

Council motion on AI Pacific cod processing sideboards December 16, 2008

The Council directs staff to revise the current discussion paper with the following alternatives and options for review. Changes to the alternatives adopted by the Council in June 2008 are shown below (deletions are stricken; additions are in bold and underlined).

Draft problem statement:

The American Fisheries Act, BSAI crab rationalization program, and BSAI Amendment 80 program each provide benefits to processing vessels that were intended to protect investments in and dependence on the respective fishery resource. Each of these rationalization programs has afforded opportunities for consolidation, thus freeing some processing capacity to target the non-rationalized BSAI Pacific cod fishery at the expense of other industry and community investments.

Affected resource and areas:

Pacific cod harvested in Areas 541 and 542 from the Federally managed and State parallel fisheries.

Affected processing vessels:

Vessels that received benefits under a rationalization program with a processing element, including: AFA ~~vessels~~ **catcher processors and motherships that have not shown continuous processing participation in the Area 541 and 542 Pacific cod fishery since the implementation of the AFA;** processing vessels that contributed history to *C. opilio* BSAI crab processing quota share allocations; and catcher processors that qualified under Amendment 80.

Alternatives and options:

Alternative 1. No action

Alternative 2. Establish processing sideboards on Pacific cod harvested by catcher vessels in Area 541 or 542.

Component 1. Options for establishing processing sideboards

Option 1. Sideboard limit

Limit the amount of Pacific cod harvested in Areas 541 or 542 that may be delivered to the affected Federally permitted processing vessels by other vessels to:

Suboption 1. the greatest amount delivered within the range of qualifying years

Suboption 2. the average annual amount delivered within the range of qualifying years

Option 2. Sideboard date

Limit the date that the affected Federally permitted processing vessels may begin taking deliveries of Pacific cod harvested in Areas 541 or 542 to:

Suboption 1. the earliest date a delivery was taken in any qualifying year

Suboption 2. the average earliest date a delivery was accepted in ~~any~~ **each** year, across all qualifying years

Option 3. The sideboard limit and/or date would only be established in Area 542.

Component 2. Options for qualifying years:

- Option 1. Recent history
 - Suboption 1. 2005 – 2007 (3-year period prior to 2008)
 - Suboption 2. 2003 – 2007 (5-year period prior to 2008)

- Option 2. Years prior to implementation of the respective rationalization program
 - Suboption 1. 3-year period prior to program implementation
 - Suboption 2. 5-year period prior to program implementation

Component 3. Options for calculating and applying sideboards:

- Option 1. Single sideboard
All affected vessels that accept deliveries of Pacific cod harvested in Areas 541 or 542 would be combined under a single sideboard.

- Option 2. Program-specific sideboards
A separate sideboard would be established and managed for each of the three groups of rationalized vessels (*i.e.*, AFA, BSAI crab, **and** BSAI Amendment 80) that accept deliveries of Pacific cod harvested in Areas 541 or 542.