

Kristin
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#10

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN or REGULATORY AMENDMENT PROPOSAL
North Pacific Fishery Management Council – Steller Sea Lion Mitigation Committee
Provide the following information – attach additional pages as necessary:

Name of Proposer: Aleutians East Borough

Date:

Address: 3380 C st.
Anchorage, Ak. 99503

Telephone: 907-274-7555

Fishery Management Plan:

Gulf of Alaska

Brief Statement of Proposal:

Eliminate the 60/40 split of the federal/parallel cod fishery in the Western Gulf of Alaska (area 610). Allow 100% of the federal TAC to be harvested in the early season beginning Jan 1.

Objectives of Proposal (What is the problem?)

Local fishermen have found it difficult to harvest the remaining 40% after Sept. 1 and would prefer to harvest the cod in the early part of the year. The fish can be more valuable in the winter.

Need and Justification for Council Action (Why can't the problem be resolved through other channels?): the council has jurisdiction in federal water. The state of Alaska could help correct this by increasing the % of fish the state manages directly.

Foreseeable Impacts of Proposal (Who wins, who loses?): fishermen and processors would benefit from the proposal. Sea lions break even.

Are there Alternative Solutions? If so, what are they and why do you consider your proposal the best way of solving the problem?

Alternate solutions include a 90/10 or 80/20 split which would be improvements but not completely solve the problem. Another solution would be for the state to manage more of the cod and allow fishing earlier. Under the state system the pace of the fishery is slower as a result of the restrictions on gear type (pot and jig only) and vessel length. The slower pace would benefit sea lions.

Supporting Data & Other Information. What data are available and where can they be found? Be specific and cite references. 2006 A PACIFIC COD INSHORE FISHERY (ATMELCO)
(NDMA)

Offsetting Measures. OPTIONAL - What protection measures might be increased in the region to offset the proposed action?

Again, with a slower paced fishery similar to the state system, an important food source would not be removed as quickly, there by benefiting the Steller Sea Lions.

Signature: sam cotten for the Aleutians East Borough

2006 A Pacific cod Inshore Fishery				
st. water	fed water	total	% st. water	% fed water
6,382.4	3,540.3	9,922.7	64.3%	35.7%

gear	# vessel <60	# vessels >60	tot vessels	% <60	% >60
hal	3	0	3	100.0%	0.0%
pot	32	16	48	66.7%	33.3%
trwl	23	2	25	92.0%	8.0%
total	58	18	76	76.3%	23.7%

<60 hal tons	>60 hal tons	tot hal tons	% of total
47.6	0	47.6	0.5%

<60 pot tons	>60 pot tons	tot pot tons	% of total
1,481.3	3,775.3	5,256.6	53.0%

<60 trwl tons	>60 trwl tons	total trwl tons	% of total
4,044.6	563.6	4,608.2	46.5%

tons hal	tons pot	tons trwl	total tons
47.6	5,256.6	4,608.2	9,912.4