


MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members

FROM: Clarence G. Pautzke
Executive Director 

DATE: September 16, 1993

SUBJECT: Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish Specifications for 1993

ESTIMATED TIME

4 HOURS
(for all D-3 items)

ACTION REQUIRED

- (c) Approve for public review the draft preliminary BSAI Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) report.
- (d) Adopt for public review proposed specifications for the following:
 - 1. Annual Total Allowable Catch (TAC), initial TAC (ITAC), and domestic annual processing (DAP);
 - 2. Division of the pollock ITAC into the January 1-April 15 ('A' Season) and August 15-December 31 ('B' Season) allowances;
 - 3. Amount of the pollock TAC that may be taken with bottom trawls;
 - 4. Seasonal apportionment of the fixed gear Pacific cod TAC; and
 - 5. Bycatch allowances, and seasonal apportionments of Pacific halibut, red king crab, Tanner crab, and herring to target fishery (PSC) categories.
- (e) Recommend Vessel Incentive Program (VIP) bycatch rate standards for the first two quarters of the 1994 GOA and BSAI trawl fisheries.

BACKGROUND

At this meeting, the Council begins the annual groundfish cycle in which it adopts for public review proposed specifications of groundfish amounts and bycatch allowances. The preliminary SAFE Report, groundfish specifications and bycatch allowances need to be adopted and made available for public review and comment. Twenty-five percent of the initial specifications will go forward as interim specifications for management of the 1994 groundfish fisheries until superseded by publication of the Council's final specifications. On the basis of comments and new information, the Council will adopt final recommendations for the 1993 fishing year at its December 1993 meeting.

SAFE Document

The Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish Plan Team met in Seattle on September 7-10 to prepare the draft preliminary 1993 Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) which was sent to you on September 14, 1993. This SAFE is preliminary in that: (1) the stock assessments do not include information from this summer's surveys and (2) the specifications set by the Council at this meeting will only go forth until the final SAFE and specifications are approved through federal rulemaking (February or March 1994).

Many individual species' stock assessments contained in the preliminary SAFE remain unchanged from the 1993 final SAFE. Detailed information from individual stock assessments with no changes from last year's final assessment can be referenced in the December 1992 SAFE. New or revised assessments were made for pollock, Pacific cod, Greenland turbot, and Atka mackerel.

Item D-3(c)(1) has Tables 6 - 8 from the SAFE summary chapter and provides information on the biomass, ABCs, overfishing levels and stock status compared to 1993. The Plan Team's sum of recommended ABCs for 1994 is 2.75 million mt (The Council recommended 2.48 million mt for 1993). The largest changes in ABC relative to last year are increases of 114,000 mt for pollock in the Bogoslof (Area 518), an increase of 18,500 mt for the P. cod ABC, and an increase of 11,800 mt in the Greenland turbot ABC, and an increase of 127,900 mt for the Atka mackerel ABC. Overall, the status of the stocks continues to appear relatively favorable.

Adopt Initial ABCs, TACs and Apportionments for 1994

Attached as Item D-3(d)(1) is a table indicating 1993 ABCs, TACs, and catch statistics (through September 4).

Adopt Seasonal Allowances for the Pollock Seasons

The FMP requires the Council to apportion pollock in the BSAI between the roe (January 1 - April 15) and non-roe (August 15 - December 31) seasons. For the 1991 and 1992 fisheries, the Council has recommended a 40/60 percent split between the roe and non-roe seasons. In December of last year, the Council recommended a 45/55 percent split for the 1993 pollock fishery.

In recommending seasonal allowances of the BSAI pollock TAC, the Council will need to consider the following factors:

1. Estimated monthly pollock catch and effort in prior years;
2. Expected changes in harvesting and processing capacity and associated pollock catch;
3. Current estimates of and expected changes in pollock biomass and stock conditions, conditions of marine mammal stocks, and biomass and stock conditions of species taken as bycatch in directed pollock fisheries;
4. Potential impacts of expected seasonal fishing for pollock on pollock stocks, marine mammal stocks, and stocks of species taken as bycatch in directed pollock fisheries;
5. The need to obtain fishery-related data during all or part of the year;

6. Effects on operating costs and gross revenues;
7. The need to spread fishing effort over the year, minimize gear conflicts, and allow participation by various elements of the groundfish fleet and other fisheries;
8. Potential allocative effects among users and indirect effects on coastal communities; and,
9. Other biological and socioeconomic information that affects the consistency of seasonal pollock harvests with the goals and objectives of the FMP.

Information on these factors is presented in Appendix D of the 1994 SAFE document.

Adopt Amounts Of Pollock That Could Be Taken With Bottom Trawls

To control the bycatch of crab and halibut, the Council implemented Amendment 16a, which provided for the apportionment of pollock to pelagic trawl gear (i.e., set a limit on the amount of pollock that can be taken in the bottom trawl pollock fishery). In approving this amendment for Secretarial Review in 1990, the Council adopted the 88%-12% split (midwater-bottom trawl) recommended by the Region. The actual percentages from the 1990 fishery were 89%-11%. For the 1991, 1992 and 1993 fisheries, the Council noted that additional pollock harvests with non-pelagic trawl gear likely would be constrained by halibut bycatch, and did not recommend a specific apportionment between pelagic and non pelagic gear.

If the Council chooses to limit the amount of pollock taken with bottom trawl gear, then regulations require that pollock allocations to non pelagic trawls be based on the following types of information:

1. Bycatch allowances of PSC species;
2. Projected bycatch of prohibited species that might occur with and without constraining amounts of pollock taken with non pelagic trawls; and
3. Costs of a limit in terms of amounts of pollock TAC that may be taken with bottom trawls on the non pelagic trawl fisheries.

Adopt Seasonal Apportionments of the Pacific Cod TAC Allocated to Fixed Gear

Assuming Amendment 24 is implemented by NMFS early in 1994, regulations will give the Council the authority to apportion seasonally the amount of the Pacific cod TAC allocated to vessels using hook-and-line or pot gear. Seasonal apportionments will be divided among trimesters and established through the annual specifications process.

In recommending seasonal apportionments, regulations will require the Council to base its decision on the following information:

1. Seasonal distribution of Pacific cod relative to PSC distribution;
2. Expected variations in PSC bycatch rates in the Pacific cod fishery throughout the fishing year; and

3. Economic effects of any seasonal apportionment of Pacific cod on the hook-and-line and pot gear fisheries.

Staff will have available information presented in the EA/RIR for Amendment 24 that can assist the Council in its consideration of these criteria.

Adopt proposed bycatch allowances of Pacific halibut, red king crab, Tanner crab (*C. bairdi*), and herring, and seasonal allowances

Halibut PSCs

For the Trawl Fisheries: Amendment 21 establishes a 3,775 mt limit on halibut mortality for trawl gear. This limit can be apportioned to the following trawl fishery categories:

1. Greenland turbot, arrowtooth flounder and sablefish;
2. rock sole and "other flatfish;"
3. yellowfin sole;
4. rockfish;
5. Pacific cod; and,
6. pollock, Atka mackerel and "other species."

For Fixed Gear Fisheries: A 900 mt non-trawl gear halibut mortality can be apportioned to the following fishery categories:

1. Pacific cod;
2. Other non-trawl (includes hook-and-line sablefish, rockfish and jig gear); and
3. Groundfish pot (recommended exempt for 1993).

Item D-3(d)(2) is a table indicating 1993 PSC allocations and seasonal apportionments for the trawl fisheries. Item D-3(d)(3) is a table indicating 1993 PSC allocations and seasonal apportionments for the trawl fisheries. Item D-3(d)(4) is a current summary of PSC bycatch accounting for the 1993 BSAI fisheries. Note that the Council eliminated the primary/secondary halibut cap this past year and replaced it with just one amount, 3,775 mt of halibut mortality, to be apportioned to the six fishery categories.

Crab PSCs

Overall crab PSC limits for the BS trawl fisheries adopted by the Council in Amendment 16 are:

C. bairdi:	1,000,000 crabs in Zone 1 for a Zone 1 closure
	3,000,000 crabs in Zone 2 for a Zone 2 closure
Red king crab	200,000 crabs in Zone 1 for a Zone 1 closure

Zone 1 is comprised of Areas 511, 512, and 516. Zone 2 is comprised of Areas 513, 517 and 521.

Herring PSCs

Amendment 16a established an overall herring PSC bycatch cap of 1 percent of the EBS biomass of herring. This cap is to be apportioned to the same six PSC fishery categories listed above, plus a seventh group, mid-water pollock (see Item D-3(d)(4)). The Alaska Department of Fish and Game will provide the Council with 1993 biomass estimates from their 1993 forecast at this meeting.

The Council may also seasonally apportion the bycatch allowances. Regulations require that seasonal apportionments of bycatch allowances be based on the following types of information:

1. Seasonal distribution of prohibited species;
2. Seasonal distribution of target groundfish species relative to prohibited species distribution;
3. Expected prohibited species bycatch needs on a seasonal basis relevant to change in prohibited species biomass and expected catches of target groundfish species;
4. Expected variations in bycatch rates throughout the fishing year;
5. Expected changes in directed groundfish fishing seasons;
6. Expected start of fishing efforts; and
7. Economic effects of establishing seasonal prohibited species apportionments on segments of the target groundfish industry.

Information on these factors is presented in Appendices C and E in the BSAI SAFE.

Staff will present a worksheet with SSC and AP recommendations for ABCs, TACs, PSC and seasonal apportionments when the Council addresses this Action Item. This will assist in recommending the 1994 preliminary specifications.

Bycatch rate standards for the Vessel Incentive Program (VIP)

The VIP for halibut and crab PSCs includes all trawl fisheries in both the BSAI and GOA. The grouping for VIP fishery categories, are as follows:

BSAI

<u>Fishery</u>	<u>PSC Species</u>
Midwater Pollock	Halibut (as a % of groundfish catch)
Bottom Pollock	Halibut
Yellowfin Sole	Halibut Red king crab (number of crab per ton groundfish catch)
Other Trawl	Halibut Red king crab

GOA

<u>Fishery</u>	<u>PSC Species</u>
Midwater Pollock	Halibut
Other Trawl	Halibut

Note that regulations specify that the vessel incentive program for the midwater pollock fishery becomes effective after the directed fishery for pollock by trawl vessels using non-pelagic trawl gear is closed.

Item D-3(d)(5) is a table presenting the Council's 1993 VIP rate standards recommendations. At this meeting, NMFS will provide bycatch rates observed during the past two years for these fishery categories. The Council will need to recommend to the Regional Director the bycatch rate standards for these categories for the first two quarters of the 1994 fishery.

Table 6-- Summary of stock abundance, overfishing constraints, and fishing mortality rates for the eastern Bering Sea (EBS), Aleutian Islands (AI), and Bogoslof district (518) in 1994. Biomass and catch are in metric tons.

Species	Area	Biomass ^a	C _{OF} ^b	F _{OF} ^c	F _{ABC} ^d
Walleye pollock	EBS	6,780,000*	1,340,000	0.37	0.37
	AI	196,000	62,600	0.45	0.42
	518	600,000	180,000	0.40	0.33
Pacific cod		877,000	267,000	0.55	0.35
Yellowfin sole		2,500,000	275,000	0.12	0.11
Greenland turbot		185,000	26,100	0.32	0.26
Arrowtooth flounder		480,000	96,000	0.25	0.18
Rock sole		1,550,000	270,000	0.21	0.14
Other flatfishes		1,250,000	228,000	0.22 _f	0.18 _f
Sablefish	EBS	13,400	2,000	0.17	0.12
	AI	23,600	3,400	0.17	0.12
POP complex					
True POP	EBS	59,700	3,750	0.07	0.06
Others ^g	EBS	29,700	1,400	0.05 _f	0.05 _f
True POP	AI	260,000	16,800	0.07	0.06
Sharp/Northern ^h	AI	94,500	5,670	0.06	0.06
Short/Rougheye ⁱ	AI	45,000	1,220	0.03	0.03
Other rockfish	EBS	8,000	400	0.05	0.05
	AI	18,500	925	0.05	0.05
Atka mackerel		816,000	484,000	0.88	0.37
Squid		n/a ^j	3,400	n/a ^j	n/a ^j
Other species		780,000	156,000	0.20	0.04

- a. Projected exploitable biomass for January, 1993.
- b. Maximum 1993 catch level allowable under overfishing definition.
- c. Maximum fishing mortality rate allowable under overfishing definition.
- d. Fishing mortality rate corresponding to acceptable biological catch.
- e. E_{MSY} for walleye pollock is 6,000,000 t.
- f. Weighted average of species-specific rates.
- g. Sharpchin, northern, shortraker, and rougheye rockfish.
- h. Sharpchin and northern rockfish
- i. Shortraker and rougheye rockfish.
- k. Not available.

Table 7-- Estimates of initial maximum sustainable yield (MSY) and acceptable biological catch (ABC) for 1993 and 1994 for groundfish in the eastern Bering Sea (EBS), Aleutian Islands (AI), and Bogoslof district (518). Where current MSY estimates encompass a range of values, the midpoint has been listed. Figures are in metric tons. Column totals are reported to three significant digits.

Species	Area	MSY ^a	ABC(1993)	ABC(1994)
Walleye pollock	EBS	1,880,000	1,340,000	1,340,000
	AI	145,000	58,700	58,700
	518	n/a ^b	42,000	156,000
Pacific cod		n/a ^b	164,500	183,000
Yellowfin sole		268,000	238,000	238,000
Greenland turbot		n/a ^b	7,000	18,800
Arrowtooth flounder		62,800	72,000	72,000
Rock sole		184,000	185,000	185,000
Other flatfish		151,000	191,000	191,000
Sablefish	EBS	4,800	1,500	1,500
	AI	6,100	2,600	2,600
POP complex				
True POP	EBS	n/a ^b	3,330	3,330
Others ^c	EBS	n/a ^b	1,400	1,400
True POP	AI	n/a ^b	13,900	13,900
Sharp/Northern ^d	AI	n/a ^b	5,670	5,670
Short/Rougheye ^e	AI	n/a ^b	1,220	1,220
Other rockfish	EBS	n/a ^b	400	400
	AI	n/a ^b	925	925
Atka mackerel ^f		n/a ^b	117,100	245,000
Squid		10,000	3,400	3,400
Other species		62,900	26,600	26,600
Groundfish complex		2,800,000	2,476,245	2,748,445

- a. Maximum sustainable yield (note: numbers in this column correspond to MSY estimates given by chapter authors, and may or may not be endorsed by the Plan Team).
- b. Not available.
- c. Sharpchin, northern, shortraker, and rougheye rockfish.
- d. Sharpchin and northern rockfish.
- e. Shortraker and rougheye rockfish.
- f. The Plan Team recommends dividing the Atka mackerel ABC among four quadrants, as described in the text.

Table 8-- Summary of stock biomass, harvest strategy, 1994 acceptable biological catch (ABC), and stock condition for groundfish in the eastern Bering Sea (EBS), Aleutian Islands (AI), and Bogoslof district (518). Biomass and ABC are in metric tons.

Species	Area	Biomass ^a	Rate ^b	ABC	Relative abundance, trend
Walleye pollock	EBS	6,780,000	F_{MSY}	1,340,000	Average, stable
	AI	196,000	F_{35A}	58,700	Average (?), stable (?)
	518	600,000	F_{35A}	156,000	Low, stable
Pacific cod		877,000	$F=M$	183,000	Average, stable
Yellowfin sole		2,500,000	F_{35A}	238,000	High, stable
Greenland turbot		185,000	F_{35A}	18,000	Low, declining
Arrowtooth flounder		480,000	F_{35A}	72,000	High, stable
Rock sole		1,550,000	F_{35A}	185,000	High, stable
Other flatfish		1,250,000	F_{35A}^c	191,000	High, stable
Sablefish	EBS	13,400	F_{35A}^d	1,500	Low, declining
	AI	23,600	F_{35A}^d	2,600	Average, declining
POP complex					
True POP	EBS	59,700	F_{35A}	3,330	Average, stable
Others ^e	EBS	29,700	$F=M^f$	1,440	Not available
True POP	AI	260,000	F_{35A}	13,900	Average, stable
Sharp/Northern ^f	AI	94,500	$F=M^f$	5,670	Not available
Short/Rougheye ^g	AI	45,000	$F=M^f$	1,220	Not available
r rockfish	EBS	8,000	$F=M$	400	Average, stable
	AI	18,500	$F=M$	925	Average, stable
ka mackerel		816,000	$F=M^h$	245,000	High, stable
id		n/a ^j	F_{his}^j	3,400	Not available
Other species		780,000	$F=M$	26,600	High, increasing
Groundfish complex				2,747,645	High, stable

- Projected exploitable biomass for January, 1994.
- Harvest strategy used to compute ABC.
- Weighted average of species-specific rates.
- Sablefish F_{35A} scaled by ratio of projected biomass to B_{35A} .
- Sharpchin, northern, shortraker, and rougheye rockfish.
- Sharpchin and northern rockfish.
- Shortraker and rougheye rockfish.
- Ratio of catch to start-of-year biomass equals M (0.3); corresponding F is actually somewhat higher (about 0.37).
- Not available.
- Fishing mortality rate corresponding to the historic average catch.

**COUNCIL RECOMMENDED 1993 ABCs, TACs and SEASONAL APPORTIONMENTS
BERING SEA/ALEUTIAN ISLANDS GROUND FISH**

Species	Area	Seasons	ABC 1993	TAC	ITAC	CDQ	Catch as of 9/4/93
Pollock	EBS	Roe	1,340,000	1,300,000	1,105,000	97,500	886,541
		Non-Roe		45%	497,250	43,875	
	AI		58,700	51,600	43,860	3,870	49,546
	518		42,000	1,000	850	75	893
Pacific cod	BS/AI		164,500	164,500	139,825	0	158,335
Yellowfin sole	BS/AI		238,000	220,000	187,000	0	58,114
Greenland turbot	BS/AI		7,000	7,000	5,950	0	8,054
Arrowtooth flounder	BS/AI		72,000	10,000	8,500	0	9,014
Rock sole	BS/AI		185,000	75,000	63,750	0	62,641
Other flatfish	BS/AI		191,000	79,000	67,150	0	23,238
Sablefish	EBS		1,500	1,500	1,275	0	546
	AI		2,600	2,600	2,210	0	1,786
POP complex					0	0	
True POP	EBS		3,330	3,330	2,831	0	3,735
Other POP complex	EBS		1,400	1,200	1,020	0	639
True POP	AI		13,900	13,900	11,815	0	12,791
Sharp/Northern	AI		5,670	5,100	4,335	0	2,125
Short/Rougheye	AI		1,220	1,100	935	0	1,135
Other rockfish	EBS		400	360	306	0	202
	AI		925	830	706	0	453
Atka mackerel			117,100	32,000	27,200		38,430
	Eastern						8,669
	Central Western					0	0
Squid	- BS/AI		3,400	2,000	1,700	0	508
Other species	BS/AI		26,600	26,600	22,610	0	21,619
BS/AI TOTAL			2,476,245	1,998,620	1,698,827	101,445	1,349,014

Council Recommended 1993 BSAI Trawl Fisheries PSC Apportionments & Seasonal Allowances

Fishery Group	Assumed Mortality\1	Halibut, Secondary Mortality Cap (mt)		Halibut, Primary Mortality Cap		Herring (mt)	Red King Crab Zone1	C. baird Zone1	C. bairdi Zone2
Yellowfin sole May 1 - Aug. 2 Aug. 3 - Dec. 31	70%	592	230 362	518	201 317	359	40,000	175,000	1,225,000
Rocksole/other flatfish Jan. 1 - Mar. 29 Mar. 30 - June 28 June 29 - Dec. 31	70%	588	427 80 80	514	373 70 70		80,000	475,000	200,000
Turbot/arrowtooth/sablefish Jan. 1 - June 28 June 29 - Dec. 31	40%	137	0 137	120	0 120				
Rockfish Jan. 1 - Mar. 29 Mar. 30 - June 28 June 29 - Dec. 31	60%	201	0 81 120	176	0 70 105	9			25,000
Pacific cod Jan. 1 - June 28	60%	1,000	1,000	874	874	27	40,000	175,000	400,000
Pollock/mackerel/"o. species" Jan. 1 - April 15 April 16 - May 31 June 1 - Dec. 31	60%	1,257	314 943	1,099	274 824	193	40,000	175,000	1,150,000
7 MW Pollock (Herring)						1,534			
TOTAL		3,775		3,300		2,122	200,000	1,000,000	3,000,000

\1 Mortality rates based on IPHC assumed mortality rates for 1993.

\2 Primary halibut cap closes Zones 1 and 2H (Areas 511, 512, 516 and 517).

Council Recommended Preliminary 1993 BSAI Non-Trawl
 PSC Bycatch Allowances (December 1992)

Fishery Group	Halibut Mortality Seasonal Apportion		
	(mt)	%	(mt)
Pacific Cod	825	none	
Other Non-Trawl*	75	none	
Groundfish Pot	Exempt		
TOTAL	900		

* Includes Hook & Line Sable Fish, Rock fish and Jig

1994 Non-Trawl PSC Bycatch Allowances

Fishery Group	Halibut Mortality Seasonal Apportion		
	(mt)	%	(mt)
Pacific Cod Jan 1 - May 14 May 15 - August 31 Sept. 1 - Dec. 31			
Other Non-Trawl*			
Groundfish Pot	Exempt		
TOTAL	0		

* Includes Hook & Line Sable Fish, Rock fish and Jig

NMFS/AKR 1993 BERING SEA/ALEUTIAN ISLANDS FISHERIES
 09/10/93 PROHIBITED SPECIES BYCATCH MORTALITY
 based on amendment 21 specifications
 Week Ending: 09/04/93

TRAWL HERRING, BSAI

Fishery group	Herring (mt)	Cap (mt)	% taken
Pacific cod	23	27	84.5%
Yellowfin sole	231	359	64.5%
Midwater pollock	307	1534	20.0%
Other	3	193	1.6%
Rockfish	0	9	0.1%

TRAWL SALMON, BSAI

Fishery group	Chinook (#'s)	Other (#'s)
Midwater pollock	17936	90438
Pacific cod	6299	39
Rock sole/Other flatfish	100	557
Yellowfin sole	420	224
Other	3660	1803
Rockfish	1121	0

TRAWL BAIRDI TANNER CRAB

Fishery group	ZONE 1			ZONE 2		
	Crabs (#'s)	Cap (#'s)	%	Crabs (#'s)	Cap (#'s)	%
Pacific cod	51382	175000	29.4%	64092	398667	16.1%
Rock sole/Other flatfish	330690	475000	69.6%	202738	199333	101.7%
Yellowfin sole	52798	175000	30.2%	166326	1220916	13.6%
PLCK/AMCK/OTHER	492493	175000	281.4%	1174441	1146167	102.5%
Rockfish	162	0	0.0%	449	24917	1.8%
GTRB/ARTH/SABL	0	0	0.0%	0	10000	0.0%

TRAWL RED KING CRAB

Fishery group	ZONE 1		
	Crabs (#'s)	Cap (#'s)	%
Pacific cod	472	40000	1.2%
Rock sole/Other flatfish	134350	80000	167.9%
Yellowfin sole	8855	40000	22.1%
PLCK/AMCK/OTHER	43466	40000	108.7%

NMFS/AKR
09/10/93

1993 BERING SEA / ALEUTIAN ISLANDS FISHERIES
TRAWL HALIBUT BYCATCH MORTALITY (METRIC TONS)

WED	PACIFIC COD	YELLOWFIN SOLE	ROCK SOLE OTHER FLATFISH	PLCK/AMCK/ OTHER	ROCKFISH	SABLEFISH/ TURBOT
01/02/93	0	0	0	1	0	0
01/09/93	0	0	0	0	0	0
01/23/93	14	0	24	120	0	0
01/30/93	20	0	100	144	0	0
02/06/93	33	0	84	154	0	0
02/13/93	46	0	109	132	0	0
02/20/93	13	0	60	152	0	0
02/27/93	38	0	13	33	0	0
03/06/93	29	0	1	50	2	0
03/13/93	48	0	0	50	0	0
03/20/93	85	0	3	29	0	0
03/27/93	81	0	0	35	0	0
04/03/93	139	0	0	0	0	0
04/10/93	164	0	0	0	22	0
04/17/93	145	0	0	0	32	0
04/24/93	130	0	1	1	33	0
05/01/93	95	0	16	1	11	0
05/08/93	0	8	20	2	4	0
05/15/93	0	9	12	0	0	0
05/22/93	0	24	20	0	0	0
05/29/93	0	76	4	0	0	0
06/05/93	0	115	0	0	0	0
06/12/93	0	110	3	0	0	0
06/19/93	0	71	4	0	0	0
06/26/93	0	20	3	0	0	0
07/03/93	0	0	4	0	0	0
07/10/93	0	0	6	2	0	0
07/17/93	0	0	5	0	0	0
07/24/93	0	0	6	0	0	0
07/31/93	0	0	6	1	0	0
08/07/93	0	17	4	1	0	0
08/14/93	0	2	11	0	3	0
08/21/93	0	4	3	8	0	0
08/28/93	0	4	11	7	0	0
09/04/93	0	2	3	4	0	0
TOTAL TO DATE:	1080	461	535	926	106	0
SEASONAL CAP:	1000	592	588	1257	201	137
% OF CAP:	108%	78%	91%	74%	53%	0%

NMFS/AKR
09/10/93

1993 BERING SEA / ALEUTIAN ISLANDS FISHERIES
FIXED GEAR HALIBUT BYCATCH MORTALITY (METRIC TONS)

WEEK	PACIFIC COD HOOK & LINE			OTHER HOOK & LINE ALL POT AND JIG		
	OBS'D	UNOBS'D	TOTAL	OBS'D	UNOBS'D	TOTAL
01/02/93	3	0	3	0	0	0
01/09/93	14	1	19	0	0	0
01/16/93	10	2	31	0	1	1
01/23/93	10	3	44	0	0	1
01/30/93	10	1	55	0	0	1
02/06/93	11	1	67	0	1	2
02/13/93	16	1	84	0	1	4
02/20/93	16	1	101	0	1	5
02/27/93	23	1	124	1	2	8
03/06/93	18	0	143	1	4	13
03/13/93	21	2	167	1	2	16
03/20/93	31	1	198	1	1	17
03/27/93	29	1	228	1	0	18
04/03/93	16	3	247	4	0	23
04/10/93	27	2	277	3	0	26
04/17/93	21	1	298	2	1	29
04/24/93	16	2	316	1	1	32
05/01/93	36	5	357	0	2	34
05/08/93	32	4	393	9	4	47
05/15/93	7	0	400	5	6	58
05/22/93	0	0	400	4	0	62
05/29/93	0	0	400	4	1	67
06/05/93	0	0	400	10	1	78
06/12/93	0	0	400	12	6	95
06/19/93	0	0	400	10	5	111
06/26/93	0	0	400	6	5	122
07/03/93	0	0	400	2	3	126
07/10/93	0	0	400	0	1	128
07/17/93	0	0	400	0	1	128
07/24/93	0	0	400	0	0	129
07/31/93	0	0	400	0	0	129
08/07/93	0	0	400	0	1	130
08/14/93	0	0	400	0	0	130
08/21/93	0	0	400	0	0	130
08/28/93	0	0	400	0	0	130
09/04/93	0	0	400	0	0	130
CURRENT SEASONAL CAP:		680		CURRENT SEASONAL CAP:		220
& OF SEASONAL CAP:		59%		& OF SEASONAL CAP:		59%

Council Recommendations for 1993 VIP Rate Standards

Incentive Program Rate Standards

Fishery and quarter	Halibut	Zone 1 Red King Crab
	(kg halibut/mt groundfish)	(# of crab/mt groundfish)
<u>BSAI Midwater Pollock</u>		
First Quarter	1.0	n/a
Second Quarter	1.0	
<u>BSAI Bottom Pollock</u>		
First Quarter	7.5	
Second Quarter	5.0	
<u>BSAI Yellowfin Sole</u>		
First Quarter	5.0	2.5/mt
Second Quarter	5.0	2.5/mt
<u>BSAI Other Trawl Fisheries</u>		
First Quarter	30.0	2.5/mt
Second Quarter	30.0	2.5/mt
<u>GOA Midwater Pollock</u>		
First Quarter	1.0	n/a
Second Quarter	1.0	
<u>GOA Other Trawl Fisheries</u>		
First Quarter	50.0	n/a
Second Quarter	50.0	

final

**INITIAL 1994 BERING SEA/ALEUTIAN ISLANDS GROUND FISH TAC AND ABC SPECIFICATIONS
Council Recommended Initial BSAI Groundfish ABCs and TACs for 1994 (mt)**

Species	Area	Council		Plan Team	Seasonal		Council	ITAC	CDQ
		ABC 1993	TAC 1993	ABC 1994	ABC 1994	Allowance	TAC 1994		
Pollock	EBS	1,340,000	1,300,000	1,340,000	1,340,000		1,300,000	1,105,000	97,500
	Roe					45% of ITAC		497,250	43,875
	Non-Roe					55% of ITAC		607,750	53,625
	AI	58,700	51,600	58,700	58,700		51,600	43,860	3,870
	518	42,000	1,000	156,000	32,000		1,000	850	75
								0	
Pacific cod	BS/AI	164,500	164,500	183,000	183,000		183,000	155,550	0
Yellowfin sole	BS/AI	238,000	220,000	238,000	238,000		193,075	164,114	0
Greenland turbot	BS/AI	7,000	7,000	18,800	7,000		7,000	5,950	0
Arrowtooth flounder	BS/AI	72,000	10,000	72,000	72,000		10,000	8,500	0
Rock sole	BS/AI	185,000	75,000	185,000	185,000		75,000	63,750	0
Other flatfish	BS/AI	191,000	79,000	191,000	191,000		79,000	67,150	0
Sablefish	EBS	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500		1,500	1,275	0
	AI	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600		2,600	2,210	0
POP complex								0	
True POP	EBS	3,330	3,330	3,330	3,330		3,330	2,831	0
Other POP complex	EBS	1,400	1,200	1,400	1,400		1,200	1,020	0
True POP	AI	13,900	13,900	13,900	13,900		13,900	11,815	0
Sharp/Northern	AI	5,670	5,100	5,670	5,670		5,100	4,335	0
Short/Rougheye	AI	1,220	1,100	1,220	1,220		1,100	935	0
Other rockfish	EBS	400	360	400	400		360	306	0
	AI	925	830	925	925		830	706	0
Atka mackerel	BS/AI	117,100	32,000	245,000	122,500		40,425	34,361	0
	W			109,000	53,900		13,475	11,454	0
	C			109,000	55,125		13,475	11,454	0
	E			27,000	13,475		13,475	11,454	0
Squid	BS/AI	3,400	2,000	3,400	3,400		2,000	1,700	0
Other species	BS/AI	26,600	26,600	26,600	26,600		26,600	22,610	0
BS/AI TOTAL		2,476,245	1,998,620	2,748,445	2,490,145		1,998,620	1,698,827	101,445

Notes:

Roe Season for Pollock: January 20 to April 15. Non-Roe season: August 15 to December 31.

ITAC = recommended TAC less the 15% reserve.

CDQs equal half the reserve for Pollock, or 7.5% of the BSAI Pollock TAC.

The Council did not divide the Aleutian Islands Pollock TAC into roe and non-roe allowances.

Flatfish fisheries open May 1 (YFS, "other flats", ATF and turbot).

**Council Recommended Initial 1994 BSAI Trawl Fisheries PSC Apportionments
And Seasonal Allowances**

Fishery Group	Assumed Mortality\1	Halibut Mortality Cap (mt)	Herring (mt)	Red King Crab (animals) Zone1	C. bairdi Zone1	C. bairdi Zone2
Yellowfin sole	70%	592	359	40,000	175,000	1,225,000
Rocksole/other flatfish	70%	588		110,000	475,000	200,000
Turbot/arrowtooth/sablefish	40%	137				
Rockfish	60%	201	9			25,000
Jan. 1 - Mar. 29			0			
Mar. 30 - June 28			81			
June 29 - Dec. 31			120			
Pacific cod	60%	1,000	27	10,000	175,000	400,000
Pollock/mackerel/"o. species"	60%	1,257	193	40,000	175,000	1,150,000
7 MW Pollock (Herring)			1,534			
TOTAL		3,775	2,122	200,000	1,000,000	3,000,000

\1 Mortality rates based on IPHC assumed mortality rates for 1993.

Council Recommended 1994 Non-Trawl PSC Bycatch Allowances

Fishery Group	Halibut Mortality (mt)	Seasonal Apportion (mt)	%
Pacific Cod	825		
Jan 1 - April 30		784	95
May 1 - August 31		41	5
Sept. 1 - Dec. 31		Rollover	
Other Non-Trawl*	75		
Groundfish Pot	Exempt		
TOTAL	900 metric tons		

* Includes Hook & Line Sable Fish, Rock fish and Jig

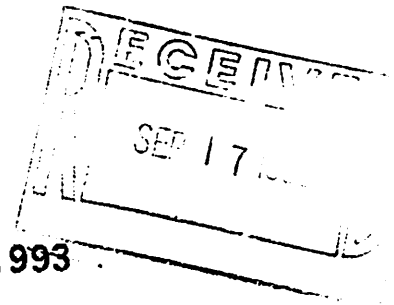
Council Recommendations for 1994 VIP Rate Standards

For the First Two Quarters

Incentive Program Rate Standards

Fishery and quarter	Halibut	Zone 1 Red King Crab
	(kg halibut/mt groundfish)	(# of crab/mt groundfish)
<u>BSAI Midwater Pollock</u>		
First Quarter	1.0	n/a
Second Quarter	1.0	
<u>BSAI Bottom Pollock</u>		
First Quarter	7.5	
Second Quarter	5.0	
<u>BSAI Yellowfin Sole</u>		
First Quarter	5.0	2.5/mt
Second Quarter	5.0	2.5/mt
<u>BSAI Other Trawl Fisheries</u>		
First Quarter	30.0	2.5/mt
Second Quarter	30.0	2.5/mt
<u>GOA Midwater Pollock</u>		
First Quarter	1.0	n/a
Second Quarter	1.0	
<u>GOA Other Trawl Fisheries</u>		
First Quarter	50.0 40	n/a
Second Quarter	50.0 40	

**PATRICK H. MCBRIDE
P. O. BOX 1857
HOMER, ALASKA 99603**



September 17, 1993

**RE: Agenda Item D-3-D
Establishment of Halibut Apportionment
for Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands**

Mr. Richard B. Lauber, Chairman
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
P. O. Box 103136
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Our company, Alaska Sablefish, Inc., representing the F/V JUDI B, a hook and line catcher/processor, has been a harvester of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands sablefish quota since 1985.

Last year we proposed a 75 mt bycatch for halibut toward other hook and line categories not realizing that the turbot fishery bycatch would have such an impact on the allocated bycatch.

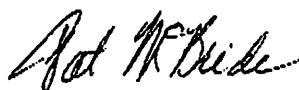
I must say the fisheries have worked out well in obtaining full utilization for all user groups and it appears that the sablefish fishery will reach its quota by November 1. The re-apportionment of 145 mt of halibut bycatch by Mr. Pennoyer during mid-season helped to make full utilization of the sablefish quota possible.

We fear that next year with the TAC of Pacific cod and turbot increasing that some consideration should be taken to change the allocation of the halibut bycatch to a 600/200 mt split between Pacific cod and other hook and line species. This would perhaps give all user groups a chance of full utilization in 1994.

Mr. Richard B. Lauber, Chairman
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September 17, 1993

I regret not being able to testify personally, but I will be on the grounds hoping you will value my suggestions and consider them favorably.

Yours very truly,



PAT MCBRIDE
Owner/Operator
F/V JUDI B