

Supplement to Section 4.5.6 – Individual Harvesters and Crew (p.107)
RE: GOA sablefish IFQ vessels fishing in multiple management areas

Section 4.5.6 of the GOA Sablefish Pot Longline Gear EA/RIR/IRFA includes background information on the allocation and transfer of harvest opportunities in the GOA sablefish fishery. This supplement expands on that information to provide the Council and the public with a more focused analysis of the extent to which vessels in the GOA sablefish fleet prosecute multiple management areas, or fish exclusively in one area. Understanding fleet participation across management areas could inform the Council's recommendation to permit the use of pot longline gear throughout the GOA, or only in select areas. Participation across multiple areas also relates to the Council's recommendation on Element 1 of the action alternative, limiting the permissible number of pots deployed from each vessel; the Council's current set of alternatives allows for area-specific pot limits.

The previously published EA/RIR/IRFA breaks down quota share (QS) holdings by area, based on data from NMFS Restricted Access Management (RAM) division. Table 31 (p.108) shows the number of individual permit holders who have IFQ in a given management area for the 2015 fishing year. That table reflects fishing privileges as they stand at the beginning of the year, but does not reflect actual effort patterns or leasing¹. More to the point, Table 31 presents data on individual entities that hold annual IFQ, but does not depict the size of the fleet in terms of a vessel count.

Overall, 362 unique vessels landed sablefish IFQ during 2013 and 2014, combined (331 in 2013, and 313 in 2014). Of those 362 vessels, 37 were 40' LOA or smaller, 97 were between 41' and 50' LOA, 165 were between 51' and 60' LOA, and 63 were greater than 60' LOA. **Table S-1**, below, reflects the number of vessels that recorded a sablefish IFQ landing from each of the six management areas during the selected time period. For example, 201 vessels landed sablefish IFQ from Southeast Outside (SE) at some point during that time period; 76 of those vessels also recorded a landing from West Yakutat (WY), and four of those vessels also recorded a landing from the Aleutian Islands (AI). Sixty-two vessels recorded landings in both the Central GOA (CGOA) and Western GOA (WGOA).

Table S-2 filters out the vessels that fished exclusively in one management area during the 2013 to 2014 time period, and describes that subset of vessels by their length overall (LOA). For example, of the 201 vessels that landed GOA sablefish IFQ in SE, only 84 fished in another management area. The 117 SE vessels that fished only in SE tended to be between 41' and 60' LOA (102 out of 117). By contrast, all but two of the 118 vessels that landed an IFQ sablefish in WY also fished in another area.

The Council may be interested in the participation of vessels across a specific subset of management areas. **Table S-3** provides a more detailed view of how participation spans multiple areas. That table describes the activity of 163 unique vessels that landed sablefish from multiple GOA areas during either 2013 or 2014 (thus excluding any vessel that only participated in a single area, or in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands). For example, one could use **Table S-3** to see that the 116 vessels (see **Table S-2**) that landed sablefish IFQ in WY *and* some other area break down in the following way:

- 2 made landings in all management areas,

¹ In describing Table 31, the EA/RIR/IRFA document incorrectly states that the table reflects landings (which obviously had not been recorded at the time of publication).

- 6 made landings in all areas except for AI,
- 3 made landings in all areas except SE,
- 1 made landings in all areas except BS,
- 12 made landings in WY, SE, CG, and WG,
- 2 made landings in WY, CG, WG, and AI,
- 1 made landings in WY, SE, CG, and BS,
- 34 made landings in WY, SE, and CG,
- 10 made landings in WY, CG, and WG,
- 1 made landings in WY, CG, and AI,
- 20 made landings in WY and SE, and
- 24 made landings in WY and CG.

Table S-1 Participation in the sablefish IFQ fishery, by area (2013 and 2014)

	SE	WY	CGOA	WGOA	BS	AI
SE	201	76	64	23	10	4
WY		118	96	36	12	9
CGOA			192	62	24	17
WGOA				67	25	15
BS					41	20
AI						36

Table S-2 Sablefish IFQ participation, breaking out vessels that fished solely in on management area (2013 and 2014)

Area	# Vessels						
	Total	Fished Mult. Areas	Fished One Area	Length Group (LOA)			
				≤ 40'	41' - 50'	51' - 60'	> 60'
SE	201	84	117	13	54	48	2
WY	118	116	2		1	1	
CGOA	192	132	60	13	24	15	8
WGOA	67	66	1			1	
BS	41	35	6	2		2	2
AI	36	26	10	1		5	4

Table S-3 Combinations of multiple-area participation, by vessel (2013 and 2014)

# Areas Fished	# Vessels	Areas	# Vessels
6 of 6	2	SE/WY/CG/WG/BS/AI	2
5 of 6	11	All but AI	6
		All but SE	3
		All but WY	1
		All but BS	1
4 of 6	19	SE/WY/CG/WG	12
		CG/WG/BS/AI	4
		WY/CG/WG/AI	2
		SE/WY/CG/BS	1
3 of 6	54	SE/WY/CG	34
		WY/CG/WG	10
		CG/WG/BS	5
		WG/BS/AI	2
		SE/CG/WG	1
		WY/CG/AI	1
		CG/BS/AI	1
2 of 6	77	SE/WY	20
		WY/CG	24
		CG/WG	15
		SE/CG	6
		CG/AI	2
		WG/BS	2
		CG/BS	1