

April 2017

Programmatic Groundfish Management Policy Annual Review

Action

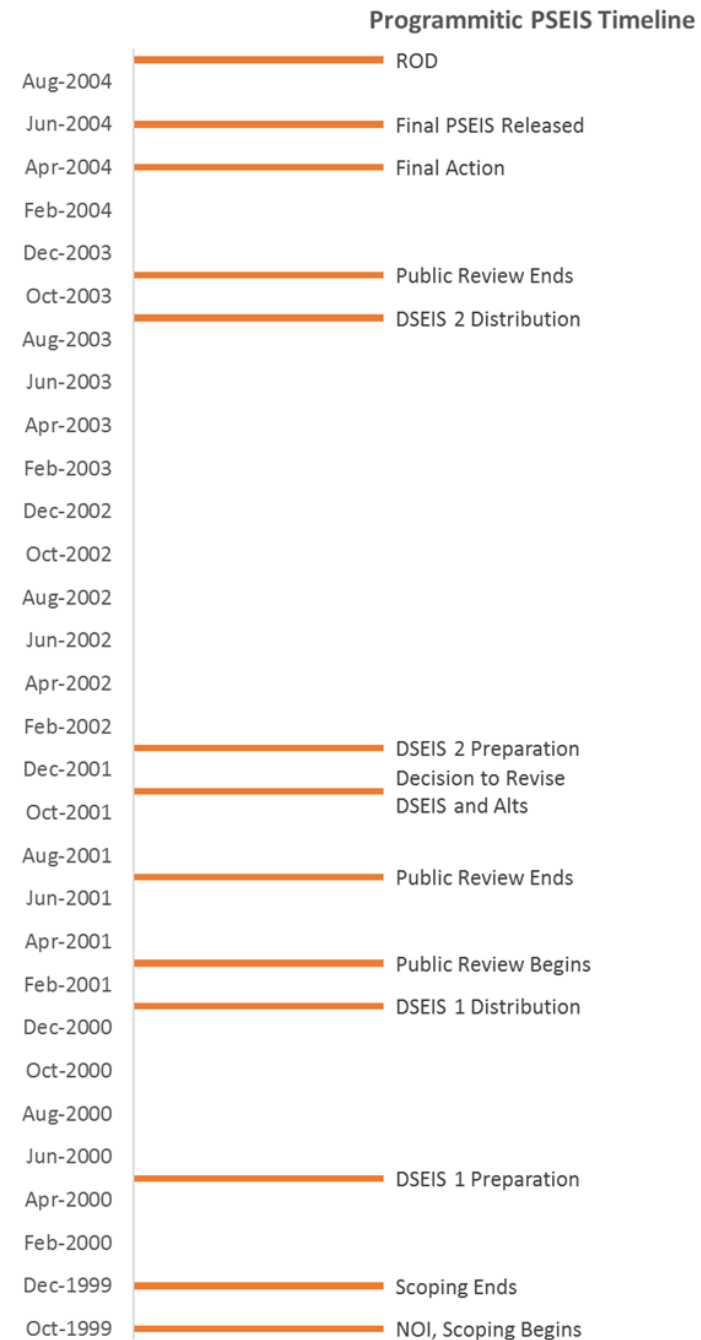
- Review Management Policy
 - Policy Statement
 - Objectives*
 - FMP Mandate
 - *Revise as necessary*
- Other
 - Terminology
 - Other actions rooted in PSEIS

Background

- GOA and BSAI EISs (1979, 1981)
- SEIS (1998)
 - Litigation
 - Federal “Action”
 - TAC setting → FMP
- 2004 PSEIS
 - Programmatic review
 - Alternatives
 - Bookends

2004 PSEIS

- Programmatic review
- Alternatives
 - A management approach statement that described the goals, rationale and assumptions behind the alternative;
 - A set of management objectives that complemented and further refined the goals set forth in the management approach; and,
 - Except for the No Action Alternative, a pair of example FMP “bookends” that illustrated and framed the range of implementing management measures under that alternative.



PSEIS Preferred Alternative (Policy)

- Recognizes that NPFMC approach is ...
 - Judicious and responsible
 - Based on sound scientific research and analyses
 - Proactive rather than reactive
 - Adaptive to changing conditions
- Will continue to be consistent with
 - MSA, Nat. Standards
 - ESA, NEPA, other applicable law

PSEIS Preferred Alternative (Policy)

- Measures will continue fulfill policy through ...
 - Community or rights-based management
 - EBFM principles
 - Habitat protection
 - Bycatch constraints
 - Balancing competing uses
- Goal:
 - Provide sound conservation of the living marine resources; provide socially and economically viable fisheries and fishing communities; minimize human-caused threats to protected species; maintain a healthy marine resource habitat; and *incorporate ecosystem-based considerations into management decisions.*

PSEIS Preferred Alternative (Policy)

- **Annual Review:**

- “Adaptive management requires regular and periodic review. Objectives identified in this policy statement will be reviewed annually by the NPFMC. The NPFMC will also review, modify, eliminate, or consider new issues as appropriate to best carry out the goals and objectives of this management policy.”

Objectives

Prevent Overfishing:

1. Adopt conservative harvest levels for multi-species and single species fisheries and specify optimum yield.
2. Continue to use existing optimum yield cap for BSAI (as stated in current law) and GOA groundfish fisheries.
3. Provide for adaptive management by continuing to specify optimum yield as a range.
4. Initiate a scientific review of the adequacy of F₄₀ and adopt improvements as appropriate.
5. Continue to improve the management of species through species categories.

Ongoing – Specs

C1 Scallop

C2 Salmon

C5 RPP

Promote Sustainable Fisheries and Communities:

6. Promote conservation while providing for optimum yield in terms of providing the greatest overall benefit to the nation with particular reference to food production, and sustainable opportunities for recreational, subsistence and commercial fishing participants and fishing communities.
7. Promote management measures that, while meeting conservation objectives, are also designed to avoid significant disruption of existing social and economic structures.
8. Promote fair and equitable allocation of identified available resources in a manner such that no particular sector, group or entity acquires an excessive share of the privileges.
9. Promote increased safety at sea.

All Actions

Objectives

Preserve Food Web:

10. Develop indices of ecosystem health as targets for management.
11. Improve the procedure to adjust ABCs as necessary to account for uncertainty and ecosystem factors.
12. Continue to protect the integrity of the food web through limits on harvest of forage species.
13. Incorporate ecosystem-based considerations into fishery management decisions as appropriate.

SAFE Ecosystem Considerations
C6 EFH 5 year
D3 BSFEP

Manage Incidental Catch and Reduce Bycatch and Waste:

14. Continue and improve current incidental catch and bycatch management program.
15. Develop incentive programs for bycatch reduction including the development of mechanisms to facilitate the formation of bycatch pools, VBAs, or other bycatch incentive systems.
16. Encourage research programs to evaluate current population estimates for non-target species with a view to setting appropriate bycatch limits as information becomes available.
17. Continue program to reduce discards by developing management measures that encourage the use of gear and fishing techniques that reduce bycatch which includes economic discards.
18. Continue to manage incidental catch and bycatch through seasonal distribution of TAC and geographical gear restrictions.
19. Continue to account for bycatch mortality in TAC accounting and improve the accuracy of mortality assessments for target, PSC, and commercial species.
20. Control the bycatch of prohibited species through PSC limits or other appropriate measures.
21. Reduce waste to biologically and socially acceptable levels.

C3 Salmon Genetics
C7 Halibut ABM
C9 EM Work Gp Rpt
C10 LL2

Objectives

Avoid Impacts to Seabirds and Marine Mammals:

B7 PR Report

22. Continue to cooperate with USFWS to protect ESA-listed species, and if appropriate and practicable, other seabird species.
23. Maintain or adjust current protection measures as appropriate to avoid jeopardy to ESA-listed Steller sea lions.
24. Encourage programs to review status of endangered or threatened marine mammal stocks and fishing interactions and develop fishery management measures as appropriate.
25. Continue to cooperate with NOAA Fisheries and USFWS to protect ESA-listed marine mammal species, and if appropriate and practicable, other marine mammal species.

Reduce and Avoid Impacts to Habitat:

C6 - EFH 5 Year

26. Review and evaluate efficacy of existing habitat protection measures for managed species.
27. Identify and designate EFH and HAPC pursuant to MSA rules, and mitigate fishery impacts as necessary and practicable to continue the sustainability of managed species.
28. Develop a Marine Protected Area policy in coordination with national and state policies.
29. Encourage development of a research program to identify regional baseline habitat information and mapping, subject to funding and staff availability.
30. Develop goals, objectives and criteria to evaluate the efficacy and suitable design of marine protected areas and no-take marine reserves as tools to maintain abundance, diversity, and productivity. Implement marine protected areas if and where appropriate.

Objectives

C4 Co-Op Reports
C7 Halibut ABM
C8 CDQ Ownerships Caps
D1 Crab Binding Arb
D2 Crab Custom Proc.

Promote Equitable and Efficient Use of Fishery Resources:

31. Provide economic and community stability to harvesting and processing sectors through fair allocation of fishery resources.
32. Maintain LLP program and modify as necessary, and further decrease excess fishing capacity and overcapitalization by eliminating latent licenses and extending programs such as community or rights-based management to some or all groundfish fisheries.
33. Provide for adaptive management by periodically evaluating the effectiveness of rationalization programs and the allocation of access rights based on performance.
34. Develop management measures that, when practicable, consider the efficient use of fishery resources taking into account the interest of harvesters, processors, and communities.

Increase Alaska Native Consultation::

35. Continue to incorporate local and Traditional Knowledge in fishery management.
36. Consider ways to enhance collection of local and Traditional Knowledge from communities, and incorporate such knowledge in fishery management where appropriate.
37. Increase Alaska Native participation and consultation in fishery management.

D3 BS FEP
Outreach Committee

Objectives

Improve Data Quality, Monitoring and Enforcement:

- 38. Increase the utility of groundfish fishery observer data for the conservation and management of living marine resources.
- 39. Improve groundfish Observer Program, and consider ways to address the disproportionate costs associated with the current funding mechanism.
- 40. Improve community and regional economic impact costs and benefits through increased data reporting requirements.
- 41. Increase the quality of monitoring and enforcement data through improved technological means.
- 42. Encourage a coordinated, long-term ecosystem monitoring program to collect baseline information and compile existing information from a variety of ongoing research initiatives, subject to funding and staff availability.
- 43. Cooperate with research institutions such as the NPRB in identifying research needs to address pressing fishery issues.
- 44. Promote enhanced enforceability.
- 45. Continue to cooperate and coordinate management and enforcement programs with the ADF&G, and Alaska Fish and Wildlife Protection, the USCG, NOAA Fisheries Enforcement, IPHC, federal agencies, and other organizations to meet conservation requirements; promote economically healthy and sustainable fisheries and fishing communities; and maximize efficiencies in management and enforcement programs through continued consultation, coordination, and cooperation.

B Reports

C9 EM Progress

Obs ADP

Obs coverage small CPs

Halibut Mgmt Framework

Objectives

	SSC King Salmon/Eliamna Room	AP Katmai/Dillingham Room	Council Aleutian Room
Monday April 3 Legislative Cmte Chart Rm 1pm -5pm	8:00 am C1 Scallop SAFE and OPL/ABC Specifications D5 BS Fishery Ecosystem		
	1:00 pm C6 EPH Omnibus Am. C10 Lead Level 2 Observ		
Tuesday April 4 Ecosystem Cmte Chart Rm 9am-5pm	8:00 am C3 Salmon Genetics C5 GOA Rockfish Program Work Plan	8:00 am C1 Scallop SAFE and OPL/ABC Specifications C2 Salmon FMP Am.	
	1:00 pm Fur Seal Status and Management; APSC Research Prioritization	1:00 pm C3 Pollock ICA/IPA and Salmon Genetics	
Wednesday April 5	8:00 am C7 Halibut Abundance-based PSC limits	8:00 am C4 Co-op Reports	8:00 am B Reports
	1:00 pm continue as necessary	1:00 pm C5 GOA Rockfish Program Work Plan C8 CDQ Ownership Caps	1:00 pm B Reports
Thursday April 6 EM Hearing - NMPS (6pm-8pm) Katmai/Dillingham	8:00 am preparation and review of minutes	8:00 am C6 EPH Omnibus Am. C7 Halibut Abundance-based PSC limits	8:00 am C1 Scallop SAFE and OPL/ABC Specifications C2 Salmon FMP Am.
		1:00 pm C7 continued C9 EM Work Group	C3 Pollock ICA/IPA and Salmon Genetics
Friday April 7		8:00 am C10 Lead Level 2 Observ D1 Crab Binding Arb.	8:00 am C3 continued
		1:00 pm D2 BSAI Tanner Crab Cap D3 BS Fishery Ecosystem	1:00 pm C4 Co-op Reports 4 pm Executive Session (T)
Saturday April 8		8:00 am D4 Programmatic Groundfish Objectives E1 Staff Tasking	8:00 am C5 GOA Rockfish Program Work Plan C8 CDQ Ownership Caps
Sunday April 9			1:00 pm C6 EPH Omnibus Am. C7 Halibut Abundance-based PSC limits
			8:00 am C7 continued C9 EM Work Group
Monday April 10			1:00 pm C10 Lead Level 2 Observ.
			8:00 am D1 Crab Binding Arb. D2 Tanner Crab Cap
Tuesday April 11			1:00 pm D3 BS Fishery Ecosystem D4 Programmatic Groundfish Objectives
			8:00 am E1 Staff Tasking 1:00 pm continue as necessary

NOTE: The above agenda items may not be taken in the order in which they appear and are subject to change as necessary. All meetings are open to the public with the exception of Council Executive Sessions.

Continued Applicability of PSEIS

- Council can choose to supplement anytime
- Supplement needed if ...
 - new information is sufficient to show a proposed or remaining action will affect the quality of the human environment in a significant manner or to a significant extent *not already considered*
- Duty to continually monitor

Workplan

- PSEIS to be used as a planning document
- Workplan ...
 - bridge
 - tangible expression of the Policy in the context of actions under consideration by the Council
- Provided in tabular form at every Council meeting (E-1)
 - general priorities
 - management objectives
 - recent/current/ongoing/pending actions
 - a timeframe for actions
 - cumulative record of management actions and outcomes
- New issues as appropriate

Workplan

General Priority	Management Objectives	Recent, Current, Ongoing, Pending Activity	2017				2018				Cumulative Management Actions/Outcomes																																			
			Feb	Apr	Jun	Oct	Dec	Feb	Apr	Jun		Oct	Dec																																	
1. Prevent Overfishing (Maintain Sustainable Harvest)	1. Adopt conservative harvest levels for multi-species and single species fisheries and specify optimum yield.	Ongoing - SAFE and Annual specifications												FMP amendments related to this goal statement <table border="1"> <tr> <td>105</td> <td>BSAI</td> <td>2014</td> <td>Provided flexibility for flatfish specifications</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100/91</td> <td>BSAI/GOA</td> <td>2014</td> <td>Included grenadiers in the Ecosystem Component category</td> </tr> <tr> <td>86/76</td> <td>BSAI/GOA</td> <td>2012</td> <td>Restructured Observer Program to reduce statistical bias</td> </tr> <tr> <td>95/87</td> <td>BSAI/GOA</td> <td>2010</td> <td>Incorporated ACL requirements, Move "other species" to target category, Create Ecosystem Component category</td> </tr> <tr> <td>79</td> <td>GOA</td> <td>2008</td> <td>OFL/ABC process for "other species"</td> </tr> <tr> <td>69</td> <td>GOA</td> <td>2006</td> <td>Established TAC process for "other species"</td> </tr> <tr> <td>63</td> <td>GOA</td> <td>2004</td> <td>Moved skates to target category</td> </tr> <tr> <td>48/48</td> <td>BSAI/GOA</td> <td>2004</td> <td>Established current harvest specifications process</td> </tr> </table>	105	BSAI	2014	Provided flexibility for flatfish specifications	100/91	BSAI/GOA	2014	Included grenadiers in the Ecosystem Component category	86/76	BSAI/GOA	2012	Restructured Observer Program to reduce statistical bias	95/87	BSAI/GOA	2010	Incorporated ACL requirements, Move "other species" to target category, Create Ecosystem Component category	79	GOA	2008	OFL/ABC process for "other species"	69	GOA	2006	Established TAC process for "other species"	63	GOA	2004	Moved skates to target category	48/48	BSAI/GOA	2004	Established current harvest specifications process
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	2. Continue to use the optimum yield caps for the BSAI and GOA groundfish fisheries.	Ongoing - Annual specifications																																												
3. Provide for adaptive management by continuing to specify optimum yield as a range.	Ongoing - Annual specifications																																													
4. Provide for periodic reviews of the adequacy of F ₄₀ and adopt improvements, as appropriate.	Ongoing - AFSC responds to CIE reviews as part of specs process																																													
	2009 - BSAI skates TAC breakout 2010 - Ecosystem component created 2014 - Grenadiers to EC 2015 - Working paper on uncertainty in control rules tasked																																													
5. Continue to improve the management of species through species categories.	2015 - BSIERP MSE modeling underway																																													
	Ongoing – Spatial management policy guides species complex and subarea considerations																																													
	Ongoing - Squid to EC																																													
														Regulatory amendments related to this goal statement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual specifications for setting harvest levels 																																
														Other management actions related to this goal statement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular Center for International Experts reviews for stock assessments and harvest strategies • Ongoing work on accounting for uncertainty in control rules • Council policy and ongoing discussion of spatial management for stocks 																																

Annual Review

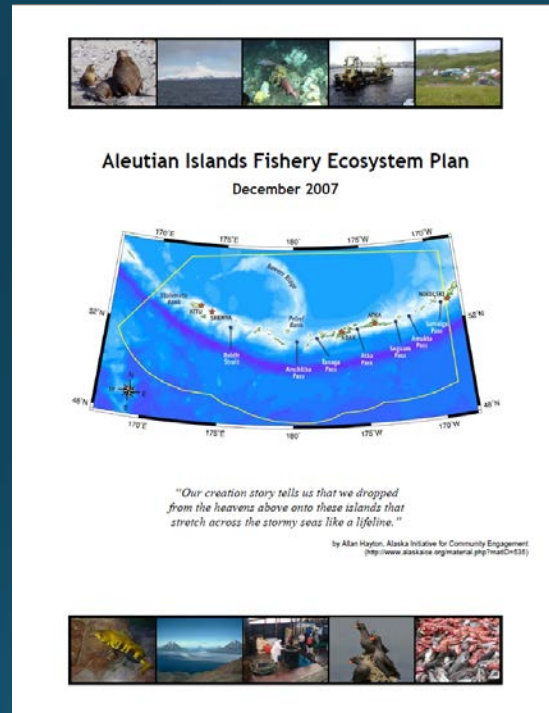
- FMP mandate
 - Management Policy Objectives
- Optional
 - Council actions

Periodic Comprehensive Review

- Supplemental Information Report
 - 2012 - 2015
 - Triggers*
 - Determination

Council Actions Outside the Scope of the Groundfish FMPs

- AIFEP
- BSFEP
- Arctic FMP

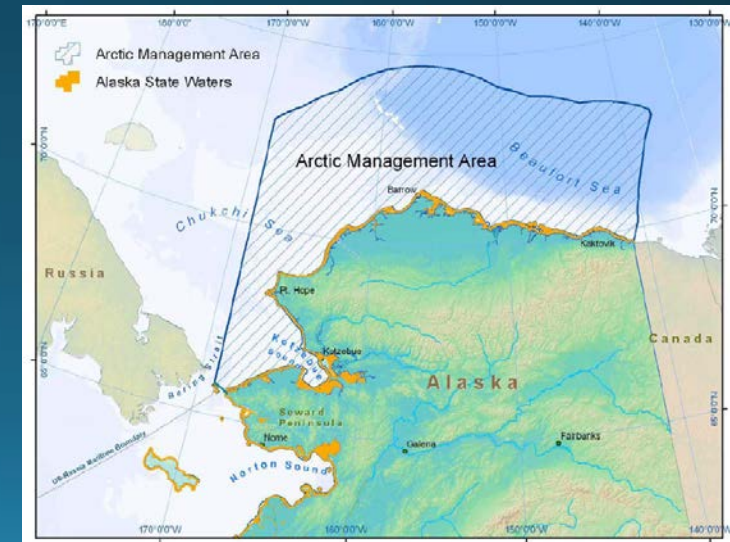


Aleutian Islands Fishery Ecosystem Plan
December 2007

"Our creation story tells us that we dropped from the heavens above onto these islands that stretch across the stormy seas like a lifeline."

by Alan Hayton, Alaska Initiative for Community Engagement
(<http://www.alaskainitiative.org/central.php?mail=CI-033>)

Comparison of FEP contents			
BS Core FEP draft outline (2015)	EPAP (1999)	Lenfest (2016)	NOAA's EBFM Roadmap (2016)
1. Introduction	1. Geographic extent of ecosystem	1.a. system inventory and model	1.a. engage partners and stakeholders
2. Purpose of FEP	2. Food web model	b. indicators	b. support FEPs
3. Background / EBFM theory	3. Habitat needs of the significant food web	c. threats	2.a. ecosystem science to understand interactions – biological, physical, social, habitat
4. Scope of FEP	4. Total removals	2.a. vision statement	b. ecosystem status reports
a. Geographic	5. How uncertainty is characterized	b. strategic objectives	3.a. identify ecosystem-level risk and vulnerability across LMRs
b. Jurisdictional	6. Ecosystem indicators	c. assess risk to objectives	b. identify pressures with most risk to communities and resources
c. Fisheries	7. Long-term monitoring data	d. prioritize objectives	4.a. analyze tradeoffs when maximizing benefits within ecosystem
5. Synthesis of ecosystem information	8. Assessment of ecosystem elements	e. operational objectives	b. develop ecosystem MSE capability for providing management advice
6. Ecosystem goals	9. Framework for action modules	3.a. performance measures	5.a. monitor ecosystem reference points
7. BS FEP objectives	a. Process	b. management strategies	b. incorporate ecosystem considerations in assessments, control rules, fisheries management
8. Framework for action modules	b. List	c. evaluate strategies	c. integrated advice for other (non-fishery) management
a. Process	c. Institutional	d. select strategy	6.a. evaluate resilience
b. List		4. Implementation	b. evaluate community well-being
9. Outreach / public involvement		5. Did we make it?	
10. Recurrence / feedback mechanism			



Questions?

The Food Chain

