

**HALIBUT AND SABLEFISH IFQ PROGRAM
AMENDMENT PROPOSAL
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
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Name of Proposer:

Gulf of Alaska Coastal Communities Coalition (GOAC3)

Date: 1/7/10

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Brief Statement of Proposal: CQE ELIGIBILITY FOR FEDERAL LOANS

The GOAC3 proposes that the North Pacific Fishery Management Council take appropriate action to ensure that qualified Community Quota Entities (CQE) in the Gulf of Alaska become eligible to participate in the Federal IFQ Loan Program for the purchase of halibut and sablefish IFQ's.

Objectives of Proposal (What is the problem?):

CQEs are currently not eligible for federal loan programs. CQE communities became eligible to purchase Halibut and Sablefish IFQ's in 2004 and it is only equitable that they have the same eligibility as similarly qualified purchasers to participate in the federal loan program. In addition, any IFQ's purchased by CQE's will pay into the loan program and therefore should be able to benefit from a program for which they are required to pay.

Need and Justification for Council Action (Why can't the problem be resolved through other channels?):

Any changes to the CQE program are required to go through the NPFMC.

Foreseeable Impacts of Proposal (Who wins, who loses?):

CQE communities, their respective hub community, other communities of the region, and the State of Alaska all benefit when CQE communities have healthy and stable economies. This proposal will promote that end. There would be no person or group who would suffer a loss with this action.

Are there Alternative Solutions? If so, what are they and why do you consider your proposal the best way of solving the problem?

There are no alternatives.

Supportive Data and Other Information (What data are available and where can they be found?):

This discussion will appear in upcoming proceedings of the CQE February 2009 workshop, co-sponsored by the Rasmuson Foundation, The Alaska Sea Grant Program, the North Pacific Fisheries Trust, and the Gulf of Alaska Coastal Communities Coalition.

Signature:

Fred Christiansen, Chairman, GOAC3