

C6 BSAI Groundfish Specifications and SAFE

The AP recommends the Council adopt the OFLs, ABCs, and TACs for 2017 and 2018 groundfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands, as shown in **Attachment 1**.

Motion passed 21-0.

Rationale: The OFLs and ABCs are SSC recommendations. The TACs are recommended by industry collectively.

The AP recommends the Council adopt Tables 13, 14, 16, and 17 (**Attachment 2**) for 2017 and 2018 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands groundfish PSC limits and apportionments contained in C6 item 7.

Motion passed 21-0.

Rationale: This is in line with what the AP does every year

The AP recommends the Council adopt the adjusted herring PSC allowances in Table 15 as provided by industry (**Attachment 2**) for 2017-18 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands groundfish trawl sectors.

Motion passed 21-0.

Rationale: The pollock industry is impacted greatly by the low herring PSC limits. During B season, herring bycatch can be very problematic due to sudden encounters of high herring concentrations that the pollock fleet have a difficult time avoiding despite daily monitoring. The area of high herring bycatch located on the steep edge of the north-south tow of the Horseshoe, is also the area of high pollock concentrations and typically has significantly lower chum salmon bycatch. Avoiding herring can result in the pollock fleet experiencing higher rates of salmon bycatch.

The AP recommends the Council approve the 2016 Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish SAFE report.

Motion passed 21-0.

Rationale: The AP agrees with the 2016 SAFE report.

Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish Specifications: AP recommended TACs and SSC recommended OFLs and ABCs for 2017 and 2018 (metric tons).

Species	Area	OFL	2016 ABC	TAC	Catch as of 11/5/2016	OFL	2017 ABC	TAC	OFL	2018 ABC	TAC
Pollock	EBS	3,910,000	2,090,000	1,340,000	1,349,724	3,640,000	2,800,000	1,345,000	4,360,000	2,979,000	1,345,000
	AI	39,075	32,227	19,000	1,288	43,650	36,061	19,000	49,291	40,788	19,000
	Bogoslof	31,906	23,850	500	1,005	130,428	60,800	500	130,428	97,428	500
Pacific cod	BS	390,000	255,000	238,680	210,110	284,000	239,000	223,704	302,000	255,000	223,704
	AI	23,400	17,600	12,839	12,357	28,700	21,500	15,695	28,700	21,500	15,695
Sablefish	BS	1,304	1,151	1,151	518	1,499	1,274	1,274	1,519	1,291	1,274
	AI	1,766	1,557	1,557	349	2,044	1,735	1,735	2,072	1,758	1,735
Yellowfin sole	BSAI	228,100	211,700	144,000	128,236	287,000	260,800	154,000	276,000	250,800	154,000
Greenland turbot	BSAI	4,194	3,462	2,873	2,205	11,615	6,644	4,500	12,831	10,864	4,500
	BS	n/a	2,673	2,673	2,084	n/a	5,800	4,375	n/a	9,484	4,375
	AI	n/a	789	200	121	n/a	844	125	n/a	1,380	125
Arrowtooth flounder	BSAI	94,035	80,701	14,000	10,346	76,100	65,371	14,000	67,023	58,633	14,000
Kamchatka flounder	BSAI	11,100	9,500	5,000	4,762	10,360	8,880	5,000	10,700	9,200	5,000
Northern rock sole	BSAI	165,900	161,000	57,100	44,873	159,700	155,100	47,100	147,300	143,100	47,100
Flathead sole	BSAI	79,562	66,250	21,000	9,655	81,654	68,278	14,500	79,136	66,164	14,500
Alaska plaice	BSAI	49,000	41,000	14,500	12,957	42,800	36,000	13,000	36,900	32,100	13,000
Other flatfish	BSAI	17,414	13,061	2,500	2,810	17,591	13,193	2,500	17,591	13,193	2,500
Pacific Ocean perch	BSAI	40,529	33,320	31,900	30,408	53,152	43,723	34,900	51,950	42,735	34,900
	BS	n/a	8,353	8,000	7,186	n/a	12,199	11,000	n/a	11,924	11,000
	EAI	n/a	7,916	7,900	7,569	n/a	10,307	7,900	n/a	10,074	7,900
	CAI	n/a	7,355	7,000	6,765	n/a	8,009	7,000	n/a	7,828	7,000
	WAI	n/a	9,696	9,000	8,888	n/a	13,208	9,000	n/a	12,909	9,000
Northern rockfish	BSAI	14,689	11,960	4,500	4,532	16,242	13,264	5,000	15,854	12,947	5,000
Blackspotted/Roughe rockfish	BSAI	693	561	300	157	612	501	225	750	614	225
	EBS/EAI	n/a	179	100	70	n/a	306	100	n/a	374	100
	CAI/WAI	n/a	382	200	87	n/a	195	125	n/a	240	125
Shortraker rockfish	BSAI	690	518	200	103	666	499	125	666	499	125
Other rockfish	BSAI	1,667	1,250	875	791	1,816	1,362	875	1,816	1,362	875
	BS	n/a	695	325	278	n/a	791	325	n/a	791	325
	AI	n/a	555	550	513	n/a	571	550	n/a	571	550
Atka mackerel	BSAI	104,749	90,340	55,000	54,293	102,700	87,200	65,000	99,900	85,000	65,000
	EAI/BS	n/a	30,832	28,500	28,168	n/a	34,890	34,500	n/a	34,000	34,000
	CAI	n/a	27,216	16,000	15,795	n/a	30,330	18,000	n/a	29,600	18,500
	WAI	n/a	32,292	10,500	10,330	n/a	21,980	12,500	n/a	21,400	12,500
Skates	BSAI	50,215	42,134	26,000	25,624	49,063	41,144	26,000	46,583	39,008	26,000
Sculpins	BSAI	52,365	39,725	4,500	4,476	56,582	42,387	4,500	56,582	42,387	4,500
Sharks	BSAI	1,363	1,022	125	121	689	517	125	689	517	125
Squids	BSAI	6,912	5,184	1,500	1,281	6,912	5,184	1,342	6,912	5,184	1,342
Octopuses	BSAI	3,452	2,589	400	426	4,769	3,576	400	4,769	3,576	400
Total	BSAI	5,324,080	3,236,662	2,000,000	1,913,407	5,110,344	4,013,993	2,000,000	5,807,962	4,214,648	2,000,000

Sources: 2016 OFLs, ABCs, and TACs and 2016 OFLs and ABCs are from harvest specifications adopted by the Council in December 2015; 2016 catches through November 5, 2016 from AKR Catch Accounting.

TABLE 13–FINAL 2017 AND 2018 ABC SURPLUS, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUOTA (CDQ) ABC RESERVES, AND AMENDMENT 80 ABC RESERVES IN THE BSAI FOR FLATHEAD SOLE, ROCK SOLE, AND YELLOWFIN SOLE [amounts are in metric tons]

Sector	2017			2018		
	Flathead sole	Rock sole	Yellowfin sole	Flathead sole	Rock sole	Yellowfin sole
ABC	68,278	155,100	260,800	66,164	143,100	250,800
TAC	14,500	47,100	154,000	14,500	47,100	154,000
ABC surplus	53,778	108,000	106,800	51,664	96,000	96,800
ABC reserve	53,778	108,000	106,800	51,664	96,000	96,800
CDQ ABC reserve	5,754	11,556	11,428	5,528	10,272	10,358
Amendment 80 ABC reserve	48,024	96,444	95,372	46,136	85,728	86,442
Alaska Groundfish Cooperative for 2016 ^{1/}	4,926	23,857	37,891	n/a	n/a	n/a
Alaska Seafood Cooperative for 2016 ^{1/}	43,098	72,587	57,481	n/a	n/a	n/a

^{1/} The 2017 allocations for Amendment 80 species between Amendment 80 cooperatives and the Amendment 80 limited access sector will not be known until eligible participants apply for participation in the program by November 1, 2016.

TABLE 14-FINAL 2017 AND 2018 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/}	Non-trawl PSC	Total trawl PSC	Trawl PSC remaining after CDQ PSQ	CDQ PSQ reserve ^{2/}	Amendment 80 sector	BSAI trawl limited access fishery
Halibut mortality (mt) BSAI	710	2,805	n/a	315	1,745	745
Herring (mt) BSAI	n/a	2,013	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Red king crab (animals) Zone 1	n/a	97,000	86,621	10,379	43,293	26,489
<i>C. opilio</i> (animals) COBLZ	n/a	9,105,477	8,131,191	974,286	3,996,480	2,613,365
<i>C. bairdi</i> crab (animals) Zone 1	n/a	830,000	741,190	88,810	312,115	348,285
<i>C. bairdi</i> crab (animals) Zone 2	n/a	2,070,000	1,848,510	221,490	437,542	865,288

^{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.

TABLE 15-FINAL 2017 AND 2018 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
Midwater trawl pollock	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 pelagic trawl pollock, Atka mackerel, and "other species" fishery category.

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

^{4/} In December 2016 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 16—FINAL 2017 AND 2018 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	826,258
Rock sole/flathead sole/other flatfish ^{2/}	0	0	0	0	0
Greenland turbot/arrowtooth flounder/ Kamchatka flounder/sablefish	0	0	0	0	0
Rockfish April 15 - December 31	4	0	4,069	0	697
Pacific cod	391	2,954	105,008	50,816	34,848
Pollock/Atka mackerel/other species ^{3/}	200	197	40,701	4,235	3,485
Total BSAI trawl limited access PSC	745	26,489	2,613,365	348,285	865,288

^{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), flathead sole, Greenland turbot, rock sole, yellowfin sole, Kamchatka flounder, and arrowtooth flounder.

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

Note: Seasonal or sector apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.

TABLE 17–FINAL 2017 AND 2018 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	Total 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

Note: Seasonal or sector apportionments may not total precisely due to rounding.