

**Council Motion  
Agenda Item C7 – Central Gulf of Alaska Rockfish Program Reauthorization  
December 8, 2019**

The Council adopts the following alternatives for public review. Staff should consider and address comments from the AP and the SSC to the extent practicable. The preliminary preferred alternative is shown in **bold**; new language is underlined, deleted language is shown in ~~strike-through~~.

No changes have been made to the Purpose and Need Statement.

**Alternatives:**

**Alternative 1: No Action**

Under the No Action alternative, the CGOA rockfish fisheries would revert to LLP management. Because the fishery would no longer be managed under a LAPP structure, the management regulations associated with a LAPP would also be removed.

**Alternative 2: Reauthorize the Rockfish Program (RP).**

**Reauthorize the RP with the existing management framework unless modified under this alternative.** Each element of Alternative 2, as proposed by the Council, is presented. Immediately following the Council's element for analysis is a brief discussion of the "context" of the provision. The context is not part of the Council's motion. It was provided by the analysts.

**Element 1: Modify regulations at 679.80(a)(2) to specify the duration of the program.**

**Option 1: Remove sunset date.**

Option 2: Replace with new sunset date (10-20 years).

**Element 2: ~~Consider options to~~ Reallocate unharvested RP Pacific cod from ~~onshore~~ RP cooperatives to fixed gear open access fisheries after the RP fisheries close on November 15. The Regional Administrator would consider a reallocation of the projected unused allocation first to the CV pot, jig, and hook-and-line sectors first, then to the combined CV and CP pot sectors, and then to all other CP sectors, taking into account the capability of a sector, as determined by the Regional Administrator, to harvest the reallocated Pacific Cod.**

**Element 3: Exempt vessels from crab program sideboard limits ~~for vessels~~ when fishing in the RP.**

**Element 4: Require annual NMFS cost recovery reports in regulations.**

**Element 5: Clarify regulations at § 679.5(r)(10) to specify that only shoreside processors receiving RP Cooperative Quota (CQ) must submit the Rockfish Ex-Vessel Volume and Value Report.**

**Element 6: Remove regulations in § 679.5(r)(6)(iii)(B) requiring that an annual RP cooperative report be submitted to NMFS. The Council may request that the RP**

**cooperatives voluntarily provide annual reports to the Council.** ~~Modify language in § 679.5(r)(6)(iii)(B) to require RP cooperatives to report catch by CGOA reporting area.~~

Element 7: Revise § 679.5(r)(6)(iii)(D) to replace “any actions” with “any civil actions”.

**Element 8: Revise § 679.81 (i)(D)(3) to remove requirements for a Fishing Plan to be submitted with a cooperative application for CQ.**

**Element 9: Revise § 679.84(f)(1) to exempt shoreside processors under the RP from the requirement to provide an observer work station and observer communication described at § 679.28(g)(7)(vii) and (viii).**

**Element 10: Allow NMFS to reallocate unused rockfish ICAs to the RP catcher vessel (CV) cooperatives to prevent exceeding the TACs in the CGOA.**

Suboption: With a preference to reallocate to CV cooperatives first.

**Element 11: Clarify regulations regarding accounting for inseason use caps to specify that any transfer of unused rockfish ICAs or CP CQ to CV cooperatives does not apply to CV ownership, cooperative, harvester CQ, or shoreside processor CQ use caps.** ~~Clarify regulations regarding accounting for inseason use caps when catcher/processor (CP) quota share (QS) is transferred for use by the CV sector.~~

**Element 12: Modify cooperative check-in times from 48 to 24 hours.**

**Element 13: Remove CP rockfish program sideboard limits in the WGOA rockfish fisheries in § 679.82(e)(4).**

**Element 14: Modify regulations at § 679.23(h)(1) by removing the 3-day stand down for CVs that fish for groundfish in the BSAI while pollock or Pacific cod is open to directed fishing in the BSAI from the GOA stand down if they check into the RP and fish in the CGOA RP.**