



# **D4 Amendment 80 Program Review**

December 2024 Council Meeting

## **Action Memo**

Council Staff: Taylor Holman  
Other Presenters: Jon McCracken (McCracken and Associates)  
Action Required: 1) Review Amendment 80 Program Review report  
2) Recommend any changes to document prior to finalization  
3) Consider any additional action for the Amendment 80 Program (under this agenda item or E Staff Tasking agenda item)

## **BACKGROUND**

The Amendment 80 (AM80) Program, implemented in the 2008 fishing year, is a Limited Access Privilege Program (LAPP) that requires a formal review every seven years as specified by Section 303A(c)(1)(G) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA). The document prepared serves as the program review that meets this MSA requirement. The document also serves as the Allocation Review required under National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries Allocation Policy Directive 01-119, established in 2016 along with two associated Procedural Directives.

Program Reviews are intended to objectively measure the success of the program by addressing issues raised in the LAPP’s problem statement and the standards set forth in the MSA, including the impact of this action on harvesting and processing sectors, and fishery dependent communities. This 7-year review will assess whether the program is continuing to meet the Council’s original goals and, if not, highlight those program areas that appear to diverge from those goals.

The AM80 Program Review document was initially posted on November 15, 2024, and then a revised version was published to the eAgenda on November 20, 2024. The revised document corrects data errors that had been in Section 2 (AM80 Allocation, Harvest, Revenue, and Participation) and Section 5 (Bycatch of Halibut and Crab in the AM80 Program), as well as providing some additional minor clarifications throughout the document. A section on trade information was also removed as the content did not distinguish AM80 harvest exports. The revised document was published on the NPFMC eAgenda on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **Development of Scope of Program Review**

The SSC, AP, and Council reviewed and approved a workplan for this Program Review in October 2022. Section 10 of the document addresses the following additional requests that were made at that time. The Council requested that staff provide information on revenues by communities from the harvest of CDQ allocations of AM80 species. Analysts were also asked to provide deeper consideration, to the extent practicable, of the evolving ownership positions of CDQ groups when capturing information regarding the ownership of active vessels. Additional requests stemming from the workplan review include

providing a description of the Alaska community engagement footprint of the fleet, and an estimation of the share of community tax revenue attributable to the AM80 fleet landings and product transfers.

Finally, during the June 2024 meeting, the Council, while reviewing the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Crab Rationalization Program Review, requested that all program reviews put key program elements in context with climate/environmental-related instability, highlighting potential adaptive and maladaptive features of the program.

### **Action Required/Next Steps**

At this meeting, public and the Council bodies may provide feedback on two items: the Program Review's completeness in evaluating AM80 Program impacts, as well as whether the AM80 Program continues to meet the Council's original goals. The Council's typical process for Program Reviews is illustrated in the figure below. Unless the Council specifically asks to review the document again, the AM80 Program Review will be finalized after incorporating any Council input from this meeting, and the final version of the review will be posted on the [Council website](#).

Secondly, the Council may consider whether to initiate any action based on the review of the report. A program review itself is not an "action document"; however, it provides a unique opportunity to consider the program holistically. Following review of this information and associated public testimony, any changes to the program that may be warranted could be initiated by the Council. This could occur through the initiation of a discussion paper, or if the action is defined enough to articulate a purpose and need statement and set of alternatives, through an analysis. The Council may initiate a proposal for action during this agenda item or during 'E Staff Tasking' agenda item, or at a subsequent meeting.

# NPFMC Program Reviews

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation & Management Act requires program reviews initially after the first 5 years and then every 7 years for all Limited Access Privilege Programs (LAPPs).

