

FINAL MOTION: C-3 Area 4 Halibut IFQ Leasing by CDQ Groups

February 2, 2017

The Council selects the following preliminary preferred alternatives, options, and sub-options for Area 4 Halibut IFQ Leasing by CDQ groups to be released for public review and scheduled for final action: **(preliminary preferred alternatives in bold; new language underlined)**.

Alternative 1. No Action

Alternative 2. Allow CDQ groups to lease halibut IFQ in Areas 4B, 4C and 4D in years of low halibut catch limits in regulatory Areas 4B and 4CDE. Any IFQ transferred to a CDQ group under this provision would be added to their available halibut CDQ, intended to be leased from non-residents for use only by residents of a CDQ community with a halibut CDQ permit and a CDQ hired master permit. No vessel over 51 feet LOA would be eligible to harvest the leased IFQ and vessels would have to comply with IFQ use restrictions.

Option 1. Defining 'low catch limits' for the purpose of allowing leases. Designation of low catch limits is independently determined for Areas 4B and 4CDE. The threshold for designating a year of low halibut catch limit in each area is less than:

Sub-option 1. 1 million pounds for area 4B

Sub-option 2. 1.3 million pounds

Sub-option 3. 1.5 million pounds for area 4CDE

Option 2. Leased Area 4D IFQ may be fished in Area 4E.

Sub-option 1. Area 4D A Class IFQ owned by CDQ groups may be fished in Area 4E when the abundance threshold in Area 4CDE is triggered

Sub-option 2. Any 4D A Class IFQ leased by a CDQ group may be fished in Area 4E when the abundance threshold in Area 4CDE is triggered

Option 3. Any Area 4B, 4C, or 4D catcher vessel QS transferred after December 14, 2015 may not be leased as IFQ to CDQ groups under this action for a period of:

Sub-option 1. 3 years

Sub-option 2. 4 years

Sub-option 3. 5 years

Option 4. No individual halibut QS holder may lease catcher vessel halibut IFQ to any CDQ group, on a consecutive basis, for more than:

Sub-option 1. 2 years

Sub-option 2. 3 years

Sub-option 3. 4 years

Option 5. Limit the ability to lease Area 4B catcher vessel halibut IFQ to CDQ groups under this action to quota holders that own less than the following total area 4B holdings, inclusive of all class and blocked or unblocked categories:

Sub-option 1. 2,000 lbs

Sub-option 2. 5,000 lbs

Sub-option 3. 7,500 lbs

Sub-option 4. Sub-options 1 through 3 using the 2016 QS pool

Option 6. Require CDQ groups to report on an annual basis the criteria used to select IFQ holders leasing to a CDQ group, the criteria used to determine who can receive leased IFQ, and the amount and type of IFQ leased.