The Council adopts Alternative 4 with Option 1 and sub-Option 3.3 as the preferred alternative.

The Council also amends the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area (FMP) to authorize the management measures that would be implemented under the preferred alternative. The FMP amendments will:

(1) add reference to the exemption from the License Limitation Program for catcher vessels greater than 32 ft LOA but less than or equal to 46 ft LOA using hook-and-line gear in the groundfish CDQ fisheries, and

(2) allow catcher vessels less than or equal to 46 ft LOA using hook-and-line gear in the groundfish CDQ fisheries to be in the partial observer coverage category.