

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, Alaska 99802-1668

June 4, 2021

Agenda B-2: NMFS Management Report

Status of Actions Report Online

Updated daily at: https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/akro/amendments.pdf

Progress on Rulemaking

Highlights on progress since the April 2021 meeting include:

- <u>Final rule</u> to remove the processing restriction on incidentally caught squids and sculpins in the GOA and the BSAI published on May 10, 2021. Effective date: **June 9, 2021**.
- <u>Final Rule</u> to remove the Halibut IFQ vessel use caps in Area 4A, 4B, 4C, and 4D for the 2021 IFQ fishing year published on May 26, 2021. Effective date: **May 26, 2021**.
- Comment period for Amendment 14 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Salmon Fisheries in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) Off Alaska (Salmon FMP) ends on July 19, 2021. Comment period for the proposed rule to implement Amendment 14 to the Salmon FMP ends on July 6, 2021.
- Attachment 1 provides additional detail.

IFQ Transfers Emergency Rule

On March 30, 2021, in response to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council's recommendation, NMFS issued a temporary emergency rule to modify the temporary transfer provision of the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program for the fixed-gear commercial Pacific halibut and sablefish fisheries for the 2021 IFQ fishing year (<u>86 FR 16542</u>, March 30, 2021). Pursuant to NMFS' emergency rule authority found at MSA Sec. 305(c)(3)(B), the temporary rule is effective from March 30, 2021 through September 27, 2021, for a total of 180 days. The temporary rule allows any individual QS holder to transfer their associated IFQ in 2021 to an eligible person without having to meet one of the six special circumstances that constitute the existing exceptions to the owner onboard provision of the IFQ program.

NMFS accepted comments on this temporary rule through April 29, 2021. NMFS received no comments that address aspects of the temporary transfer provision implemented by this emergency rule. NMFS received one comment asserting that Area 2C should be included and that the same rules should apply equally to all IFQ stakeholders regardless of the IFQ area.



Under MSA Section 305(c)(3)(B), at the expiration of the 180 day effective period, emergency regulations may be extended for an additional 186 days provided the public had the opportunity to comment on the emergency regulations and for a Council recommendation, the Council is actively preparing a fishery management plan, plan amendment, or proposed regulations to address the emergency on a permanent basis.

NMFS requests the Council consider if it wishes to initiate action to prepare a regulatory amendment to address the temporary transfer provision of the IFQ Program on a permanent basis.

If the Council initiates action to address the temporary transfer provision of the IFQ program on a permanent basis, NMFS would consider comments received and any input from the Council in evaluating if these emergency regulations should be extended for up to an additional 186 days. Without extending the effective duration of this emergency rule, completed temporary transfer applications received on or before September 27, 2021 will be processed. All approved transfers and associated IFQ permits are valid for the duration of the calendar year.

The 2021 IFQ Fishing season closes on December 7, 2021. If this emergency rule is not extended, then any approved transfers would be valid through the remainder of the fishing year, but NMFS would not approve additional temporary transfer applications under the emergency rule regulations received after September 27, 2021.

Rulemaking to remove Pot Tags and Notary Requirement – Update

A draft RIR is posted under agenda item B-2. This draft RIR includes a description of the alternatives to remove the pot tag requirement in the GOA sablefish IFQ fishery as well as the requirement to obtain a notary certification on NMFS application forms. The analysis of impacts will be completed after consultation with the Council and NMFS will begin preparing the necessary documents to publish a proposed rule in the *Federal Register*.

Frequently Asked Questions - Sablefish IFQ with Longline Pot Gear in the GOA

The updated FAQ is available at: <u>https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/alaska/commercial-fishing/longline-pot-gear-gulf-alaska-ifq-sablefish-fishery-frequently-asked</u>. The FAQ is updated to add new question 8 which adds clarity regarding the Agency's interpretation of the requirement for a biodegradable panel when using collapsible tunnel-shaped pots.

Marine Mammal Authorization Certificates extended through 2021

In recognition of logistical challenges with certificate issuance related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the MMAP certificate issued in 2020 remains in effect, valid through December 31, 2021, for vessel or gear owners participating in all Category I and II fisheries as of the final 2021 List of Fisheries. 2020 certificates may be retained or replacements downloaded below. Vessel or gear owners participating in previous Category III fisheries reclassified as Category II fisheries in this final 2021 LOF can obtain their MMAP certificate below.

See the <u>MMAP website</u> for more information, including to print a replacement 2020 <u>certificate</u> and/or a blank <u>reporting form</u>, should you need to reprint them for the 2021 season.

See the 2021 List of Fisheries <u>summary table</u> or <u>FR Notice</u> for current year fishery category status. Of note for Alaska:

- **AK Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands Pacific cod pot fishery** was elevated from category III to category II and will now be required to carry MMAP certification onboard.
- **AK Bering Sea, Aleutian Island Pacific cod longline fishery** was downgraded from category II to category III and will no longer have the requirement to carry MMAP certification onboard.

Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) Consultations

Our current ongoing consultation that may be of interest to the Council is for a proposed project to mine gold in the Bonanza Channel and Tidal Lagoon, near Nome. The proposed project includes a suction dredge specifically designed for shallow water estuary dredging and gold recovery. We informed the Council of this project in the June 2020, October 2020, and April 2021 NMFS B Reports and in a presentation to the Ecosystem Committee in November 2020. We've provided comments to the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) multiple times since 2018 highlighting our concerns for potential project related impacts to fish and habitat and information needs associated with exploration activities.

The IPOP Bonanza Channel / Safety Sound Mine Project is in western Alaska, approximately 24 miles southeast of Nome. It will consist of three phases: exploratory drilling, case study, and full-scale mining. IPOP, the mining company, proposes to dredge and discharge 5 million cubic yards of spoils from at least 173 acres of estuarine and stream habitat over 5 years. The project has the potential to impact the marine tidal estuary, including submerged aquatic vegetation and transition zones that are important EFH for Council managed species. EFH in and adjacent to the action area includes all five species of Pacific salmon. EFH for red king crab and many groundfish species has been designated outside the lagoon in Norton Sound.

In April 2021, we received an EFH Assessment for the proposed mine and a USACE Public Notice of Application for Permit POA-2018-00123 to permit the case study and full-scale mining. The EFH assessment recognized that the project could have long term impacts to EFH. On May 20, 2021, we responded with a letter informing USACE that the EFH assessment was not complete and there was not enough information to understand impacts to EFH or offer conservation recommendations. We requested additional information and a revised EFH assessment. We also recommended IPOP conduct an environmental DNA (eDNA) survey to help determine species present in and around the action area.

Red King Crab EFP 2019-1 Final Report

The final report for an exempted fishing permit (EFP) issued to Mr. Cory Lescher and Dr. Bradley Harris (Alaska Pacific University) is posted under agenda item B-2.

This EFP authorized selected vessels participating in the 2019 Eastern Bering Sea bottom trawl catcher/processor sector to conduct experimental fishing to provide detailed information on aspects of trawl-bycaught red king crab (RKC) in the yellowfin and rock sole fisheries: an exploration of RKC catch estimation accuracy by comparison of census to observer subsampling and extrapolation and an examination of vitality metrics to predict delayed discard survival for RKC. This report includes 1) a summary of project objectives, initial exemptions requested, problems encountered, and improvised solutions; and 2) a full report on the single EFP objective carried out.

Staff Changes

Sustainable Fisheries

Amy Hadfield has moved into a new position in the Monitoring Branch of Sustainable Fisheries. In her new position, Amy will be focusing on electronic reporting (eLandings) as well as other Monitoring Branch activities.

Amy has provided excellent work as an administrative assistant for SF over the past two years. She graduated from Sheldon Jackson College in Sitka with a degree in Environmental Sciences. Amy has been engaged in commercial fishing in one way or another for most of her life. Prior to NMFS, she worked with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Amy has also worked on small fishing vessels throughout Southeast Alaska and in office positions in shoreside fish processing facilities.

Vacancy Announcement: NMFS Alaska Region, Sustainable Fisheries Division has issued vacancy announcements for a Fishery Management Specialist. The announcements are available in USAJobs and the application period closes on June 14, 2021.

The vacancy announcements are available at:

NMFS-AKR-2021-0022 (MAP):<u>https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/602557400</u> NMFS-AKR-2021-0023 (DE):<u>https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/602557300</u> Successful applicant(s) will have the opportunity to concentrate on fishery management issues pertaining to catch share programs, protected species, bycatch, ecosystem-based management, and other fishery conservation and management issues.

Restricted Access Management

Angel Leppert was recently hired as RAMs newest permit assistant and has been a phenomenal addition to the team. She is actually working out of our Anchorage field office and looks forward to providing outreach and education on our various permit programs to the fishing industry. RAM is also in the process of reviewing applicants for a Permit Assistant position in the Juneau office which has needed another PA to help with our increased workload.

Supervisory Program Analyst: NMFS/RAM Division recently advertised a vacancy announcement for a Supervisory Program Analyst that will close on June 7th.

	Changes			Status of Reg d in <mark>Bold Red</mark>		ions f Comment Peri	od	
Action Status	Lead Council, SF, and GCAK Staff	Date of Council Final Action	Start Regional Review	Received by GCAK	Transmitta l Date of Action to NMFS HQ for Review	Notice of Availability (FMP) Published in <i>Federal</i> <i>Register</i>	Proposed Rule Published in <i>Federal</i> <i>Register</i>	Final Rule or Notice of Approval Published in <i>Federal</i> <i>Register</i>
			FM	IP Amendmen	ts			
Amendment 14 (Salmon) Cook Inlet	Armstrong Duncan	December 2020	PR: 3/05/21	PR: 3/05/21	PR: 5/12/21	May 18, 2021 86 FR 26888 EOC:7/19/21	June 4, 2021 86 FR 29977 EOC: 7/6/21	
Amendment 51 (KTC), Amendment 17 (Scallop), and Amendment 15 (Salmon) Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology	Cleaver Mackey	February 2021	NOA: 4/28/21	NOA:4/29/21				
			Regul	atory Amendn	nents			
Squid and Sculpin Product Types	MacLean Mackey		PR: 11/16/20 FR: 04/01/21	PR:11/24/20 FR:4/05/21	PR: 12/22/20 FR: 4/20/21	N/A	Feb 26, 2021 86 FR 11716 EOC:3/29/21	FR: 5/10/21 86 FR 24746 Effective:6/9/21
Modify the 2021 Halibut Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Vessel Harvest Limitations in IFQ Regulatory Areas 4A-D	Jahn	February 2021	PR: 03/21/21 FR: 4/30/21	PR:3/22/21 FR:4/30/21	PR: 3/26/21 FR: 05/7/21	N/A	Apr 13, 2021 86 FR 19207 EOC:4/28/21	May 26, 2021 86 FR 28294 Effective:5/26/21

Attachment 2 -- Inseason Management Report

Catch during 2021 is through May 29, 2021 and is compared to catch during 2020 through May 30, 2020. All catch amounts are in metric tons. Additional information is available from <u>daily</u> catch reports and information bulletins.

Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands

Bering Sea Pollock

The 2021 Bering Sea pollock TAC is 1,375,000 mt compared to 1,425,000 mt in 2020. For 2021, NMFS reallocated 1,900 mt of CDQ pollock TAC and 12,600 mt of Aleut Corporation TAC from the Aleutian Islands to respective CDQ and non-CDQ pollock TACs in the Bering Sea. These reallocation are apportioned 45% to the A season and 55% to the B season. In 2021, no directed fishing for pollock has occurred in the Aleutian Islands.

The 2021 Bering Sea A season directed fishing allowance (DFA) is 22,250 mt lower than the 2020 DFA. The 2021 pollock started with low catch rates, but from the week ending March 13 to the week ending May 8, 2021 the 2021 weekly catch is higher than the weekly catch in 2020. Through May 29, 2021, the 2021 total AFA/CDQ catch is lower relative to 2020 by 27,519 mt.

The lower catch by sector is for the inshore sector at 15,135 mt, then the CP/CDQ sectors combined at 10,319 mt, and then the mothership sector at 2,066 mt.

For the 2021 A season, the CDQ sector ended the week ending April 3, the CP sector ended the week ending April 10, the mothership sector ended the week ending April 17, and the inshore sectors ended the week ending May 8, 2021. Some vessels in the inshore sector may start fishing on remaining A season TAC before June 10, 2021. The A season is open until June 10 at noon, and the B season begins at noon, June 10.

Bering Sea	2021 A season allocation ¹	2021 A season catch	Percent taken
Inshore	270,135	257,461	95%
СР	216,108	215,231	100%
Mothership	54,027	53,409	99%
CDQ	62,730	62,597	100%
Incidental catch	49,500	22,826	46%
Total	652,500	611,524	94%

¹Includes reallocations described above.

Salmon in the Bering Sea Pollock Fisheries

The 2021 Chinook salmon PSC limit is 45,000 Chinook salmon, and further allocated to each sector as specified in 50 CFR 679.21(f)(3)(iii)(A). In 2021 relative to 2020, total Chinook salmon PSC and rates are lower, and total non-Chinook salmon PSC and rates are lower.

Species	Chinook			Non-Chinook				
Year	202	21	2020		2021		2020	
Amount	#	Rate ¹	#	Rate ¹	#	Rate ¹	#	Rate ¹
CDQ	848	0.013	1,692	0.026	14	0.000	55	0.001
AFA	8,625	0.016	16,524	0.029	128	0.000	476	0.001
Total	9,473	0.016	18,216	0.029	142	0.000	531	0.001

¹Rate is number of salmon per metric tons of groundfish.

Herring in the BSAI

In 2021, BSAI herring PSC is 28% of the 2021 limit relative to 2020 when the herring limit was exceeded. As of May 29, 2021, the pollock fishery reported 22% of the BSAI PSC limit. Herring PSC is also accruing to fisheries with small PSC limits. The rock sole/flathead sole/other flatfish fishery is apportioned 2% and the yellowfin sole fishery is apportioned 4% of the herring PSC limit. NMFS is monitoring these fisheries and will issues closures to the Herring Savings Areas if the PSC limits are reached.

BSAI Pacific cod by Sector

The 2021 Pacific cod TAC is 111,830 mt in the Bering Sea and 13,796 mt in the Aleutian Islands compared to the 2020 Bering Sea TAC of 141,799 mt and Aleutian Islands TAC of 13,796 mt. The number of vessels participating in 2021 has decreased mostly due to the decrease in the TACs. In 2021, there has been some increased catch of Aleutian Islands non-CDQ Pacific cod to balance catch between the Bering Sea and the Aleutian Islands. In 2021, 15% of the Aleutian Islands non-CDQ TAC has been reported relative to 10% in 2020. In 2021 64% and in 2020 65% the Bering Sea non-CDQ TAC has been reported. The 2021 catch may be viewed <u>here</u>.

Pacific cod - AFA CPs

In 2021, NMFS closed the AFA CP sector to directed fishing for Pacific cod on January 20, and prohibited retention on March 15, 2021 when the annual allocation was reached. NMFS will take the sector's overage into consideration before Pacific cod reallocations to other sectors.

Pacific cod directed fishing - trawl CVs

The trawl CV sector voluntarily stood down from Pacific cod directed fishing until February 12, 2021. The stand down helped decrease halibut PSC relative to 2020 (-97 mt). Also for the A season, the trawl CV sector operated in a voluntary catch share agreement which decreased the A season Pacific cod catch rates relative to 2020. The B season opened April 1, to April 23, 2021, and the trawl CV sector operated in a voluntary catch share agreement. In 2021, the number of CVs participating in Pacific cod directed fishing were 51 CVs for the A season and 26 CVs for the B season.

		202	1			20	20	
BSAI Sector	A season allocation ^{1,3}	Catch May 29	A season closed	# of vessels May 29	A season allocation ^{1,3}	Catch May 30	A season closed	# of vessels May 30
CDQ ²	8,037	4,984	n/a	27	9,989	9,073	n/a	33
Hook-and-line CP	27,600	25,941	n/a	13	34,347	33,455	n/a	17
Pot CP	850	792	Jan 16	3	1,058	950	Jan 12	5
Pot CV >= 60 ft	4,761	4,531	Jan 21	21	5,924	5,272	Jan 15	38
Hook-and-line CV >= 60 ft	113	0	n/a	0	141	3	n/a	<3
Hook-and-line/Pot CVs < 60 ft	3,122	3,285	Jan 26	26	3,433	3,767	Jan 19	42
Jig	39	0	n/a	0	500	9	n/a	3
Trawl CV	20,998	19,372	Apr 23	90	26,101	27,690	Apr 1	93
AFA CP ³	2,571	4,783	Mar 15	15	3,196	3,370	May 4	15
Amendment 80 CP	14,979	7,161	n/a	18	18,619	9,655	n/a	19
Total	83,070	70,849		213	94,476	93,259		265

¹In 2021, NMFS reallocated 900 mt, and in 2020 NMFS reallocated 667 mt of the A season jig allocation to the hook-and-line or pot gear less than 60 ft length annual allocation. ²Vessels fishing the CDQ sector are also in other sectors.

³Trawl allocations are for the A and B seasons. AFA closure dates are for prohibiting retention.

BSAI Flatfish (includes CDQ)

In 2021 relative to 2020, all BSAI flatfish catch is lower except flathead sole. The yellowfin sole decrease in catch is mostly from the BSAI trawl limited access and CDQ sectors with these combined sectors reporting 11,150 mt less catch in 2021. The rock sole decrease in catch is mostly from the Amendment 80 and CDQ sectors with these combined sectors reporting 6,055 mt less catch in 2021. The Alaska plaice decrease in catch is due to lower incidental catch in the yellowfin sole and rock sole fisheries.

		2021		2020			
Species	Catch	TAC	% Taken	Catch	TAC	% Taken	
Alaska plaice	13,174	24,500	54%	16,826	17,000	99%	
Arrowtooth flounder	2,090	15,000	14%	3,775	10,000	38%	
Flathead sole	3,945	25,000	16%	3,563	19,500	18%	
Greenland turbot	225	6,025	4%	311	5,300	6%	
Kamchatka flounder	1,097	8,982	12%	1,763	6,800	26%	
Other flatfish	1,693	6,500	26%	2,908	4,000	73%	
Rock sole	11,448	54,500	21%	18,605	47,100	40%	
Yellowfin sole	68,425	200,000	34%	81,647	150,700	54%	
Total	102,097	340,507	30%	129,398	260,400	50%	

Note: Directed fishing for Arrowtooth flounder, Kamchatka flounder, and Greenland turbot opens at noon, May 1.

BSAI Atka mackerel and Pacific ocean perch (includes CDQ)

The 2021 catch of Atka mackerel and POP is similar to 2020. The non-CDQ trawl sablefish fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands have been closed to directed fishing since the start of the year.

Spacios		2021		2020			
Species	Catch	TAC	% Taken	Catch	TAC	% Taken	
Atka mackerel	26,105	62,257	42%	24,791	59,305	42%	
Pacific ocean perch	2,847	35,899	8%	3,262	42,875	8%	
Non-CDQ Sablefish - Trawl	578	2,660	22%	633	1,332	48%	

IFQ Sablefish in the Sablefish target in the BSAI

Currently, the number of vessels and total catch of IFQ sablefish by gear type is similar relative to 2020 and confidential. In October, NMFS will report catch by gear type if it is not confidential.

Blackspotted and Rougheye Rockfish

For 2021, the maximum species specific catch recommended in the Western Aleutian Islands is 31 mt. All sectors are requested to avoid blackspotted/rougheye rockfish. A <u>weekly report</u> is available to monitor total catch of blackspotted/rougheye rockfish in the Western Aleutian Islands.

<u>Gulf of Alaska</u>

Pollock

For Area 610, NMFS closed directed fishing for the A season on January 20, 2021 because the TAC did not support directed fishing.

The pollock fleet voluntarily stood down in Area 620 from January 20 to February 3 and for Area 630 from January 20 to about February 6, 2021. In Areas 620 and 630 the fleet developed a catch share agreement for the A season directed fishing allowances. Area 620 closed by regulation on May 31. Area 640 closed on March 9, 2021. A small amount of the directed fishing allowance remained and the fishery opened from April 1 to 6, 2021.

2021 A season	610	620	630	640
A season allocation	799	41,737	6,297	5,412 (annual)
A season catch	208	40,365	6,113	5,037
A season closure	January 20	May 31	April 14	March 9 Reopened April 1- 6

Pacific cod

In 2021, NMFS closed directed fishing for the A season for some sectors with Pacific cod allocations that are necessary to support incidental catch in other fisheries:

Western GOA – Hook-and-line CV, Trawl CP Central GOA – Trawl CV, Trawl CP

In 2020, Pacific cod directed fishing in the GOA was closed for all sectors because the spawning biomass in the GOA was below 20 percent of the projected unfished spawning biomass.

Pacific cod - Western GOA

		20	21		2020			
Sector	A season TAC	Catch May 29	A season closed	# of vessels May 29	A season TAC	Catch May 30	A season closed	# of vessels May 30
Hook-and-line CP	588	590	Mar 3	<3	218	0	Jan 1	0
Hook-and-line CV	38	3	Jan 1	7	14	13	Jan 1	12
Jig	117	26	n/a	<3	44	0	Jan 1	0
Pot CV/CP	1,068	1,028	Feb 3	13	397	0	Jan 1	0
Trawl CV	1,701	1,616	Mar 26	18	555	14	Jan 20	5
Trawl CP	49	0	Jan 20	0	18	0	Jan 20	0
Total	3,561	3,262		41	1,246	27		17

Pacific cod - Central GOA

		2021				202	0	
Sector	A season TAC	Catch May 29	A season closed	# of vessels May 29	A season TAC	Catch May 30	A season closed	# of vessels May 30
Hook-and-line CP	416	283	n/a	<3	155	0	Jan 1	0
Hook-and-line CV <50 ft	945	954	Feb 5	33	351	26	Jan 1	23
Hook-and-line CV >=50 ft	569	542	Mar 9	8	211	84	Jan 1	41
Jig	61	26	n/a	11	23	0	Jan 1	0
Pot CV/CP	1,808	1,579	Jan 22	15	672	0	Jan 1	0
Trawl CV	2,565	2,313	Jan 20	38	796	1,073	Jan 20	38
Trawl CP	203	0	Jan 20	0	75	173	Jan 20	3
Rockfish Program CV	390	20	n/a		141	9	Jan 1	16
Total	6,957	5,716		105	2,424	1,365		121

IFQ Sablefish in the Sablefish target in the GOA

The number of vessels and total catch of sablefish using pot gear is increasing relative to 2020. Currently, the total vessels in 2021 is 152 and for the same time period total vessels in 2020 is 143. In 2021, 44 vessels have reported both gear types and in 2020, 13 vessels have reported both gear types.

Gear	2021 Catch	2021 # of Vessels	2020 Catch	2020 # of Vessels
Hook-and-line	1,680	102	2,345	119
Pot	4,163	94	1,357	37
Total	5,843		3,702	

Chinook Salmon PSC Limits in the GOA

Total 2021 Chinook salmon PSC and rate is higher relative to 2020. However, the sectors groundfish catch and Chinook salmon PSC are variable between years. The 2021 non-pollock trawl CV Chinook salmon PSC rate is high and exceeded the 2021 Chinook salmon PSC limit. Directed fishing for all non-pollock, non Rockfish Program trawl CVs closed March 26, 2021.

Chinook Salmon	2021 Limit	2021 PSC (Rate ¹)	2020 PSC (Rate ¹)
Total	n/a	8,292 (0.13)	7,680 (0.09)
Western GOA pollock	6,684	0	602 (1.04)
Central GOA pollock	18,316	4,231 (0.09)	6,847 (0.14)
Western/Central trawl CV ²	3,060	3,832 (2.00)	1 (0.0)
Central Rockfish Program CV	1,200	230 (0.02)	0
Western/Central trawl C/P ²	4,080	0	230 (0.04)

¹Rate is number of salmon per metric tons of groundfish.

²Includes incentive buffer for 2021 Western/Central trawl C/P limit (480 Chinook) and Western/Central trawl CV (360 Chinook).

Non-Chinook Salmon PSC in the GOA

Non-Chinook Salmon	2021 PSC (Rate)	2020 PSC (Rate)
Total All Sectors	87 (0.0013)	133 (0.0016)

Halibut Mortality Data

In the BSAI, the halibut mortality is lower relative to 2020, and the rate is the same. The decrease in 2021 halibut mortality is mostly from trawl CV Pacific cod target (-88 mt) because of the delayed start date to February 12, 2021 and slower pace of the fishery. Also there's been a halibut PSC decrease in the CP rock sole target (-54 mt) and CV yellowfin sole target (-59 mt) from less effort. There has been some increase in the CP yellowfin sole (63 mt) and CP pollock targets (46 mt). In the GOA, most of the decrease in 2021 is from the lack of flatfish fishing due to the lack of markets and closure of those fisheries to limit Chinook salmon bycatch. Halibut mortality is also lower in the Rockfish Program this year. There are some increases from 2021 in the pollock targets, and also in the Pacific cod targets that were closed in 2020.

	2021			2020		
Area, Gear, and Sector	Halibut mortality	Groundfish	Rate	Halibut mortality	Groundfish	Rate
BSAI Total	780	815,109	0.10%	900	900,723	0.10%
Amendment 80	502	133,634	0.38%	523	151,212	0.35%
BSAI trawl limited access	221	572,815	0.04%	327	619,564	0.05%
Non-trawl Pacific cod	18	33,622	0.05%	18	43,043	0.04%
Non-trawl Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
CDQ	39	75,037	0.05%	32	86,904	0.04%
GOA Total	112	68,935	0.16%	455	100,071	0.45%
Trawl, Deep-water	0	0	0	384	17,402	2.41%
Trawl, Shallow-water	72	56,036	0.13%	53	73,321	0.07%
Trawl, Rockfish Program	4	10,092	0.04%	18	9,348	0.19%
Hook-and-line	36	2,807	1.28%	0	0	0