



C4 BSAI Parallel Waters Final Action

December 2019 Council Meeting

Action Memo

Council Staff: Jon McCracken

Action Required:

1. Review public review draft of BSAI parallel water analysis
2. Identify a preferred alternative and final recommendations

BACKGROUND

The Council is considering final action on a proposed amendment that would require federally permitted hook-and-line, pot, and trawl gear vessels participating in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Island Pacific cod parallel fisheries to have a License Limitation Program license with the appropriate endorsements and a designated Federal Fisheries Permit assigned to the vessel. The amendment would also require the above Federally permitted or licensed vessels that fish in the parallel fishery to adhere to federal sector and seasonal BSAI Pacific cod closures and would restrict those vessels from surrendering and later reapplying for the Federal Fishery Permit within a specified time period.

The purposed amendment intends to ensure robust catch accounting while preventing all hook-and-line, pot, and trawl gear vessels from circumventing the intent of previous Council decisions regarding license limitation and sector allocations when participating in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Pacific cod parallel fisheries while also recognizing that new entrants who do not hold federal fishery permits may participate in the parallel fishery.