

(5) The Regional Director shall consider any timely comments filed in ac-

cordance with this section, in making the determination specified in paragraph (d)(2) of this section.

(6) The Regional Director shall compile, in aggregate form, the most recent available reports on level catch and effort by vessels of the United States in the groundfish fishery. This data shall be open for public inspection during business hours at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Regional Office, Federal Building, Room 453, 709 West Ninth Street, Juneau, Alaska 99802, during each 15 day period.

(7) If domestic fishermen fail to utilize any portion of a 25 percent bimonthly allocation withheld from allocation by the Regional Director pursuant to paragraph (d)(2) of this section, the unutilized portion shall be added to the amount allocated to the TALFF's in the next bimonthly allocation.

43 FR 17014: (1) Revise 611.92(b)(1), table I to read as follows:

TABLE 1.—Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Fishery: Initial Foreign Fishing Allocations by Nation and Area for 1978/79 (Metric Tons) Reserves  
(A) Shumagin Area

Nation	Pollock	Pacific ocean perch	Other rockfishes	Flounders	Sablefish	Atka mackerel	Pacific cod <sup>1</sup>	Squid	Other species
Japan									
Korea									
Mexico									
Poland									
USSR									
Initial TALFF									
Shumagin area	7,000	1,700	100	5,230	800	3,400	2,570	200	3,000
Reserves	45,200	900	100	3,000	600	1,000	2,730	200	1,300

(B) Chirikof Area

Japan									
Korea									
Mexico									
Poland									
USSR									
Initial TALFF									
Chirikof area	6,700	1,700	100	1,300	500	2,800	1,150	200	2,400
Reserves	43,100	900	100	800	400	800	1,150	200	1,000

(C) Kodiak area

Japan									
Korea									
Mexico									
Poland									
USSR									
Initial TALFF									
Kodiak area	5,600	3,300	100	5,900	900	12,300	4,060	200	3,400
Reserves	32,400	1,600	300	3,500	700	3,500	4,420	200	1,500

(D) Yakutat Area

Japan									
Korea									
Mexico									
Poland									
USSR									
Initial TALFF									
Yakutat Area	1,500	5,100	900	3,200	1,300	800	1,130	200	1,400
Reserves	9,900	2,500	1,600	1,600	1,100	200	1,270	200	600

<sup>1</sup> Of the total Pacific Cod TALFF (including the reserve), only 6,233 metric tons may be caught west of 157° W. longitude.

Reserves—Continued

(F) Southeast Area

Nation	Pollock	Pacific ocean perch	Other rockfishes	Flounders	Sablefish	Atka mackerel	Pacific cod <sup>1</sup>	Squid	Other species
Japan.....									
Korea.....									
Mexico.....									
Poland.....									
USSR.....									
Initial TALFF.....									
Southeast area.....	600	4,100	900	1,000	0	0	370	300	800
Reserves.....	3,200	2,000	1,400	600	1,200	0	430	100	300
Total initial TALFF..	20,800	16,000	2,100	16,600	4,900	19,300	9,300	1,100	11,000
Reserves.....	133,800	7,900	3,500	9,700	4,100	5,500	10,000	900	4,700

(2) Revise 611.92(b)(1) as follows:

(b) \* \* \*

(1)(i) The initial TALFF's set out in table 1 of this section represent the amount of fish remaining after the expected domestic annual harvest (DAH) and additional reserves (in the amounts indicated in table 1) were subtracted from the optimum yields (OY's) for each species.

(A) \* \* \*

(B) The reserves for all species will be allocated to the TALFF's every 2 months (bimonthly) as soon as practicable after the following dates, in the amount indicated:

- January 2—25 percent.
- March 2—25 percent.
- May 2—25 percent.
- July 2—25 percent.

(C) The Regional Director may withhold from allocation all or part of of the bimonthly allocations in paragraph (b)(1)(i)(B) of this section, if he/she determines that the remaining reserves will be harvested by fish-

ing vessels of the United States. Such a determination shall be based upon consideration of the following factors:

- (1) Reported U.S. catches by species and area;
- (2) Projected U.S. catch and effort by species and areas;
- (3) Projected processing capacity by U.S. processors; and
- (4) Utilized processing capability by U.S. processors.

(D) Interested persons may file comments with the Regional Director concerning whether or not, and the extent to which, vessels of the United States will harvest all of the remaining reserve during the remainder of the plan year.

(1) Comments may be submitted no later than 15 days prior to the dates specified in paragraph (b)(1)(i)(B) of this section.

(2) The Regional Director shall consider any timely comments filed in accordance with this section, in making the determination specified in paragraph (b)(1)(i)(C) of this section.

(3) The Regional Director shall compile, in aggregate form, the most recent available reports on level of catch and effort by vessels of the United States in the groundfish fishery. This data shall be open for public inspection during business hours at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Alaska Regional Office, Federal Building, Room 453, 709 West Ninth Street, Juneau Alaska 99802, during each 15 day period.

(D) If domestic fishermen fail to utilize any portion of a 25 percent bimonthly allocation withheld from allocation by the Regional Director pursuant to paragraph (b)(1)(i)(C) of this section, the unutilized portion shall be added to the amount allocated to the TALFF's in the next bimonthly allocation.

50 CFR 611.20(c), Table I is revised as follows:

50 CFR 611.20(c), table 1 is revised as follows:

Species code	Species	Ocean area	Initial TALFF (metric tons)	U.S. capacity review dates
006.....	Cod, Pacific.....	Gulf of Alaska.....	9,300	January 2. March 2. May 2. July 2.
002 and 003.....	Flounders, including Yellowfin.....	do.....	16,600	Do.
003.....	Mackerel, Atka.....	do.....	19,300	Do.
011.....	Perch, Pacific Ocean.....	do.....	16,000	Do.
005.....	Pollock.....	do.....	20,800	Do.
012.....	Rockfishes, other than Pacific Ocean Perch.....	do.....	2,100	Do.
007.....	Sablefish.....	do.....	4,900	Do.
001.....	Squid.....	do.....	1,100	Do.
009.....	Other species.....	do.....	11,000	Do.

Delete note 2.

<sup>1</sup>Does not include an additional amount held in reserve.

[FR Doc. 78-28063 Filed 10-5-78; 8:45 am]

Agenda # 15 (C)  
Nov. 2-3, '78

# STATE OF ALASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

SUBPORT BUILDING  
JUNEAU 99801

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

October 23, 1978

Mr. Jim Branson, Executive Director  
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council  
P.O. Box 3136 DT  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Mr. Branson:

Attached for distribution to the Council is the domestic bottom-fish catch in Alaska for January through September, 1978, by species and region.

In succeeding months we will forward to the Council the latest monthly update. This information is compiled in our office after the 15th of the month. We will try to provide this information to you well in advance of the Council meeting.

Sincerely,

*George Utermohle*  
George Utermohle, Research Analyst  
Extended Jurisdiction Section  
Division of Commercial Fisheries

Attachments



Bottomfish Catch in Metric Tons in Southeast Alaska, Jan.-Dec. 1978

1978	Black Cod Sablefish	Pollock	Flounder	Gray Cod Pacific Cod	Rockfish	Sculpin	Skates	General Groundfish	Others	Ling Cod	Sole	Red Snapper	Eels	Total
Jan.	-	146.1	43.1	-	.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	169.5
Feb.	-	162.3	4.4	2.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	168.9
Mar.	2.8	247.8	25.2	6.9	.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	262.4
Apr.	121.0	13.2	1.3	34.8	1.6	-	-	-	-	.1	-	-	-	172.1
May	141.0	-	-	14.0	13.9	-	-	-	-	1.1	-	-	-	170.0
Jun.	175.8	-	-	6.1	2.5	-	-	-	-	1.3	-	-	-	185.7
Jul.	343.0	-	-	25.9	23.1	-	.4	-	-	6.9	-	-	-	401.0
Aug.	134.8	-	-	4.8	10.7	-	-	-	1.7	3.8	.1	-	-	154.3
Sep.	178.6	0.3	86.3	7.0	8.9	-	-	17.4	-	0.7	6.0	-	-	305.3
Oct.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nov.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1097.0	569.2	160.3	101.6	62.0	0	.4	17.4	1.8	13.8	6.1	0	0	2029.9

Bottomfish Catch in Metric Tons in Central Alaska, Jan.-Dec. 1978

1978	Black Cod Sablefish	Pollock	Flounder	Gray Cod Pacific Cod	Rockfish	Sculpin	Skates	General Groundfish	Others	Ling Cod	Sole	Red Snapper	Eels	Total
Jan.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.5	-	-	-	-	-	5.5
Feb.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.5	-	-	-	-	-	7.5
Mar.	-	-	-	T	-	-	-	9.7	-	-	-	-	-	9.7
Apr.	-	-	-	28.9	-	-	-	3.9	-	-	-	-	-	32.8
May	.4	-	-	.3	4.5	-	-	5.3	-	.8	-	-	-	11.3
Jun.	T	-	-	10.8	-	1.8	-	5.0	-	-	-	T	-	17.6
Jul.	.3	-	T	.9	-	4.7	-	3.7	-	1.3	-	T	.4	11.3
Aug.	-	-	-	.8	-	.2	-	.6	-	T	T	.3	-	1.9
Sep.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oct.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nov.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	.7	0	T	41.7	4.5	6.7	0	41.3	0	2.1	T	.4	.4	97.7

Bottomfish Catch in Metric Tons in Western Alaska, Jan.-Dec. 1978

1978	Black Cod Sablefish	Pollock	Flounder	Gray Cod Pacific Cod	Rockfish	Sculpin	Skates	General Groundfish	Others	Ling Cod	Sole	Red Snapper	Eels	Total
Jan.	-	7.1	1.2	2.4	-	-	-	-	1.1	-	-	-	-	11.8
Feb.	-	13.4	3.3	3.4	-	2.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22.5
Mar.	-	105.1	17.6	39.4	-	5.6	-	-	1.9	-	-	-	-	169.7
Apr.	-	161.4	18.5	52.9	.2	.5	.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	234.0
May	-	144.8	6.3	91.0	T	-	-	-	.7	-	-	-	-	242.8
Jun.	-	-	-	17.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17.8
Jul.	-	.4	-	33.1	-	-	-	-	.6	-	-	-	-	34.1
Aug.	-	32.9	-	81.1	.2	-	-	-	-	-	10.5	-	-	124.7
Sep.	-	9.0	-	88.1	.3	.9	.4	-	-	-	2.0	-	T	100.5
Oct.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nov.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	0	473.8	46.8	409.3	.7	9.5	.9	0	4.3	0	12.5	0	T	958.1

Bottomfish Catch in Metric Tons in Alaska, Jan.-Dec. 1978

1978	Black Cod Sablefish	Pollock	Flounder	Gray Cod Pacific Cod	Rockfish	Sculpin	Skates	General Groundfish	Others	Ling Cod	Sole	Red Snapper	Eels	Total
Jan.	-	153.2	44.3	2.4	.2	-	-	5.5	1.1	-	-	-	-	206.7
Feb.	-	175.8	7.7	5.6	-	2.4	-	7.5	-	-	-	-	-	199.0
Mar.	2.9	352.5	42.8	46.3	.2	5.6	-	9.7	1.9	-	-	-	-	461.9
Apr.	121.0	174.6	19.8	116.6	1.9	.5	.5	3.9	-	.1	-	-	-	439.0
May	141.5	144.8	6.3	105.3	18.3	-	-	5.3	.7	1.9	-	-	-	424.1
Jun.	175.8	-	-	34.7	2.5	1.8	-	5.0	-	1.3	-	-	-	221.0
Jul.	343.2	.4	T	60.0	23.1	4.7	.4	3.7	2.3	8.2	-	T	.4	422.0
Aug.	134.8	32.9	-	86.6	10.9	.2	-	.6	.1	3.8	10.6	.3	-	281.0
Sep.	178.6	9.0	86.3	95.2	9.2	.9	.4	17.4	-	.7	8.1	-	T	405.7
Oct.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nov.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1097.7	1043.1	207.2	552.7	67.3	16.2	1.3	58.8	6.2	15.9	18.7	.4	.4	3085.9

T = Less than .1 metric tons

Prepared by: Extended Jurisdiction Section  
Division of Commercial Fisheries  
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

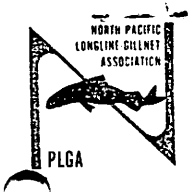
SABLEFISH - GULF OF ALASKA

	<u>1970 vs 1976 Prelim (FMP)</u>			<u>1970 vs 1976 final</u>			<u>1970 vs 1977</u>		
	<u>1970</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>Change</u>
LL Catch	20,486			20,486	17,959		20,486	13,415	
LL Effort	82,422			82,422	96,538		82,422	96,488	
	0.2486	0.1962 <sup>1/</sup>	-21.1%	0.2486	0.1860	-25.2%	0.2486	0.1390	-44.1%
MSY	22,000 - 25,000			22,000 - 25,000			22,000 - 25,000		
EY	.789 X MSY = 17,400 - 19,800			.748 X MSY = 16,456 - 18,700			.559 X MSY = 12,298 - 13,975		
ABC	17,400			16,456			12,298		
OY	13,000 (ie, 75% of ABC)			.75 X ABC - 12,342			.75 X ABC = 9,224		

OY Apportionment Among Areas

<u>Area</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>OY</u>
Shumagin	15.9	1,467
Chirikof	10.9	1,005
Kodiak	18.2	1,679
Yakutat	26.8	2,472
Southeast	28.2	2,601
Total Gulf		9,224

<sup>1/</sup> Calculated on basis of Japanese assertion that 1976 CPUE was 12% greater than that of 1975 (which was 0.1752).



Agenda #15  
Nov. 2-3, '78

# HOKUYO HAENAWA SASHIMI KYOKAI

NORTH PACIFIC LONGLINE-GILLNET ASSOCIATION

CABLE ADDRESS:  
"HAENAWAKYOKAI" TOKYO  
TELEX: 232-2620 NPLA J.

ADDRESS: ZENKEIREN BLDG.  
2-7-2, HIRAKAWACHO,  
CHIYODA-KU, TOKYO JAPAN.  
PHONE: 264-5671

October 30, 1978

Clement Tillion, Chairman  
North Pacific Fishery  
Management Council  
Post Office Box 3136DT  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Mr. Tillion:

At the October 26 meeting of the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee in Seattle, Washington, Mr. Bert Larkins informed the Committee concerning the 1977 sablefish catch and fishing effort information from the Japanese longline fleet. Mr. Larkins told the Committee that he was concerned that a declining catch per unit of effort statistic indicated that the sablefish stocks of the Gulf of Alaska area had declined.

We share Mr. Larkins' concern for the resource and we will conduct a prompt review of the preliminary information provided by Mr. Larkins. Further, we will discuss the implications of the data with Japanese scientists and we will endeavor to obtain such other relevant information as bears on the question of the state of the resource.

We request that the Council take no action at the upcoming meeting pending the completion of our review and response. In the interim, Mr. Larkins indicated at the Committee meeting in Seattle that measures were available to protect the sablefish stocks in the near future short of final Council action at the November 2 and 3 meeting.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

NORTH PACIFIC LONGLINE-  
GILLNET ASSOCIATION

H. Nakamura  
Vice Chairman

Summary of Statement

to be

Made by Mr. H. Nakamura  
Vice Chairman of  
North Pacific Longline-Gillnet Ass. (Japan)  
at Public Hearing  
on  
November 2nd, 1978  
at Anchorage, Alaska, USA

At the October 26 meeting of the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee in Seattle, Washington, Mr. Bert Larkins informed the Committee concerning the 1977 sablefish catch and fishing effort information from the Japanese longline fleet. Mr. Larkins told the Committee that he was concerned that a declining catch per unit of effort statistic indicated that the sablefish stocks of the Gulf of Alaska area had declined.

We share Mr. Larkins' concern for the resource and we will conduct a prompt review of the preliminary information provided by Mr. Larkins. Further, we will discuss the implications of the data with Japanese scientists and we will endeavor to obtain such other relevant information as bears on the question of the state of the resource.

We request that the Council take no action at this upcoming meeting pending the completion of our review and response. In the interim, Mr. Larkins indicated at the Committee meeting in Seattle that measures were available to protect the sablefish stocks in the near future short of final Council action at the November 2 and 3 meeting.

While it is not in the least our intention to delay the implementation of FMP for GOA Groundfish, we should like to mention a few points which would be of vital and unique problems to the members of the association, for the Council's consideration and action at a later and more appropriate time.

1. Relaxation of 500M depth restriction to 400M for sablefish directed fishery in the Gulf of Alaska to allow them more flexibility in in operations. Our lawyer, Mr. Mundt, tells us he has completed drafting comments with documentation and the copies will arrive at the Council office tomorrow morning by 9:00 A.M.

2. Opening of Davidson Bank "as is now open" under PMP. We also intend to resubmit our previous request in this regard to the Council and SSC later on the basis of more adequate scientific evidence rather than policy consideration.

3. To keep the statistical sub-areas to a minimum i.e. three. While commending the use of Statistical Areas for statistics and management purposes, we should request this because of operational difficulty.

4. Expansion of Pacific Cod directed fishery areas to east of 157°W to 140°W landward of 500M in depth during off-season of US halibut and line fishery, for with this period restriction, as is now being demonstrated in our operations of the Pacific Cod Fishery in the waters



west of 157°W we believe practically no gear conflict with US fishermen will be anticipated in the waters between 157°W to 140°W.

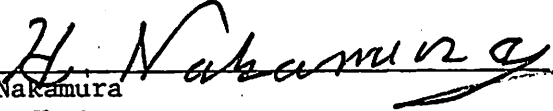
5. Specific Quota to Directed Fisheries (Sablefish and Pacific Cod)  
Finally, for our 1979 operation in the Gulf of Alaska, we request specific quota of sablefish to Japanese longliners which would eventually amount to (with later release of reserve, etc.) approximately 8,000 M.T.

With your kind consideration for 1978 fishing season which is now at its waning stage, we have ultimately received 7,810 mt of sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska alone, which we are certain of catching fully before the end of the season with everything geared to take approximately 1,000 mt per month in October and November.

And we further wish to request specific quota of Pacific Cod in 1979 for Pacific Cod directed fishery at 12,000 mt level, which would be made available to Japanese longliners.

In addition, we earnestly wish that the Council not give up management of a foreign fisheries in the US FCZ. In our opinion, the concept of directed fishery of Sablefish and Pacific Cod have been continually held in bilateral agreement between US and Japan since 1973 and therefore, the Council should continue to take up responsible management of these directed fisheries and specify quota to us. We feel this matter should not be turned over to a foreign government as internal responsibility within its nation.

Again, we wish to stress we are not suggesting the Council taking any action at this time which would in any way cause further delay in implementation of the GOA groundfish FMP., but since 1979 is coming soon we wanted to mention that these are the points we wish to be revised in the plan.

  
H. Nakamura  
Vice Chairman  
NPLG Ass. (Japan)