

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

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D4 BSAI Pacific Cod Pot C/P

October 2019 Council Meeting

Action Memo

Council Staff: Jon McCracken

Action Required: 1. Review Discussion Paper

2. Decide whether to initiate action

BACKGROUND

At the December 2018 meeting, the Council tasked staff to prepare a discussion paper to evaluate participation and effort in the Bering Sea Pacific cod catcher/processor (C/P) fishery in response to a potential need to limit entry and participation in the Pacific cod pot C/P sector. Pot C/P vessels fishing for Pacific cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands are required to have a License Limitation Program (LLP) license that is endorsed for fishing Pacific cod by gear type, operational type, and area. The discussion paper provides information on LLP licenses and their endorsements and the fishing activity of the licenses with Bering Sea Pacific cod pot C/P endorsements. Also included in the discussion paper is pot C/P activity in the BSAI Pacific cod fishery. The last section of the discussion paper provides a brief discussion on development of a purpose and need statement and different elements the Council may consider in addressing latent Bering Sea pot C/P endorsed LLP licenses.