

North Pacific Fishery Management Council
C4 BSAI Groundfish Harvest Specifications, Council motion
October 6, 2017

The Council adopts Table 8 (C4 item 4a), the proposed 2018 and 2019 apportionments of PSC catch allowances in the BSAI,

The Council adopts Table 10 (C4 item 4c), proposed 2018 and 2019 prohibited species bycatch allowances for the BSAI trawl limited access sector.

The Council adopts the flatfish ABC reserves as the difference between the ABC and the TACs.

The Council adopts the proposed 2018 and 2019 OFLs, ABCs, and TACs as shown in the table attached to the AP motion for groundfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Island with the exception that the TAC for EAI/BS Atka mackerel that reads 34,500 t be corrected to 34,000 t and the 500 t be added to EBS pollock (1,359,358 t) so that it reads 1,359,858 t.

The Council adopts the updated halibut DMRs for the BSAI for 2018 and 2019 as shown in Table 1 (C4 item 8).

Cross/Laukitis passed unanimously.

TABLE 8—PROPOSED 2018 AND 2019 APPORTIONMENT OF PROHIBITED SPECIES CATCH ALLOWANCES TO NON-TRAWL GEAR, THE CDQ PROGRAM, AMENDMENT 80, AND THE BSAI TRAWL LIMITED ACCESS SECTORS

PSC species and area ¹	Total PSC	Non-trawl PSC	CDQ PSQ reserve ²	Trawl PSC remaining after CDQ PSQ	Amendment 80 sector ³	BSAI trawl limited access fishery
Halibut mortality (mt) BSAI	3,515	710	315	n/a	1,745	745
Herring (mt) BSAI	2,013	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Red king crab (animals) Zone 1	97,000	n/a	10,379	86,621	43,293	26,489
<i>C. opilio</i> (animals) COBLZ	9,105,477	n/a	974,286	8,131,191	3,996,480	2,613,365
<i>C. bairdi</i> crab (animals) Zone 1	830,000	n/a	88,810	741,190	312,115	348,285
Non-Pacific cod non-trawl-Total	2,520,000	n/a	269,640	2,250,360	532,660	1,053,394

¹ Refer to § 679.2 for definitions of zones.

² The PSQ reserve for crab species is 10.7 percent of each crab PSC limit.

³ The Amendment 80 program reduced apportionment of the trawl PSC limits for crab below the total PSC limit. These reductions are not apportioned to other gear types or sectors.

TABLE 9-PROPOSED 2018 AND 2019 HERRING AND RED KING CRAB SAVINGS SUBAREA PROHIBITED SPECIES CATCH ALLOWANCES FOR ALL TRAWL SECTORS

Fishery categories	Herring (mt) BSAI	Red king crab (animals) Zone 1
Yellowfin sole	100	n/a
Rock sole/flathead sole/other flatfish ¹	43	n/a
Greenland turbot/arrowtooth flounder/ Kamchatka flounder/sablefish	5	n/a
Rockfish	5	n/a
Pacific cod	10	n/a
Non-Pacific cod non-trawl-Total	1,800	n/a
Pollock/Atka mackerel/other species ^{2,3}	50	n/a
Red king crab savings subarea non-pelagic trawl gear ⁴	n/a	24,250
Total trawl PSC	2,013	97,000

¹ “Other flatfish” for PSC monitoring includes all flatfish species, except for halibut (a prohibited species), arrowtooth flounder, flathead sole, Greenland turbot, Kamchatka flounder, rock sole, and yellowfin sole.

² Pollock other than midwater trawl pollock, Atka mackerel, and “other species” fishery category.

³ “Other species” for PSC monitoring includes sculpins, sharks, skates, squids, and octopuses.

⁴ In October 2017 the Council recommended that the red king crab bycatch limit for non-pelagic trawl fisheries within the RKCSS be limited to 25 percent of the red king crab PSC allowance (see § 679.21(e)(3)(ii)(B)(2)).

Note: Species apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.

TABLE 10—PROPOSED 2018 AND 2019 PROHIBITED SPECIES BYCATCH ALLOWANCES FOR THE BSAI TRAWL LIMITED ACCESS SECTOR

BSAI trawl limited access fisheries	Prohibited species and area ¹				
	Halibut mortality (mt) BSAI	Red king crab (animals) Zone 1	<i>C. opilio</i> (animals) COBLZ	<i>C. bairdi</i> (animals)	
				Zone 1	Zone 2
Yellowfin sole	150	23,338	2,463,587	293,234	1,005,879
Rock sole/flathead sole/other flatfish ²	-	-	-	-	0
Greenland turbot/arrowtooth flounder/Kamchatka flounder/sablefish	-	-	-	-	0
Rockfish April 15-December 31	4	-	4,069	-	849
Pacific cod	391	2,954	105,008	50,816	42,424
Pollock/Atka mackerel/ other species ³	200	197	40,701	4,235	4,243
Total BSAI trawl limited access PSC	745	26,489	2,613,365	348,285	1,053,394

¹ Refer to § 679.2 for definitions of areas.

² “Other flatfish” for PSC monitoring includes all flatfish species, except for halibut (a prohibited species), arrowtooth flounder, flathead sole, Greenland turbot, Kamchatka flounder, rock sole, and yellowfin sole.

³ “Other species” for PSC monitoring includes sculpins, sharks, skates, squids, and octopuses.

Note: Species apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.

TABLE 11—PROPOSED 2018 AND 2019 HALIBUT PROHIBITED SPECIES BYCATCH ALLOWANCES FOR NON-TRAWL FISHERIES

Halibut mortality (mt) BSAI				
Non-trawl fisheries	Seasons	Catcher/ processor	Catcher vessel	All Non- Trawl
Pacific cod	Annual Pacific cod	648	13	n/a
	January 1-June 10	388	9	n/a
	June 10-August 15	162	2	n/a
	August 15-December 31	98	2	n/a
Non-Pacific cod non-trawl-Total	May 1-December 31	n/a	n/a	49
Groundfish pot and jig	n/a	n/a	n/a	Exempt
Sablefish hook-and-line	n/a	n/a	n/a	Exempt
Total for all non-trawl PSC	n/a	n/a	n/a	710

October SSC proposed BSAI Groundfish OFL and ABC and AP proposed TAC recommendations for 2018-2019 (in metric tons)

Species	Area	2016			Catch	2017			Catch as of 9/2/17	2018 and 2019		
		OFL	ABC	TAC		OFL	ABC	TAC		OFL	ABC	TAC
Pollock	EBS	3,910,000	2,090,000	1,340,000	1,352,707	3,640,000	2,800,000	1,345,000	1,287,862	4,360,000	2,979,000	1,359,358
	AI	39,075	32,227	19,000	1,257	43,650	36,061	19,000	1,095	49,291	40,788	19,000
	Bogoslof	31,906	23,850	500	1,005	130,428	60,800	500	186	130,428	97,428	500
Pacific cod	BS	390,000	255,000	238,680	231,514	284,000	239,000	223,704	171,442	258,687	208,265	194,936
	AI	23,400	17,600	12,839	12,593	28,700	21,500	15,695	10,675	28,700	21,500	15,695
Sablefish	BS	1,304	1,151	1,151	532	1,499	1,274	1,274	984	1,519	1,291	1,274
	AI	1,766	1,557	1,557	349	2,044	1,735	1,735	405	2,072	1,758	1,735
Yellowfin sole	BSAI	228,100	211,700	144,000	135,350	287,000	260,800	154,000	92,798	276,000	250,800	154,000
Greenland turbot	BSAI	4,194	3,462	2,873	2,238	11,615	6,644	4,500	2,623	12,831	10,864	4,500
	BS	n/a	2,673	2,673	2,117	n/a	5,800	4,375	2,528	n/a	9,484	4,375
	AI	n/a	789	200	121	n/a	844	125	95	n/a	1,380	125
Arrowtooth flounder	BSAI	94,035	80,701	14,000	11,110	76,100	65,371	14,000	5,051	67,023	58,633	14,000
Kamchatka flounder	BSAI	11,100	9,500	5,000	4,851	10,360	8,880	5,000	4,091	10,700	9,200	5,000
Northern rock sole	BSAI	165,900	161,000	57,100	45,101	159,700	155,100	47,100	33,341	147,300	143,100	50,100
Flathead sole	BSAI	79,562	66,250	21,000	10,384	81,654	68,278	14,500	7,949	79,136	66,164	15,500
Alaska plaice	BSAI	49,000	41,000	14,500	13,385	42,800	36,000	13,000	13,326	36,900	32,100	13,000
Other flatfish	BSAI	17,414	13,061	2,500	2,847	17,591	13,193	2,500	4,028	17,591	13,193	2,500
Pacific ocean perch	BSAI	40,529	33,320	31,900	31,319	53,152	43,723	34,900	24,057	51,950	42,735	34,900
	BS	n/a	8,353	8,000	8,221	n/a	12,199	11,000	5,444	n/a	11,924	11,000
	EAI	n/a	7,916	7,900	7,444	n/a	10,307	7,900	4,208	n/a	10,074	9,900
	CAI	n/a	7,355	7,000	6,765	n/a	8,009	7,000	5,890	n/a	7,828	7,500
	WAI	n/a	9,696	9,000	8,888	n/a	13,208	9,000	8,515	n/a	12,909	12,000
Northern rockfish	BSAI	14,689	11,960	4,500	4,541	16,242	13,264	5,000	4,125	15,854	12,947	5,000
Blackspotted/Rougheye rockfish	BSAI	693	561	300	159	612	501	225	163	750	614	225
	EBS/EAI	n/a	179	100	72	n/a	306	100	49	n/a	374	100
	CAI/WAI	n/a	382	200	87	n/a	195	125	114	n/a	240	125
Shortraker rockfish	BSAI	690	518	200	112	666	499	125	133	666	499	125
Other rockfish	BSAI	1,667	1,250	875	789	1,816	1,362	875	593	1,816	1,362	875
	BS	n/a	695	325	282	n/a	791	325	216	n/a	791	325
	AI	n/a	555	550	507	n/a	571	550	377	n/a	571	550
Atka mackerel	BSAI	104,749	90,340	55,000	54,485	102,700	87,200	65,000	45,766	99,900	85,000	65,000
	EAI/BS	n/a	30,832	28,500	28,360	n/a	34,890	34,500	16,236	n/a	34,000	34,500
	CAI	n/a	27,216	16,000	15,795	n/a	30,330	18,000	17,304	n/a	29,600	21,500
	WAI	n/a	32,292	10,500	10,330	n/a	21,980	12,500	12,226	n/a	21,400	13,910
Skates	BSAI	50,215	42,134	26,000	29,687	49,063	41,144	26,000	22,623	46,583	39,008	26,000
Sculpins	BSAI	52,365	39,725	4,500	4,947	56,582	42,387	4,500	4,058	56,582	42,387	4,500
Sharks	BSAI	1,363	1,022	125	126	689	517	125	82	689	517	125
Squids	BSAI	6,912	5,184	1,500	1,378	6,912	5,184	1,342	2,006	6,912	5,184	1,342
Octopuses	BSAI	3,452	2,589	400	627	4,769	3,576	400	152	4,769	3,576	400
Total	BSAI	5,324,080	3,236,662	2,000,000	1,953,391	5,110,344	4,013,993	2,000,000	1,739,614	5,764,649	4,167,913	2,000,000

Sources: 2016 OFLs, ABCs, and TACs and 2017 OFLs and ABCs are from harvest specifications adopted by the Council in December 2015 and December 2016, respectively; 2016 catches through December 31, 2016 and 2017 catches through September 2, 2017 from AKR Catch Accounting.

Table 1. Proposed 2018 DMRs and currently specified 2017 DMRs. Green font indicates reduced DMRs and red font indicates increase. DMRs for mothership operations are included under CPs.

2017						
Operational Group				Sample Size (Mean Annual N _{Viabilities})	Estimate DMR?	DMR
Sector	Region	Gear	Target			
CP	BSAI	PTR	all	4,151	N	100%
		NPT	all	1,753	Y	85%
		HAL	all	11,676	Y	8%
		POT	all	571	Y	6%
	GOA	PTR	all	0	N	100%
		NPT	all	196	N	85%
		HAL	all	1,247	Y	11%
		POT	all	479	Y	10%
CV	BSAI	PTR	all	224	N	100%
		NPT	all	2,282	Y	52%
		HAL	all	44	Y	14%
		POT	all	571	Y	6%
	GOA	PTR	all	1	N	100%
		NPT	RPP ^e	547	Y	67%
			non-RPP		Y	65%
		HAL	all	729	Y	12%
POT	all	479	Y	10%		

2018						
Operational Group				Sample Size (Mean Annual N _{Viabilities})	Estimate DMR?	DMR
Sector	Region	Gear	Target			
CP	BSAI	PTR	all	3,097	N	100%
		NPT	all	2,025	Y	84%
		HAL	all	8,838	Y	8%
		POT	all	548	Y	9%
	GOA	PTR	all	0	N	100%
		NPT	all	132	N	84%
		HAL	all	1,493	Y	10%
		POT	all	602	Y	7%
CV	BSAI	PTR	all	151	N	100%
		NPT	all	2,456	Y	60%
		HAL	all	36	Y	17%
		POT	all	548	Y	9%
	GOA	PTR	all	0	N	100%
		NPT	RPP	937	Y	62%
			non-RPP		Y	67%
		HAL	all	1	Y	17%
POT	all	602	Y	7%		

^e – 2017 RPP DMR calculated by proxy methods based on catch composition. RPP was directly estimated in 2018