

BSAI Salmon Bycatch

June 2007 Council motion

The Council moved to include the following in the suite of alternatives for amendment analysis 84B-1:

Trigger Cap Methodology

- a. Establish trigger amount as described below (to be reviewed by workgroup following development of closed area recommendations).
 1. Establish cap based on:
 - a. Average historical bycatch;
 - i. 3 years
 - ii. 5 years
 - iii. 10 years
 - b. Percentage increase of :
 - i. Historical average
 - ii. Highest year
 2. Set cap relative to salmon returns:
 - a. short term: link historic bycatch to in-river returns
 - b. long term: Use cumulative acceptable amounts for each river system, pending GSI information (i.e., identify what component of bycatch is from each river and what would be an acceptable amount of bycatch for each river. The cap would be the sum of the acceptable amounts for each of the rivers).
 3. Incidental Take Permit amount
 4. International treaty considerations
- b. Closure Area Determination and Triggers
 1. Set separate caps or rates for different closure areas;
 2. Increase size and/or number of closure areas based on number of salmon caught (i.e., the more salmon are caught the more area closed);
 3. Decrease size and/or number of closure areas based on number of salmon caught (i.e., the fewer salmon are caught the more area opened).
- c. Close set areas at set times when known bycatch is high in that area (i.e., non- triggered, fixed closures).
 1. Long term – Consider time/area bycatch stock composition in closure determinations.
- d. Closure duration based on historical hotspot duration.

Hard Cap Methodology

set a hard cap upon attainment of which pollock fishing must stop.

- a. Establish cap for fishery based on:
 1. Average historical bycatch
 - a. 3 years
 - b. 5 years
 - c. 10 years
 2. Percentage increase of :
 - a. Historical average
 - b. Highest year
- b. Set cap relative to salmon returns:

1. short term: link historic bycatch to in-river returns
 2. long term: Use cumulative acceptable amounts for each river system, pending GSI information (i.e., identify what component of bycatch is from each river and what would be an acceptable amount of bycatch for each river. The cap would be the sum of the acceptable amounts for each of the rivers).
- c. Incidental Take Permit amount
 - d. International treaty considerations

Additional options to consider in the analysis

Cap/closure accounting system based on:

- a) Calendar year (status quo);
- b) Salmon biological year (B season plus A season of following year);
- c) Specific caps/triggers for A and B seasons.