

National Marine Fisheries Service
Alaska Region
Juneau, Alaska
January 7, 1994

Status of Regulatory Actions Through January 11, 1994

Pending Actions

BSAI cod allocation to specific gear (Amd 24)	Amendment approved January 7, 1994; regs effective March 1
Mandatory retention of trawl-caught salmon; & Elim. 1°&2° halibut PSC limit (Amd 25)	Proposed rule being reviewed in WDC
Define legal gear types	Final rule being reviewed in WDC
Area 517 observer coverage	Final notice being reviewed in WDC
GOA and BSAI 1994 final specifications	Final notice being prepared by Regional Office
Observer regulations	Final rule being prepared by Regional Office
Standard PRRs & Reduced roe retention	Final rule being prepared by Regional Office
GOA POP rockfish rebuilding plan (Amd 32)	Published in FR 01/04/94; comment period ends 02/28/94
CDQ requirements for 2 observers/total weight	Published in FR 12/27/93; comment period ends 01/26/94
1994 Bycatch rate standards	Comment period ends 01/19/94

Moratorium (Amd 23/28)
and Crab Amd 2

Proposed rule being prepared by Regional Office

*Maybe
after
w/ty
Still have to
be revised
by 9/90
end etc*

IFQ appeals regulations

Proposed rule being reviewed in WDC

IFQ Block proposal

Proposed rule being prepared by Regional Office

IFQ regulatory amendments

Proposed rule being prepared by Regional Office

'94 recordkeeping and
reporting

Proposed rule being prepared by Regional Office

NPF Research Plan
(Amd 27/30)

Proposed rule being prepared by Regional Office

Soon?

GOA halibut PSCs allowances
trawl fisheries
categories

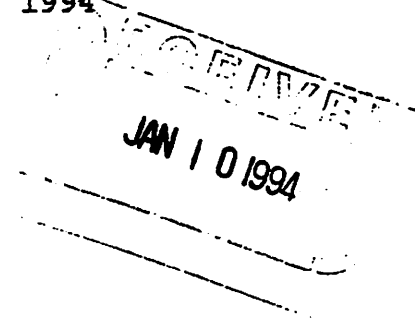
Emergency rule being prepared by Regional Office



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

AGENDA B-2
 JANUARY 1994
 Supplemental

January 7, 1994



Richard B. Lauber, Chairman
 North Pacific Fishery Management Council
 P.O. Box 103136
 Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Rick,

This letter is to notify you of my decision to approve Amendment 24 to the Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area (BSAI). Amendment 24 was adopted by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council at its June 1993 meeting. This amendment is effective through December 31, 1996, and authorizes the explicit allocation of Pacific cod among gear groups and the seasonal apportionment of the amount of Pacific cod allocated to vessels using hook-and-line or pot gear. The intent of Amendment 24 is to provide stability to the Pacific cod fisheries while allowing various components of the industry to optimize their utilization of the resource.

The final rule implementing Amendment 24 includes the following management measures:

1. Allocates the BSAI Pacific cod initial total allowable catch (TAC) (.85 TAC) and subsequent allocations of Pacific cod from the operational reserves, among gear types as follows: 2 percent to vessels using jig gear; 44 percent to vessels using hook-and-line or pot gear; and 54 percent to vessels using trawl gear. In monitoring the use of these gear allocations, all cod catch and cod bycatch by each of the three gear groups would be counted against its allocation;
2. Provides the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary), after consultation with the Council, authority to seasonally apportion the amount of the Pacific cod TAC allocated to vessels using hook-and-line or pot gear. Seasonal apportionments would be divided among three successive 4-month periods and established through the annual September-December specifications process; and
3. Provides the Director, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Director), authority to reallocate Pacific cod from vessels using trawl gear to vessels using hook-and-line or pot gear, and visa versa, anytime during the year the Regional Director determines that one gear group or the other will



not be able to harvest its allocation of Pacific cod. That portion of the jig gear allocation that is expected to go unharvested may be transferred to vessels using trawl and hook-and-line or pot gear at the beginning of the third 4-month period.

The rule implementing Amendment 24 also establishes seasonal apportionments of the amount of the 1994 Pacific cod TAC proposed to be allocated to vessels using hook-and-line or pot gear. These apportionments were recommended by the Council during its December 1993 meeting.

Sincerely,



Steven Pennoyer
Director, Alaska Region



Agenda Item: B-3

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**REPORT TO THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL****January 10, 1994**

Fisheries managed under delegated authority of the State of Alaska since the last council meeting include crab, salmon and demersal rockfish.

BERING SEA KING AND TANNER CRAB FISHERIES: The directed Bering Sea *C. bairdi* Tanner crab fishery closed on January 1, 1994. Preliminary information indicates approximately 12.2 million pounds has been harvested in the directed fishery that opened on November 20. In addition, over 3.0 million pounds was harvested incidental to the Bristol Bay red king crab fishery, bringing the preliminary total harvest to 15.2 million pounds, approximately 4.2 million pounds less than the pre-season guideline harvest level. The *C. opilio* Tanner crab fishery will open by regulation on January 15 with a pre-season harvest guideline of 105.8 million pounds.

The Adak red and brown king crab fishery that opened November 1 continues, with approximately 657,000 pounds of red king and 112,000 pounds of brown king crab harvested. Unless closed earlier by emergency order, the red king crab fishery will close by regulation on February 15. After the closure of the red king crab fishery, additional effort will concentrate on the brown king crab stocks in the area.

SALMON TROLL FISHERY: The 1994 troll chinook accounting began on October 1, 1993, but the opening was delayed ten days. The catch to date is 34,000 fish, the second highest catch reported for the first half of the winter accounting period.

SOUTHEAST ALASKA DEMERSAL SHELF ROCKFISH FISHERY: The directed DSR hook and line fishery reopened January 1 under the 1994 harvest objectives. New Board of Fisheries regulations will extend the winter lingcod closure line outward from the surfline to the three mile base line, which makes the state's cod pot fishing regulations consistent with federal regulations for the Eastern Gulf.

State management boundaries were altered to bring consistency with the federal regulatory district boundaries. Additionally, the state has adopted a framework authority to modify directed fishing standards for rockfish by emergency order.

Catch per unit effort (CPUE) of selected commercially important species during the 1992 Bering Sea *C. bairdi* crab fishery from November 15th to December 31st, 1992, including total sample catches and estimated total catch in the fishery.

Species	Total pot ^a sample catch	Catch per unit effort	Estimated total ^b fishery catch
<u><i>C. bairdi</i></u>			
legal male	15,365	29.7	14,629,181
sub-legal male	21,917	42.3	20,835,500
female	5,354	10.4	5,122,676
<u><i>C. opilio</i></u>			
legal male	2,754	5.3	2,610,595 ^c
sub-legal male	86	.2	98,513
female	66	.1	49,257

^aTotal pot contents derived from 517 random samples taken on catcher processors between November 15th and December 31st, 1992.

^bEstimated catch derived from pot sample CPUE x 492,565 total reported pot pulls between November 15th and December 31st, 1992.

^cUnknown portion legally retained.

Catch per unit effort (CPUE) of selected commercially important species during the 1992 Bering Sea C. opilio fishery including total sample catches and estimated total catch in the fishery.

Species	Total pot ^a sample catch	Catch per unit effort	Estimated total ^b fishery catch
<u>C. opilio</u>			
legal male	253,995	208.9	267,767,184
sub-legal male	1,857	1.5	1,922,694
female	3,855	3.2	4,101,747
<u>C. bairdi</u>			
legal male	3,194	2.6	3,332,670 ^c
sub-legal male	9,886	8.1	10,382,548
female	958	.8	1,025,437

^aTotal pot contents derived from 1,216 random samples taken on catcher processors during the fishery.

^bEstimated catch derived from pot sample CPUE x 1,281,796 total reported pot pulls during the fishery.

^cUnknown portion legally retained.