

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council, SSC and AP Members

FROM: Clarence G. Pautzke
Executive Director



DATE: June 18, 1992

SUBJECT: Staff Tasking

ACTION REQUIRED

Consider direction on proposed IFQ amendments and other tasking issues.

BACKGROUND

Included in your notebook as Item D-3(a) is a summary of the current status of Council tasking. Quite a few projects, requiring substantial staff time, remain to be completed over the summer. One particular area which requires further Council direction are the proposed amendments to the IFQ plan which include the Sitka block proposal and the 1,000 pound minimum concept. Council direction from the April meeting was to bring back a preliminary analysis at the September meeting and decide whether to proceed with a plan amendment at that time.

At the time of these discussions during the April meeting, staff assumed that the 1,000 pound minimum was meant to be in the initial allocation only, not in each year that IFQs are issued. Analysts with the ADF&G are performing an initial analysis of this proposal and will be able to report at this meeting. Analysis of the Sitka block proposal has yet to begin. A copy of this proposal is included as Item D-3(b) in your notebook. An additional amendment proposal, to be offered by Council member Ron Hegge, is included as Item D-3(c).

STATUS OF COUNCIL TASKING

PROJECTS NEARING COMPLETION OR COMPLETED

Plan Amendments

Am. 15/20	Sablefish/Halibut IFQs	Proposed Rule in preparation. Secretarial submittal in mid-July.
Moratorium		Final action scheduled for June. Could be implemented for 1993.
Am. 19/24	Bycatch Amendment	Proposed rule filed 5/29. Public comment ends 7/13.
North Pacific Fisheries Research Plan		Final action scheduled for June.
Am. 21/26	Bycatch Amendment • E. Gulf trawl closure • Kodiak Crab protective zones • BSAI halibut PSC limits	Final action scheduled for June. Could be implemented for 1993.
Am. 22/27	Trawl Test Zones	Proposed Rule filing pending. Comment in June.
Emergency Rules from September & December 1991 Meetings		
From September/December 1991 Meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GOA Rockfish trawl season delay. • BSAI halibut PSC limit for trawl gear reduced from 5,333 mt to 5,033 mt • Revised BSAI fishery categories for PSC apportionments • GOA & BSAI directed fishing standards reduced to 7% • Definition of a fishing trip revised so that trip terminates at the end of a weekly reporting period • Bring "B" season pollock fishery under VIP and prohibit non-pelagic gear 		Effective March 30, 1992 In effect under E.R. - Finalized as part of 19/24.
From January 1992 Meeting: Delay 2nd Quarter Gulf of Alaska pollock opening (Effective for 1992 only)		Effective now. Season opened on June 1.
Bring "B" season pollock fishery under VIP and prohibit non-pelagic gear		In effect under E.R. - Finalized as part of 19/24.

STATUS OF COUNCIL TASKING

PROJECTS NEARING COMPLETION OR COMPLETED

Regulatory Amendments and Other Action	
Prohibiting Longlining of Pots (except Aleutian Islands)	Final rule submitted.
Product Recovery Rates	Proposed rule being prepared.
Allocate Halibut PSC to DSR fishery and Establish Directed Fishing Standards for DSR	Proposed rule published. Separate Proposed Rule pending to set amount at 10 mt.
Proposed Rulemaking on Catch Reporting and Estimation	Analysis for Regulatory Amendment in preparation.
Restrictions Affecting Donut Hole Operations and U.S. Landings of Russian EEZ Fish.	Final rule pending.
Am. 18 Inshore/Offshore Resubmission	Council review Supplementary Analysis in June. Final action in August.

UNCOMPLETED PROJECTS REQUIRING SUBSTANTIAL STAFF TIME

Comprehensive Rationalization Program	Develop qualitative analysis for September.
Preferential Gear Allocation of Pacific Cod	Status report in June.
Delay of BSAI "B" Season: Regulatory Amendment	Initiate analysis for possible implementation in 1993. Analysis due in September 1992.
Exclusive Registration or Pre-Registration: Plan Amendment	Initiate analysis for possible implementation in 1993. Analysis due in September 1992.
Changes/Improvements to existing Observer Program for 1993	Regulatory amendment. Due in September.
Amendment 21A: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pribilof Bottom Trawl Closure • Chinook Salmon Bycatch Measures 	Status report in June. Analysis due in September.
Inshore-Offshore Bycatch Amendment	Analysis due in September.
Performance Based Pelagic Trawl Definition	Proposed Rule in preparation. Report in June.
Changes to Crab FMP	Report in June. Analysis by September.
1993 Recordkeeping/Reporting	Draft proposals in June.
Crab Catcher Vessel Observer Program	Report in September.
Discards by Fishery	Committee report in June.

STATUS OF COUNCIL TASKING

POTENTIAL NEW PROJECTS

Reduce Halibut PSC Caps by 10% Per Year for 5 Years	Analyze in 1993.
Analysis of Proposed IFQ Amendments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sitka Block Proposal• 1,000 Pound Floor	Draft analysis in September.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT
TO IFQ PLAN:
SITKA BLOCK PROPOSAL
QUOTA SHARE/LICENSE
PROGRAM FOR CATCHER BOAT CLASS**

This amendment to the sablefish and halibut IFQ plan is proposed in response to continued concern regarding the socioeconomic impacts of IFQs on coastal communities and the small boat fleet. The amendment preserves the nature of the fleet to the maximum extent possible, while providing the sablefish and halibut resource with much needed protection.

Under the proposed amendment, initial quota share allocations will be attached to a specific license. The amount of the initial quota share allocation will be determined as per criteria specified in the current preferred alternative. Subsequent quota transfers must include transfer of the quota share license (QSL) and all quota shares attached to that license. A persons' total holdings will be restricted by caps specified in the preferred alternative, and include all existing "grandfather" exemptions. Each person may land fish on no more than three licenses per area per year. No more than five licenses may be used on any vessel per area per year.

These provisions will:

1. Ensure the continued existence of a relatively large, diverse fleet.
2. Provide protection to coastal communities. Because small boats tend to be locally based, traditional delivery patterns will continue.
3. Provide an entry level fishery accessible to deckhands and other small, independent operators. The abundance of small quota share "blocks" will reduce the relative cost per pound of these licenses.
4. Simplify implementation, monitoring, and enforcement by eliminating the need for vessel size classes and significantly reduce the number of discreet quota share blocks that may be bought or sold.

By responding to the frequently voiced objections and concerns raised by industry and community members, the proposed amendment has significantly increased the support base for IFQs in southeast Alaska; predictably it will do the same statewide.

**LANGUAGE CHANGES / ADDITIONS
TO PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE**

Sec 2 (B) : [Initial QS assignment]

- (i) Initial QS allocations for each area shall be permanently attached to a license.
- (ii) In the initial allocation, the IFQs arising from a quota share license (QSL) shall not exceed 1/2 of the specified ownership cap.
- (iii) Those individuals or persons receiving initial allocation in excess of the cap in a management area shall be issued the number of QSLs equal to his/her allocation.
- (iv) QSL shall remain as single licenses and may only be sold or transferred in their entirety unless QSL are combined pursuant to Sec 2 (D) (iv). Portions of the QSL may be leased in accordance with Sec 2 (c) (2) (iii).
- (v) All sales of transfers of QSL shall be free and clear of all control, fiduciary trust and/or future contract.

Sec 2 (C) (2) - Delete (ii) (iii)

Sec 2 (D) [Ownership Caps]

- add (iii) For sablefish and halibut any individual or person not grandfathered under Sec 2 (B) (1) (C) may not utilize the IFQs from more than three QSL in a management area in any one year. In the event of sale or transfer of QSL, a person or individual may hold up to 4 QSL for a period of no longer than one hundred and twenty days.
- add (iv) QSL which have yearly IFQ's amounting to less than 1000 pounds for halibut and 3000 pounds for sablefish may be consolidated by an individual or person into a single permanent QSL as long as the resultant QSL does not exceed 1000 pounds for halibut or 3000 pounds for sablefish.
- add (vi) For sablefish and halibut: IFQs from no more than 5 QSLs may be utilized on any one vessel per area per year. *[option: 4 QSLs per vessel per area per year]*

EXPLANATION: HOW TO READ THE GRAPHS

The Block System does not affect in any way the number or amount of pounds allocated to persons qualifying under the Council's approved IFQ plan; it simply creates a "block" out of those initially allocated pounds and limits the number of blocks (or licenses) any person may own or control to three. The following graphs are based on data supplied by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC). Any mistakes in the graphs are incidental and solely the responsibility of the Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association.

HALIBUT FISHERY

Graph 1. HALIBUT QUOTA DISTRIBUTION BY BLOCK SIZE AND AREA

The top line of this graph gives the size of each initially allocated block in pounds--e.g., blocks that are less than 500 pounds, 500-1000 pounds, 1000-2000, 2000-3000; etc.. Along the left-hand side is the halibut areas. The body of the graph gives the number of initially allocated blocks of various sizes (<500 pounds, 500-1000 pounds, etc.) in each area, as well as the number (bottom line) of blocks of each size in the whole fishery.

Examples: In area 2C, 2074 initially allocated blocks will be 500 pounds or less. 337 blocks will be 500-1000 pounds. Skipping across two columns: 248 blocks in area 2C will be 3000-5000 pounds each. Going down a row and across three columns: in 3A, 391 blocks will be 1000-2000 pounds; looking at the 3A row, last column: 42 blocks will be 80,000 pounds or greater.

Graph 2. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF LICENSES IF ACCUMULATION IS ALLOWED

Because so many people will receive blocks in the initial allocation that are quite small (e.g., from the graph above, 2003 blocks fishery-wide will be less than 500 pounds), ALFA proposes allowing individuals to combine blocks into one as long as the combined total of the blocks remains less than 1000 pounds. We considered allowing accumulation up to 500, 1000, or 2000 pounds; each of these options is included in Graph 2. After reviewing the data, the 1000 pound accumulation cap was selected as the most appropriate. (Note: in sablefish ALFA selected a 3000 pound accumulation cap) .

In Graph 2, the top line gives the proposed accumulation limits in pounds--i.e., zero (none), 500, 1000, 2000. The left-hand side lists the halibut areas. The graph indicates the extent to which accumulation, or combining of blocks could decrease the number of blocks in each area. Examples: In area 2C, there will be 3702 blocks initially allocated. If accumulation up to 500 pounds is allowed and eventually all blocks less than 500 pounds are combined, there will be approximately 2665 halibut

blocks in area 2C. If the upper limit is set at 1000 pounds, the number of blocks in 2C could be reduced to 2496. Looking at fishery or EEZ-wide numbers, allowing accumulation up to 1000 pounds could reduce the number of blocks from the 6118 initially allocated to 4796.

Graph 3. CUMULATIVE PERCENT DISTRIBUTION

This graph indicates the size distribution of the blocks in each area and, at the bottom, the size distribution on a fishery-wide scale. The top line again is in pounds, defining the upper limit of each poundage class. Along the left-hand side is the halibut areas. The body of the graph gives the percentage of blocks that will be 500 pounds or less, 1000 pounds or less, 2000 pound or less, etc., in each area.

Examples: In area 2C, looking at the second column, 65% of the blocks will be 1000 pounds or less. Conversely, 35% will be greater than 1000 pounds--i.e., the percentage of blocks greater and less than a given poundage add up to 100%. Skipping over a column, 80% of the blocks in 2C will be 3000 pounds or less. Dropping down a row, in the 3A area 73% of the blocks will be 3000 pounds or less. In the bottom row, last column, 95% of the blocks fishery or EEZ-wide will be 30,000 pounds or less, hence 5% will be greater than 30,000 pounds.

BAR GRAPHS AND SABLEFISH DATA

On the next page, Graph 1 is translated into a bar graph, presenting the number of blocks of each size (in pounds) by halibut area. The sablefish tables are read the same way as the halibut tables explained above; again, the information in Graph 1 is also translated into a bar graph.

IFQ BLOCK DIST

SABLEFISH QUOTA DISTRIBUTION BY BLOCK SIZE AND AREA

BLOCK SIZE (lbs)	<1,000	1-2,	2-3,	3-4,	4-10,	10-20,	20-30,	30-40,	40-60,	60-80,	80-100+
SE/EYAK	145	33	32	49	112	113	65	33	32	16	16
Y.YAK	91	41	20	21	71	51	31	20	21	10	30
C. GULF	192	48	32	32	48	80	32	32	32	32	80
Y.GULF	27	18		10	37	38	18	10	9		18
AL ISLANDS	13	7	7	7	28	20	14	7	14		20
BERING SEA	38	8	8	7	16	31	15	8	8	8	7
EEZ * OWNERS	310	84	57	28	141	113	84	28	57	56	169

ESTIMATED # OF LICENSES IF ACCUMULATION IS ALLOWED

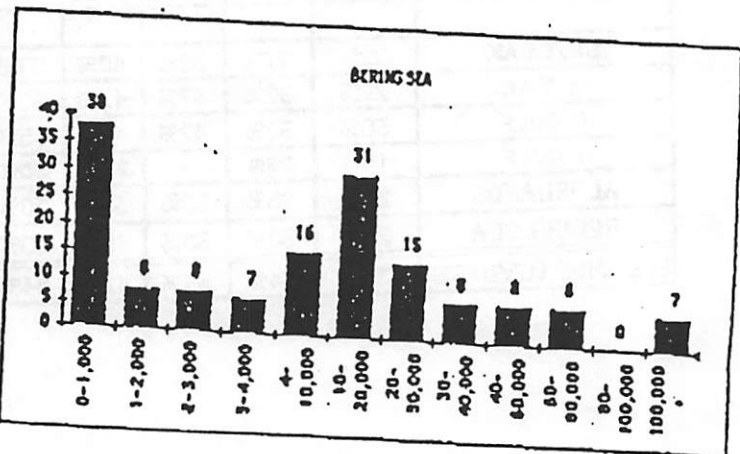
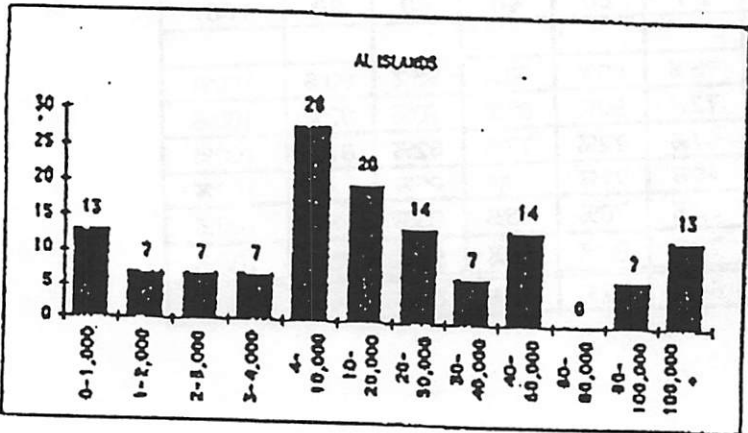
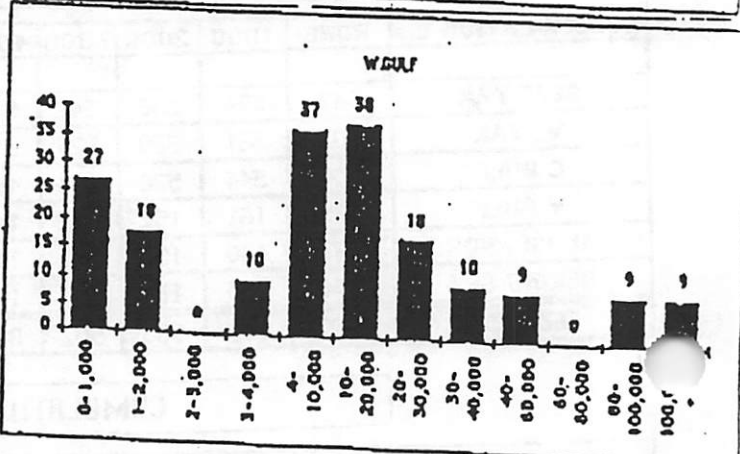
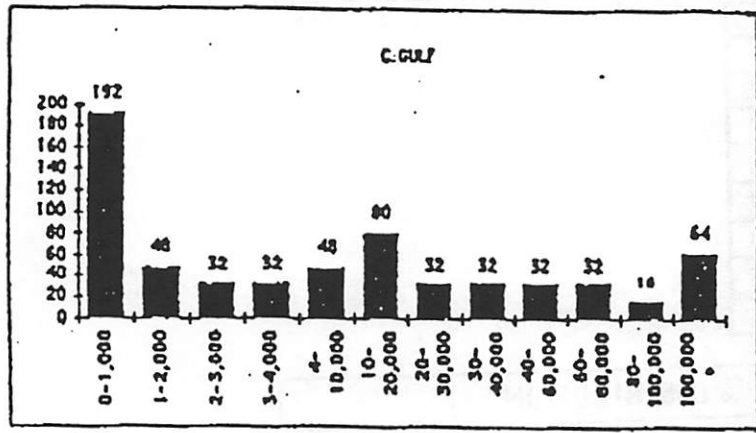
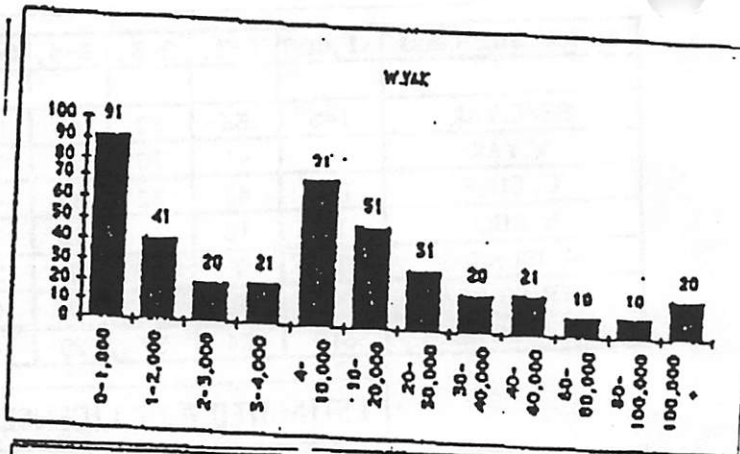
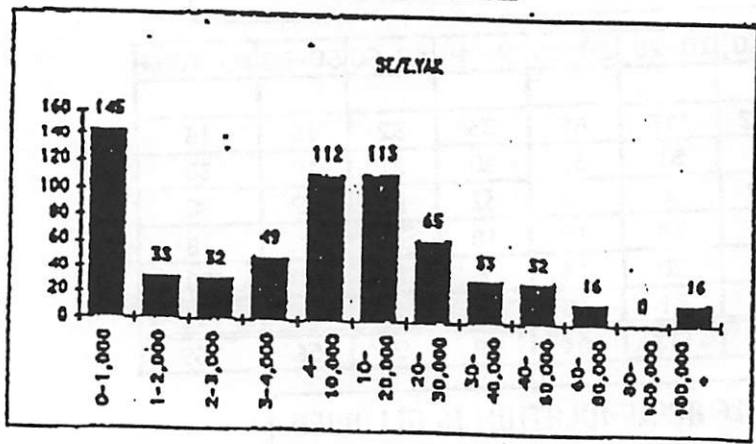
ACCUMULATION lbs	NONE	1000	2000	3000	4000
SE/EYAK	647	574	558	542	517
Y.YAK	407	361	339	329	319
C GULF	640	544	520	504	488
Y GULF	185	161	152	152	147
AL ISLANDS	137	130	126	122	118
BERING SEA	154	135	131	127	123
EEZ WIDE	1127	972	930	902	888

CUMULATIVE % DISTRIBUTION

POURDS	<1000	2000	3000	4000	10	20	30	40	60	80	100+
SE/EYAK	22%	27%	32%	40%	57%	75%	85%	90%	95%	98%	100%
Y YAK	22%	32%	37%	42%	60%	72%	80%	85%	90%	92%	100%
C GULF	30%	57%	42%	47%	55%	67%	72%	77%	82%	87%	100%
Y GULF	15%	25%	-	30%	50%	65%	75%	80%	85%	-	100%
AL ISLANDS	10%	25%	30%	35%	50%	60%	70%	75%	85%	-	100%
BERING SEA	25%	30%	35%	40%	50%	70%	80%	85%	90%	95%	100%
EEZ WIDE (OWNERS)	27%	34%	39%	42%	54%	64%	72%	74%	81%	84%	100%

SABLEFISH

NUMBER OF LICENSES BY AREA AND POINTS
SABLEFISH



HALIBUT IFQ BLOCK DIST

HALIBUT QUOTA DISTRIBUTION BY BLOCK SIZE AND AREA

BLOCK SIZE (lbs)	<500	500-1	1-2	2-3	3-5	5-10	10-20	20-30	30-40	40-60	60-80	80-100+
2C	2074	337	340	217	248	300	152	28	6 *			
3A	3016	333	391	265	305	412	346	131	76	76	35	42
3B	778	30	68	46	69	122	93	45	32	21	18	12
4A	257	25	54	30	28	40	33	13	4	5		
4B	81	13	16	12	17	24	22	5	3	7	6	
4C	57	6	4	6	11	16	12	2		4		
4D	46	3		1	5	8	9	6		5		
4E	285	15	5	4	6	4						
EEZ * OWNERS	2003	642	699	452	544	718	536	184	93	95	54	25

ESTIMATED # OF LICENSES IF ACCUMULATION IS ALLOWED

ACCUMULATION (lbs)	NONE	<500	1000	2000
2C	3702	2665	2496	2326
3A	5428	3920	3753	3557
3B	1334	945	930	896
4A	469	350	337	310
4B	206	165	158	150
4C	118	89	86	84
4D	83	60	58	58
4E	319	176	168	165
EEZ WIDE	6118	5117	4796	4446

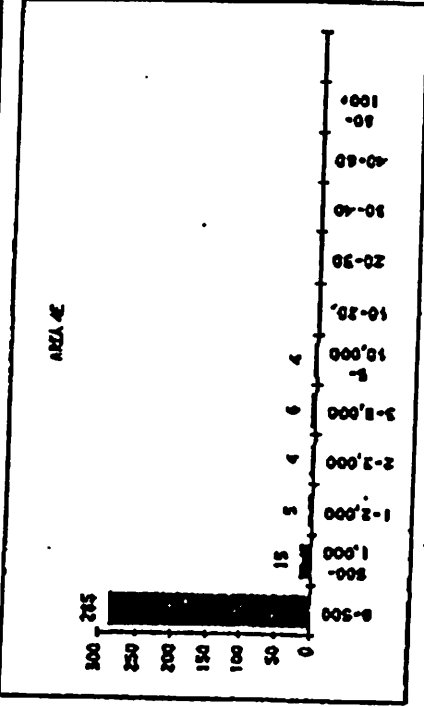
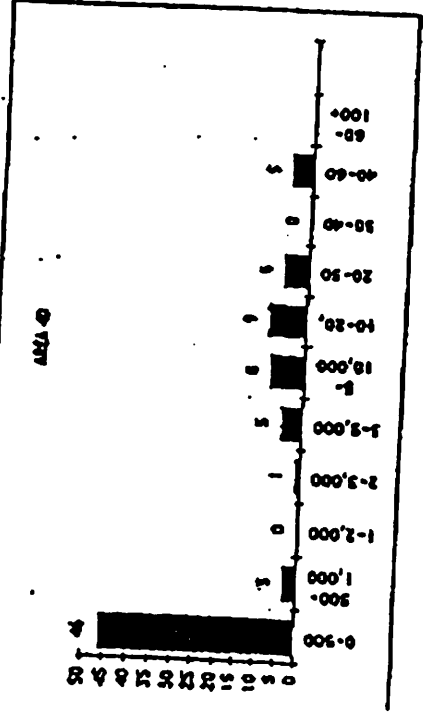
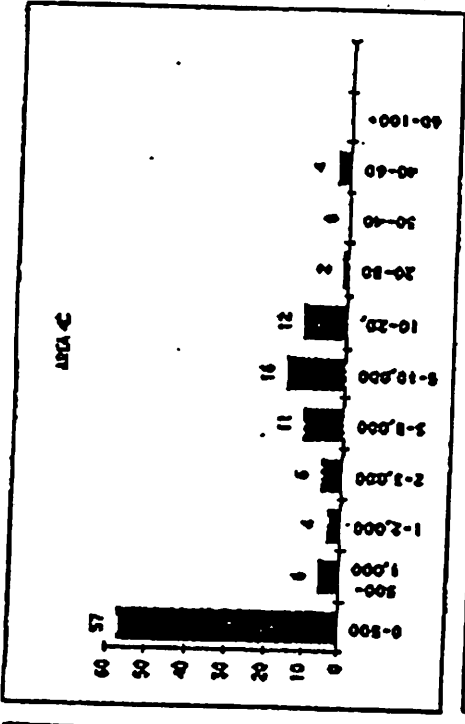
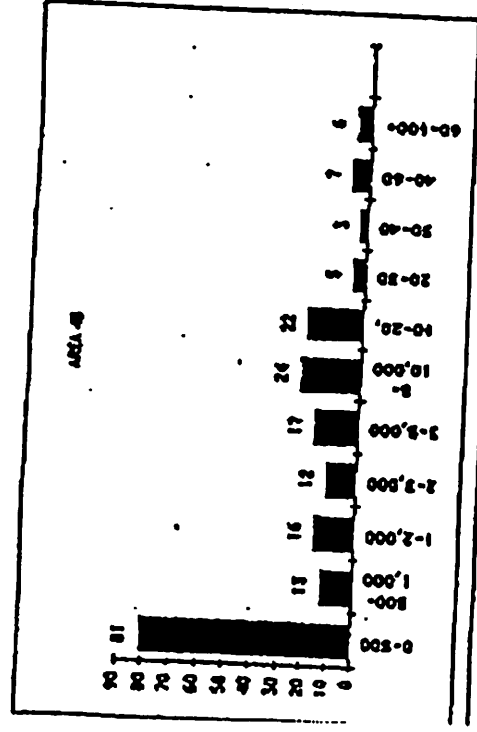
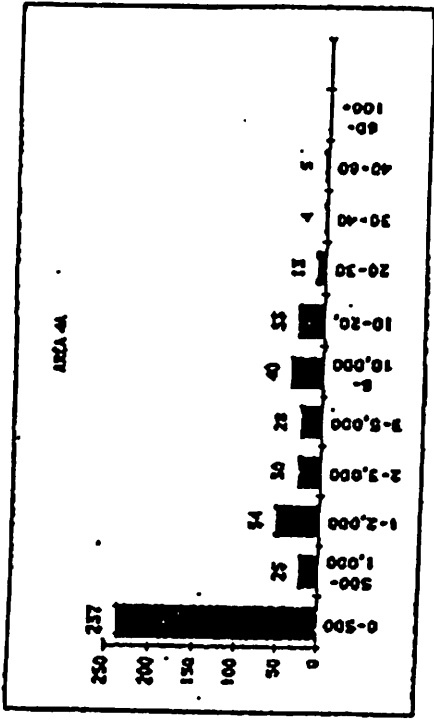
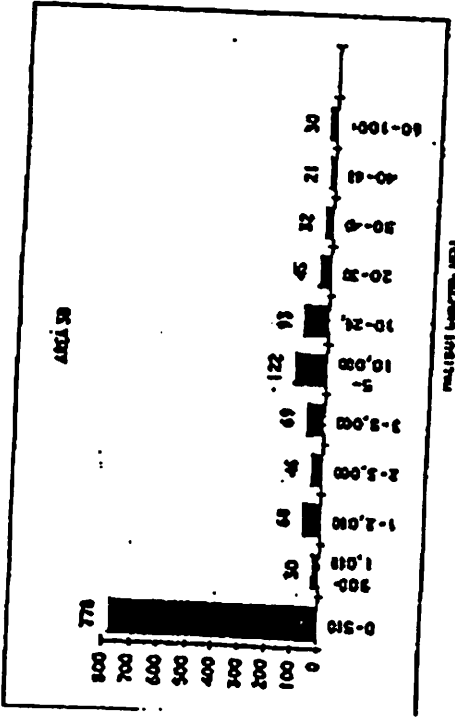
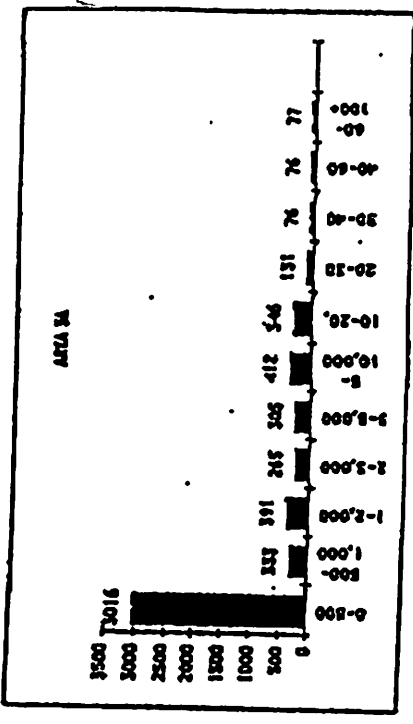
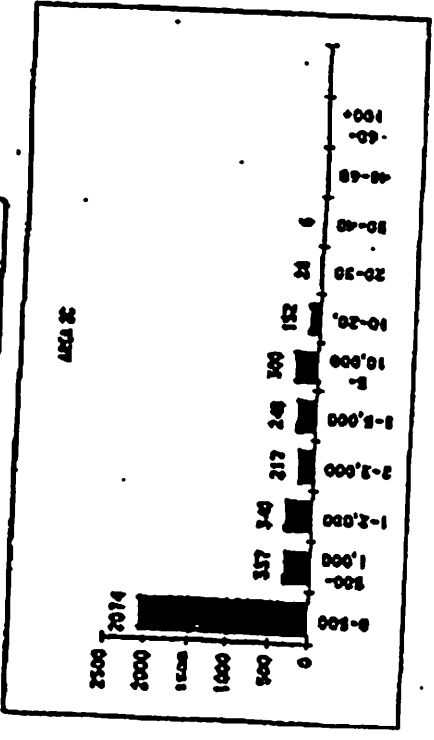
CUMULATIVE % DISTRIBUTION

POUNDS	<500	1000	2000	3000	5000	10	20	30	40	60	100+
2C	56%	65%	74%	80%	86%	94%	98%	99%	100%		
3A	55%	61%	69%	73%	79%	86%	93%	95%	97%	98%	100%
3B	38%	60%	65%	69%	74%	83%	90%	93%	96%	98%	100%
4A	50%	55%	67%	73%	79%	88%	95%	98%	99%	100%	
4B	39%	45%	53%	59%	67%	79%	89%	92%	93%	97%	100%
4C	48%	53%	56%	61%	71%	84%	94%	96%	96%	100%	
4D	55%	59%	59%	60%	66%	75%	86%	93%	93%	100%	
4E	89%	94%	95%	96%	98%	100%					
EEZ WIDE (OWNERS)	32%	43%	54%	62%	67%	82%	91%	95%	96%	97%	100%

* DUE TO CONFIDENTIALITY RESTRICTIONS, INDIVIDUALS AT UPPER AND LOWER END OF GRAPH ARE GROUPED INTO THE FIRST OR LAST CATEGORY; E.G., ANY INDIVIDUALS IN 2C WITH 30,000 LBS OR GREATER ARE GROUPED INTO THE 30,000-40,000 LB CATEGORY.

NUMBER OF LICENSES BY RACE AND POINTS
EXHIBIT

HAZIBET



**RONALD E. HEGGE
14235 HANCOCK DR.
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99515-3961**

**Phone (907) 345-8212
Fax (907) 345-8213**

Richard B. Lauber, Chairman
N.P.F.M.C.
P.O. Box 103136
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

May 19, 1992

Dear Rick:

I am writing to advise you of an amendment to the sablefish and halibut IFQ plan which I intend to introduce as an out of cycle proposal at the June meeting.

Proposed Amendment:

Allocation: Initial Quota Shares (QS) and Individual Fishing Quotas (IFQ) will be issued in blocks, which in the year of implementation will equal the number of QS necessary to produce 10,000 IFQ lbs.

All persons will receive that amount of QS and IFQ as per the original plan, however they will be parcelled into blocks, either full or partial. For example a person who would have received 15,000 lbs of IFQs will receive one full block of 10,000 IFQ lbs. and one partial block of 5,000 IFQ lbs.

Full Blocks will be the number of QS which generates 10,000 IFQ lbs. in the first year of implementation for each area. The number of QS constituting a full block will vary in each area because of the nature of the allocation. The table below shows the number of QS in full blocks for each area in the halibut and sablefish plans.

Halibut Full Blocks by Area (based on 1992 TACs)		
Area	Quota Shares in Full Block	IFQ lbs in Full Block
2A	57,471	10,000
3A	65,789	10,000
3B	57,142	10,000
4A	57,142	10,000
4B	35,971	10,000
4C	46,729	10,000
4D	53,191	10,000

Sablefish Full Blocks by Area (based on 1992 TACs)		
Area	Quota Shares in Full Block	IFQ lbs in Full Block
EY/SEO	57,571	10,000
WY	61,350	10,000
CG	59,880	10,000
WG	70,922	10,000
BS	66,225	10,000
AL	111,360	10,000

Partial Blocks will result when 1) A person's initial IFQs for a given area are less than 10,000 lbs, or 2) A person's initial IFQs are not exactly divisible by 10,000, i.e. the remaining portion of a persons IFQs not issued in full blocks.

R.B. Lauber
May 19, 1992

It should be noted that QS represent the total pounds landed by each person in a given area during their best five years. A persons IFQs are calculated by dividing his QS into the total amount of QS in any area (QS Pool) and multiplying by the TAC for that area, i.e. $IFQ = (QS/QS \text{ Pool}) * TAC$.

Ownership Limitations: Any person, as identified in the original amendment, may hold or purchase any number of full blocks, up to the ownership caps as identified in the original amendment. Any person who owns at least one full block in an area may own or otherwise control only one partial block in that area. Any person who does not own or otherwise control a full block in a given area may hold or control up to three partial blocks in that area.

Annual IFQ Allotments: After initial allocation annual IFQ lbs. will be assigned as in the original amendment, based on the amount of QS holdings by each person, but would continue to be identified as full or partial blocks. It should be noted that if the TACs change after the initial year of implementation the number of IFQ pounds each full block represents will change, however the number of QS constituting a full block will not change after implementation.

Vessel Classes: Vessel size classes will be removed from the plan, with the exception of the freezer category.

Rationale:

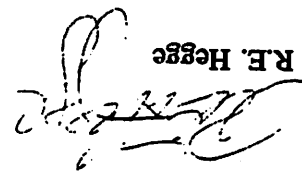
Clearly there is significant opposition to the IFQ plan adopted by the Council. The greatest opposition comes from small vessel operators, crewmen, and communities, all of whom feel the IFQ's would be bought up by large operators, which would eliminate future opportunity for those entering the fisheries and a loss of employment opportunities.

The Sitka Block (SB) proposal addresses some of these problems but also creates additional management difficulties. The SB proposal has certainly created opposition among the medium and large operators.

I feel the proposal I have outlined presents a compromise that gives all of the protection of a block program for new entrants and small vessels while not unduly restricting the larger participants. Removal of the vessel size classes eliminates an expensive and now unnecessary restriction.

Certainly amending a plan so recently passed by the Council and not yet approved by the Secretary causes some concern. The majority of the Council, myself included, did not feel traditional management tools could address the management problems with which we were faced. A decision of this magnitude must have industry support and I feel addressing the very valid concerns of such a large segment of the industry and dependent communities is critical to the successful implementation of the sablefish and halibut IFQ plan.

Respectfully,



R.E. Hegge



Kodiak Island Borough

710 MILL BAY ROAD
KODIAK, ALASKA 99615-6340
PHONE (907) 486-5736

June 18, 1992

Mr. Richard B. Lauber, Chairman
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
PO Box 103136
Anchorage, AK 99510

Dear Mr. Lauber:

The attached compilation of options for an *Interim Sablefish and Halibut Conservation Management Plan* is a consensus that has been developed among a broad geographical mix of fishing industry representatives.

There has been a continual chorus of concern identifying the need for immediate measures to manage these fisheries. This has come from a broad array of municipalities, fishing industry organizations, fishermen associations, processor associations, individual processing companies, individual fishermen, native organizations, the Alaska House of Representatives, and individual citizens.

Throughout the process during which the Council developed their IFQ Proposal, the Council never adequately nor fairly evaluated the broad variety of options within the Conservation Management Techniques that are available to conserve and manage the sablefish and halibut resources.

The future is unknown regarding the probabilities for approval of the Council-adopted Sablefish/Halibut IFQ Proposal. The future is even less clear regarding the actual implementation date of the Council-adopted Sablefish/Halibut IFQ Proposal, but "sometime in 1994 or 95" seems to be the target. The Council-adopted Sablefish/Halibut IFQ Proposal presents significant uncertainties for the industry who depends upon the sablefish and halibut fisheries, and significant risks regarding the ability to conserve and manage the sablefish and halibut resources during the interim. While waiting for

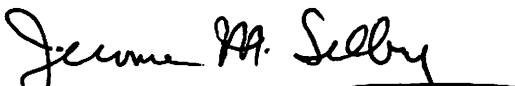
Mr. Richard B. Lauber
June 18, 1992
Page 2

decisions to be made regarding the Council-adopted Sablefish/Halibut IFQ Proposal, the Council needs to pursue the immediate analysis of options within the Conservation Management Techniques so that the Council is able to address the immediate conservation and management needs of the sablefish and halibut resources, as well as the need for a long-term approach for managing these resources. The application of Conservation Management Techniques presents a viable interim approach for managing the sablefish and halibut fisheries.

While we wait for the IFQ Plan to go through the review and decision making process, we believe that the Council should commit the necessary resources to analyze and develop an interim management plan that carefully balances one or more options within several Conservation Management Techniques for the management of the sablefish and halibut fisheries. We respectfully request that the Council direct staff to initiate the analysis of an interim sablefish and halibut conservation management plan.

Sincerely,

KODIAK ISLAND BOROUGH


Jerome M. Selby
Borough Mayor

Attachment: Sablefish and Halibut Conservation Management Plan

SABLEFISH AND HALIBUT CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

6/17/92

An array of Conservation Management Techniques are available that will adequately address any problems that realistically exist in the sablefish and halibut fisheries. Following is a brief summary of options within 6 Conservation Management Techniques that may be applied separately, or applied in combination with one or more of the other options to provide superior management of the sablefish and halibut resources. These options need analysis by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council to determine the optimum combination of options that will conserve the sablefish and halibut resource and address the problems in the fishery. Conservation Management Techniques can be successfully applied to address:

1. Allocation conflicts.
2. Gear conflicts.
3. Deadloss from lost gear (fishing mortality due to lost gear).
4. Bycatch loss (of halibut in other fisheries, and sablefish, to some degree).
5. Discard mortality (for halibut and other retainable species in the halibut and sablefish fisheries).
6. Excess harvesting capacity.
7. Product wholesomeness (as reflected in halibut and sablefish prices).
8. Safety.
9. Economic stability in the fisheries and communities (in the fixed gear halibut and sablefish fisheries and communities).
10. Rural coastal community development (maintenance) of a small boat fleet (small boat fishery).
11. Slowing down the pace of the halibut and sablefish fisheries.
12. Eliminating crowding on the grounds, and spreading the fleet and the fishery over time and area.
13. Achieving quality objectives.
14. Providing that more fresh fish is available for the marketplace on a more frequent basis throughout the year.

1. OPTIONS FOR GEAR LIMITS.

1.1. Establish a "Hooks-Per-Vessel-Limit", and/or a "Hooks-Per-Skate-Limit", and/or a "Hooks-Per-Set-Limit" for the sablefish and/or halibut fisheries.

1.1. NOTE 1: A standard uniform definition for a "Skate" (i.e., the length of a "Skate") should be adopted if a "Hooks-Per-Skate-Limit" is adopted.

1.1. NOTE 2: A standard uniform definition for a "Set" (i.e., the length of a "Set", from anchor to anchor, from flag to flag, etc.) should be adopted if a "Hooks-Per-Set-Limit" is adopted. Such a definition may be expressed in nautical miles, fathoms, Loran microseconds, minutes of Latitude or Longitude, etc.

1.2. Establish an aggregate "Skates-Per-Vessel-Limit" for the sablefish and halibut fisheries.

1.2. NOTE: A standard uniform definition for a "Skate" (i.e., the length of a "Skate") should be adopted if a "Skates-Per-Vessel-Limit" is adopted.

1.3. Establish "Minimum-Hook-Spacing" in the sablefish and/or halibut fisheries.

1.4. Establish a "Maximum-Length-Of-Set" and/or a "Number-Of-Sets-Limit" in the sablefish and/or halibut fisheries.

1.4. NOTE 1: A standard uniform definition for a "Set" (i.e., the length of a "Set", from anchor to anchor, from flag to flag, etc.) should be adopted if a "Maximum-Length-Of-Set" and/or a "Number-Of-Sets-Limit" is adopted. Such a definition may be expressed in nautical miles, fathoms, Loran microseconds, minutes of Latitude or Longitude, etc.

1.4. NOTE 2: A "Maximum-Length-Of-Set" and/or a "Number-Of-Sets-Limit" would require that the flags (buoys, or other devices) at each end of a Set be clearly marked with a vessel name (ADF&G Number, or other identifier) that would clearly identify the vessel to which the "Set" belongs.

1.4. NOTE 3: A "Number-Of-Sets-Limit" would require that each "Set" be clearly marked with an identifier that would clearly identify the number of any specific Set.

1.5. Require "Barbless hooks", and/or prohibit "Circle hooks" (i.e., require "J hooks"), and/or establish a "Maximum-Hook-Size" in the sablefish and/or halibut fisheries.

1.6. Prohibit "Tub Gear" (i.e., require "Snap-On-Gear") and/or prohibit "Automated-Hook-Baiting-Systems" in the sablefish and/or halibut fisheries.

2. OPTIONS FOR REGISTRATION AREAS.

2. NOTE: Registration Areas may be existing Management/Reporting Areas, or Sub-Areas of these existing Management/Reporting Areas.

2.1. Permit a vessel (and/or person) to register and fish for sablefish and/or halibut in only one Area, or in a maximum number of Areas.

2.2. Permit a vessel (and/or person) to register and fish for sablefish and/or halibut during only one Time-Period (quarter, trimester, season, opening, etc.), or during a maximum number of Time-Periods.

2.3. "Area-Specific-Pre-Registration" of a vessel (and/or person) for sablefish and/or halibut.

2.4. "Time-Period-Specific-Pre-Registration" (quarter, trimester, season, opening, etc.) of a vessel (and/or person) for sablefish and/or halibut.

2.5. "Super-Exclusive", "Exclusive" and "Non-Exclusive" Registration Areas for sablefish and/or halibut.

3. OPTIONS FOR PLATOONING (SEPARATING/DIVIDING/DISTRIBUTING) THE FLEET.

3.1. Platoon the fleet for the sablefish and/or halibut fisheries into two or more "Random-Vessel-Platoons", or into two or more "Vessel-Class-Size-Platoons".

3.2. Platoon the fleet for the sablefish and/or halibut fisheries by "Management/Reporting Area" ("Area") and/or by "Time-Period" (quarter, trimester, season, opening, etc.).

3.3. Require "Area-Specific Vessel (and/or person) Pre-Registration" for a Vessel Platoon for the sablefish and/or halibut fisheries.

3.4. Require "Time-Period-Specific Vessel (and/or person) Pre-Registration" (quarter, trimester, season, opening, etc.) for a Vessel Platoon for the sablefish and/or halibut fisheries.

3.5. Platoon the fleet with "Area-Specific-TAC's" and/or "Time-Period-Specific-TAC's" (quarter, trimester, season, opening, etc.) for sablefish and/or halibut.

4. OPTIONS FOR TIME/AREA CLOSURES.

4.1. Establish a "Depth-Restriction" for the sablefish hook-and-line fishery [i.e., A sablefish hook-and-line fishery is only permitted deeper than a fathom (meter)-specific depth (i.e., 250 fathoms)].

4.1. NOTE 1: This sablefish "Time/Area Closure" would address the issue of halibut bycatch in the sablefish hook-and-line fishery.

4.1. NOTE 2: This "Time/Area Closure" would address the issue of mortality of halibut that is taken as bycatch in the sablefish hook-and-line fishery.

4.2. Divide the sablefish fishery into two or more "Periods/Seasons".

4.3. Apportion the sablefish TAC to two or more "Periods/Seasons".

5. OPTIONS FOR A MORATORIUM AND LICENSE LIMITATION.

5. NOTE: These Techniques may be used in combination with any of the other "Conservation Management Techniques".

6. OPTIONS FOR TRIP-LIMITS.

6.1. Sablefish and/or halibut "Trip-Limits by Time-Period" (quarter, trimester, season, opening, etc.).

6.2. Sablefish and/or halibut "Trip-Limits by Management/Reporting Area" ("Area").

6.3. Sablefish and/or halibut "Trip-Limits by Vessel-Class-Size"

6.4. Sablefish and/or halibut "Trip-Limits with Area-Specific-Pre-Registration" of a vessel (and/or person).

6.5. Sablefish and/or halibut "Trip-Limits with Time-Period-Specific-Pre-Registration" (quarter, trimester, season, opening, etc.) of a vessel (and/or person).

6.6. "Maximum-Time-Period" to harvest a sablefish and/or a halibut "Trip-Limit" (i.e., 24 hrs., 48 hrs. or 72 hrs.).

These options within 6 Conservation Management Techniques have been identified by the fishing industry based on many years of experience in the fisheries. These options must be analyzed to determine the optimum combination of options that will conserve the sablefish and halibut resource and address the challenges in the fishery.