

**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: Unalaska Native Fishermen's Association

Date: 8-18-06

Address: Po Box 591 Unalaska, AK 99685

Telephone: 907-581-3474

Fishery Management Plan: Bering Sea/Aleutian Island FMP

Brief Statement of Proposal: Under Section 679.22 Closers, (C) Bogoslof Pacific Cod exemption area. We would like to see the cap of 113MT for longline and jig vessel under 60ft eliminated or the cap amount increased for less than 60ft in length jig and longline vessels.

Objectives of Proposal (What is the problem?): The cap amount is unnecessarily constrains this local fixed gear fleet that is just starting to develop. We would also point out that many of the smaller fixed gear vessels prefer to fish in areas closer to Unalaska due to poor weather conditions that prevail most of the year, and it is where they deliver their catch and tie up their vessels. UNFA feels that the cap should be eliminated or increased. This area is important to this fixed gear fleet due to fact it is a fishing area that is close to Unalaska where most of these vessels deliver and are based out of. It offers at certain protected areas from poor weather that allows this fleet to work in the winter time when the cod are schooled up. And this area is close enough to Unalaska that vessels can run back to town if the weather is going to be severe in nature, this will increase safety for this small boat fleet.

Need and Justification for Council Action (Why can't the problem be resolved through other channels?): The North Pacific Council is the governing body for BSAI FMP and they are ones that can eliminate or increase the cap amount for the Bogoslof Pacific Cod exemption area. The justification for this action is that this would allow more fishing opportunities for this 60ft and under fleet of developing vessels, this area is closer to Unalaska in a more protected area that would increase safety for this fleet.

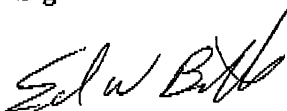
Foreseeable Impacts of Proposal (Who wins, who loses?): We can't think of any losers at this time, since the amount of quota for this sector is fairly small, so we don't foresee any impacts to Steller Sea Lions from this action. There could be a small potential of localized depletion from the elimination or increase of the 113MT cap. The winners would be the 60 ft under jig and longline fixed gear vessels and buyers of their catch in Unalaska, Alaska.

Are there Alternative Solutions? If so, what are they and why do you consider your proposal the best way of solving the problem? Alternative solution would be to just to raise the cap amount not eliminate it. We feel that this is the best alternative solution since most of the area west of Unalaska out to 20 miles and out to 173.30 degrees is closed off already to the fixed gear fleet and any amount of increase to the cap would be helpful to the 60ft an under fleet of jig and longline vessels.

Supporting Data & Other Information what data are available and where can they be found? Be specific and cite references. Included with this call for proposal are a copy of the regulations for the Bogoslof Pacific Cod exemption area and a map of the area along with the map legend.

Offsetting Measures Optional - What protection measures might be increased in the region to offset the proposed action? Other areas that are further away from Unalaska could be closed off to the 60ft under fleet but we wouldn't want to see that happen. Since a large out to 20 miles area west of Unalaska to 173.30 degrees is already closed off to all fix gear fishing.

Signature:



Emil Berikoff Sr.
President

Unalaska Native Fishermen's Association

CC: UNFA Board of Directors
Frank Kelty, City of Unalaska

§ 679.22 Closures

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(a) BSAI

(1) Zone 1 (512) closure to trawl gear.

No fishing with trawl gear is allowed at any time in reporting Area 512 of Zone 1 in the Bering Sea subarea.

(2) Zone 1 (516) closure to trawl gear.

No fishing with trawl gear is allowed at any time in reporting Area 516 of Zone 1 in the Bering Sea Subarea during the period March 15 through June 15.

(3) Red King Crab Savings Area (RKCSA).

Directed fishing for groundfish by vessels using trawl gear other than pelagic trawl gear is prohibited at all times, except as provided at § 679.21(e)(3)(ii)(B), in that part of the Bering Sea subarea defined as RKCSA in Figure 11 to this part.

(4) Walrus protection areas.

From April 1 through September 30 of any fishing year, vessels with a Federal fisheries permit under § 679.4 are prohibited in that part of the Bering Sea subarea between 3 and 12 nm seaward of the baseline used to measure the territorial sea around islands named Round Island and The Twins, as shown on National Ocean Survey Chart 16315, and around Cape Peirce (58° 33' N. lat., 161° 43' W. long.).

(5) Catcher Vessel Operational Area (CVOA)

(i) Definition. The CVOA is defined as that part of the BSAI that is south of 56° 00' N lat. and between 163° 00' W long. and 167° 30' W long., and north of the Aleutian Islands (Figure 2 to part 679).

(ii) Catcher/processor restrictions. A catcher/processor vessel authorized to fish for BSAI pollock under § 679.4 is prohibited from conducting directed fishing for pollock in the CVOA during the B pollock season defined at § 679.23(e)(2)(ii), unless it is directed fishing for pollock CDQ.

(6) Pribilof Island Area Habitat Conservation Zone. Trawling is prohibited at all times in the area defined in Figure 10 to this part as the Pribilof Island Area Habitat Conservation Zone.

(7) Steller sea lion protection areas, Bering Sea subarea(i) Bogoslof area

(A) Boundaries. The Bogoslof area consists of all waters of area 518 as described in Figure 1 of this part south of a straight line connecting 55° 00' N lat./170° 00' W long., and 55° 00' N lat./168° 11'4.75" W long.;

(B) Fishing prohibition. All waters within the Bogoslof area are closed to directed fishing for pollock, Pacific cod, and Atka mackerel by vessels named on a Federal Fisheries Permit under § 679.4(b), except as provided in paragraph (a)(7)(i)(C) of this section.

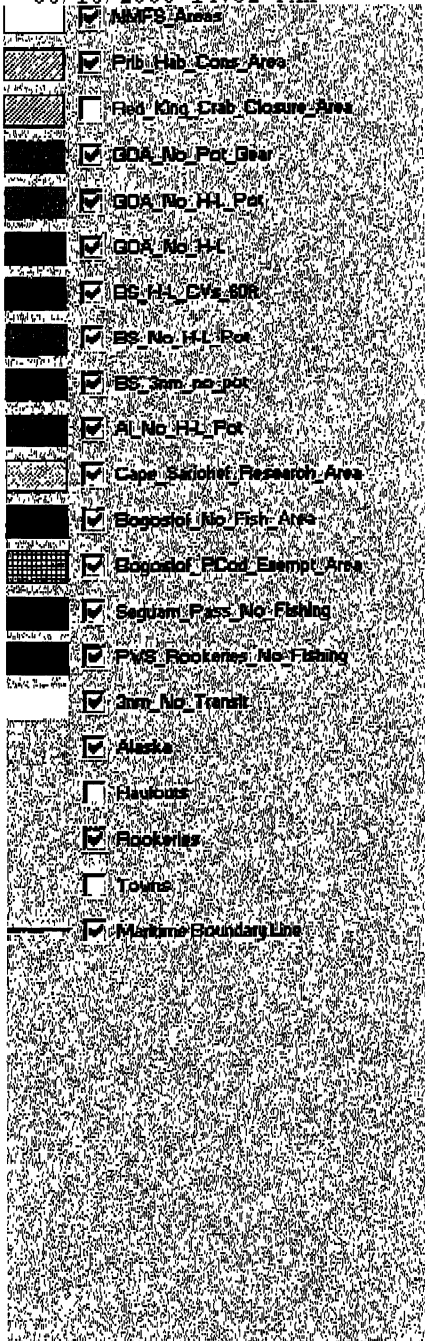
(C) Bogoslof Pacific cod exemption area.

(1) All catcher vessels less than 60 ft (18.3 m) LOA using jig or hook-and-line gear for directed fishing for Pacific cod are exempt from the Pacific cod fishing prohibition as described in paragraph (a)(7)(i)(B) of this section in the portion of the Bogoslof area south of a line connecting a point 3 nm north of Bishop Point (54°01'25" N lat./166° 57'00" W long.) to Cape Tanak (53°33'50" N lat./168° 00'00" W long.), not including waters of the Bishop Point Pacific cod fishing closures as described in Table 5 of this part.

(2) If the Regional Administrator determines that 113 mt of Pacific cod have been caught by catcher vessels less than 60 ft (18.3 m) LOA using jig or hook-and-line gear in the exemption area described in paragraph (a)(7)(i)(C)(1) of this section, the Regional Administrator will prohibit directed fishing for Pacific cod by catcher vessels less than 60 ft (18.3 m) LOA using jig or hook-and-line gear in the exemption area by notification published in the *Federal Register*.

(ii) Bering Sea Pollock Restriction Area.

(A) Boundaries. The Bering Sea Pollock Restriction Area consists of all waters of the Bering Sea subarea south of a line connecting the points 163° 0'00" W long./55° 46'30" N lat., 165° 08'00" W long./54° 42'9" N lat., 165° 40'00" W long./54° 26'30" N lat., 166° 12'00" W long./54° 18'40" N lat., and 167° 0'00" W long./54° 8'50" N lat.



- AKMFS Areas
- Prib_Hab_Const_Area
- Red_King_Crab_Closure_Area
- GDA_No_Pot_Gear
- GDA_No_HL_Pot
- GDA_No_HL
- BS_HL_CVE_SRP
- BS_No_HL_Pot
- BS_3nm_no_pot
- Al_No_HL_Pot
- Cape_Satohel_Research_Area
- Boggalof_No_Fish_Area
- Boggalof_PCOd_Exempt_Area
- Seguan_Fore_No_Fishing
- PWS_Rockeries_No_Fishing
- 3nm_No_Transit
- Alaska
- Raubous
- Rookeries
- Toots
- Maritime Boundary Line