

Brief Statement of Proposal –

Proposal to apportion the TAC for P. cod between the Aleutian Islands and Bering Sea:

Allocations of P. cod in the BS and AI would be allocated to sectors according to the NPFMC decision to be made under the trailing portion of Amendment 85, Part II. The split of the BS and AI P. cod ABC would be based on recommendations from the Plan Team and SSC. Accounting of the seasonal apportionments of P. cod would continue at the aggregate BSAI wide level.

Objectives of Proposal -

In the Council's consideration of Amendment 85 Part II, it became apparent that it was uncertain whether apportioning the P. cod TAC between BS and AI raised issues that needed to be covered in a Section 7 consultation. It is important to know what the default assumption is and what latitude the Council has in working through this issue.

Justification for Council Action -

The Council is considering a plan amendment to deal with the allocation consequences of a BS and AI P. cod TAC split. This is the appropriate time to consult on the range of options being considered.

Foreseeable Impacts of Proposal –

Splitting the P. cod ABC between BS and AI pro-rata to biomass provides a measure of spatial dispersion of effort. Maintaining the accounting of seasonal harvest limits at the aggregate BSAI wide level preserves status quo SSL temporal protections and avoids a layer of complexity that would complicate allocation decisions in Part II of Am. 85.

Possible Alternative Solutions –

Each gear sector would have separate temporal caps on P. cod harvests of their allocations in the BS and AI.

Supporting Data and Other Information –

See NPFMC Amendment 85 Part II analysis and trailing amendment package in preparation by Council staff.

Off-setting Proposals –

None.

Submitted by:

Aleut Enterprise Corporation and Adak Fisheries