

C-7 Halibut Abundance-based PSC limits

Examples for discussion paper consideration

Alternative A – Status quo

Alternative B – Establish annual halibut PSC limits for the BSAI groundfish fisheries using the following elements:

Element 1 - Indices of abundance

- Option 1. EBS trawl survey
- Option 2. EBS trawl survey U26 and IPHC O32 setline survey
- Option 3. EBS trawl survey, GOA trawl survey numbers and IPHC O32 setline survey
- Option 4. EBS trawl survey and IPHC SSB
- Option 5. Other combinations to be identified by WG/SSC

Element 2 – Responsiveness of PSC limit to indices (b)

- Option 1. $b = 1$ for all indices
- Option 2. b_k set such that all indices set to have same minimum variance
- Option 3. Other value

Element 3 - Maximum PSC limit (ceiling)

- Option 1. 2016 PSC limit (3,515 t)
- Option 2. 20% - 50% increase from 2016 PSC limit
- Option 3. Average of 2008 – 2016 PSC limit

Element 4 - Minimum PSC limit (floor)

- Option 1. No floor (PSC goes to 0)
- Option 2. 20% - 50% reduction from 2016 PSC limit
- Option 3. Average of 2014 - 2016 PSC use

Element 5 – Starting point for PSC limit (PSC_0)

- Option 1. 2016 PSC limit (3,515 t)
- Option 2. Average of 2008 - 2016 PSC limit
- Option 3. Average of 2008 - 2016 PSC use

Element 6 – Other considerations

- Option 1. Limit PSC change to some maximum percentage
- Option 2. Change PSC only every set number of years
- Option 3. Use rolling average of index values to smooth interannual variability