

North Pacific Fishery Management Council

News and Notes



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Chair and Vice Chair Elections

The Council unanimously re-elected Stephanie Madsen to her third year as Council Chair, and John Bundy to his first year as Vice Chair. Both are long-time Council participants, and we welcome them in their leadership roles.

Call for Nominations

Terms for 6 members of the Council's **Advisory Panel (AP)** and all members of the **Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC)** expire in December. The SSC advises the Council on scientific and other technical matters relating to issues before the Council. The AP is composed of representatives of the fishing industry and others interested in managing our fisheries, and provides advice from those perspectives. Members of these panels are expected to attend up to five meetings, three to five days in length, each year. SSC members serve one year appointments; members of the AP serve 3-year terms.

Letters of interest or nomination, along with a resume of experience, for persons wishing to be considered for either of these panels, should be sent to the NPFMC, 605 W. 4th Avenue, #306, Anchorage, AK 99501, by 5:00 pm on Monday, November 14th. Appointments will be announced at the end of the next Council meeting the week of December 5th at the Hilton Hotel in Anchorage and will become effective in January 2006. For more information, contact the Council office.

New Appointments

Simon Kinneen, fishery biologist for the Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation was appointed to the AP for the remainder of the year to fill a vacancy left by **Eric Olson** who was appointed to the Council for a three year term. Mr. Olson is the quota manager for the Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation and served on the AP for the three years prior to being appointed to the Council. Additionally, the Council welcomed **Lenny Corin**, **McKie Cambell** and **Bill Tweit**. Corin, a wildlife biologist, currently Supervisor of Fisheries/Ecological Services with the Alaska Region of the USFWS is the new USF&W representative and replaces Tony DeGange who has moved to another agency. Cambell currently is the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and has a long history of working on public resource issues in Alaska. Mr. Bill Tweit joins the Council as a representative from the Washington Department of Fish

and Wildlife, and as an alternate to the Director, **Dr. Jeff Koenings** who also participated in the October meeting. We also welcome **Dr. Ken Goldman** from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and **Dr. Tien-Shui Tsou** from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to the GOA Plan Team. Ms. Tsou is also a member of the BSAI Plan team. We look forward to working with everyone in the upcoming months.

BSAI Pacific Cod Sector Allocations

The Council reviewed a discussion paper on the need to reorganize the suite of components and options for BSAI Amendment 85 to comprise comprehensive alternatives. Upon review, the Council adopted a revised analytical structure consisting of six alternatives with various options. In addition, the Council modified the problem statement for Part I of the amendment to recognize CDQ as a specific sector under consideration in the Pacific cod sector allocations. The Council also added an option under Part I, Component 7, Alternative 2 that would apportion the halibut and crab PSC designated for the trawl cod fishery group among the trawl sectors based on the cod allocation percentages in the directed cod fishery. The three trawl sectors proposed to receive halibut and crab PSC apportionments under Amendment 85 are the AFA catcher vessel sector, non-AFA catcher vessel sector, and AFA catcher processor sector. The non-AFA catcher processor sector is intended to receive the PSC associated with its fisheries (including Pacific cod) under BSAI Amendment 80; thus, Amendment 85 is limited to addressing halibut and crab PSC apportionments to the three other trawl sectors.

Upon receiving public testimony, the Council also noticed the public that it would consider eligibility requirements for the trawl catcher vessel sectors at the December Council meeting. If interested, industry should consider landings and participation thresholds to propose in December for inclusion in the analysis. These requirements would represent thresholds to meet in order to receive an endorsement to participate in the directed BSAI Pacific cod fishery as a trawl catcher vessel.

The Council motion on Am. 85 and the reorganized suite of alternatives and options are on the Council website. Initial review of this amendment is tentatively scheduled for February 2006. Staff contact is Nicole Kimball.

Halibut Charter GHL and IFQ Issues

Charter Halibut At its October 2005 meeting, the Council reviewed final 2004 halibut charter harvest estimates from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game Sport Fish Division. The data indicated that the halibut charter **guideline harvest level** (GHL) had been exceeded by 22 percent in Area 2C (Southeast) and 1 percent in Area 3A (Southcentral) in 2004. The GHLs establish an amount of halibut that are monitored annually in the guided sport fishery. The 2004 GHLs equate to 1,432,000 lb (net weight) for Southeast and 3,650,000 lb for Southcentral.

In response to the new information, the Council initiated an analysis that includes the following proposed management measures to lower halibut charter harvests below the GHLs. The proposed measures derive from the Council's 2000 GHL analysis. The analysis will be reviewed at the February 2006 Council meeting, with final action scheduled for April 2006. If recommended by the Council and approved by the Secretary of Commerce, implementation could occur prior to the start of the 2007 charter season.

For Area 2C:	Alternative 1.	No action.
	Alternative 2.	One trip per day, no harvest by skipper and crew, and annual limit of 6 fish per person.
	Alternative 3.	One trip per day, no harvest by skipper and crew, and annual limit of 5 fish per person.
For Area 3A:	Alternative 1.	No action.
	Alternative 2.	One trip per day.
	Alternative 3.	One trip per day, no harvest by skipper and crew.

The Council is calling for nominations to a new **GHL Committee** to consider additional changes on a separate timeline (listed below). Nominees should send a letter that details their experience in the charter fishing sector to the Council by November 5th. The committee may convene in Anchorage in December 2005 to discuss possible changes to the GHL program. It may meet again in late January 2006 to review the draft GHL analysis described above. Committee members would be responsible for their own travel expenses.

Possible GHL amendments

- (1) link GHL to abundance
- (2) divide Areas 2C & 3A GHLs into sub-regions
- (3) consider moratorium on new entrants
- (4) establish a valid reporting system; ADFG and NMFS to work together to make recommendations to committee

The Council also reviewed a letter from Dr. William Hogarth, Assistant Administrator of Fisheries, dated August 3, 2005, in which he requested that the Council confirm its support of the 2001 decision to incorporate the charter sector into the halibut commercial individual fishing quota (IFQ) program before NMFS

publishes the proposed rule in the *Federal Register*. After receiving a brief staff report and testimony from nearly 100 members of the public, the Council agreed to send a letter to Dr. Hogarth, stating, "*The Council is concerned with the process that has transpired since its approval of the Halibut Charter IFQ program. This letter does not confirm support nor does it deny support. Without prejudice to any future Council action on this issue, the Council takes no action on your letter. It requests that you proceed with agency assessment of the draft proposed rule.*"

The Council will consider a motion to rescind the 2001 decision to implement a charter IFQ program at its next meeting in December 2005. Sign-up for public testimony would occur on Wednesday afternoon, December 7th. ADF&G will provide additional charter halibut data regarding qualified [(1998 and/or 1999) and 2000] participants/businesses, current [2004] participants/businesses, halibut charter harvests by area, and background on data collection methodology. For more information, contact Jane DiCosimo.

Crab Management

The Council reviewed and approved the Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) Report for Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands king and Tanner crabs. The SAFE report summarizes the current biological and economic status of fisheries, guideline harvest levels (GHLs), and analytical information used for management decisions or changes in harvest strategies. Of the six annually surveyed stocks, four remain under federally approved rebuilding plans: Pribilof Islands blue king crab, Saint Matthew blue king crab, EBS Tanner crab, and EBS snow crab. Of the two remaining surveyed stocks, biomass of Bristol Bay red king crab is well above the approved harvest threshold and thus is open for a directed fishery. Although at apparently high abundance levels, the Pribilof Islands red king crab stock remains closed due to imprecision of estimates and concerns about potential bycatch of blue king crab. For the remaining crab stocks with no annual survey, only the Aleutian Islands golden king crab were open to a directed fishery in 2005. Results from the NMFS 2005 survey indicated that mature Bering Sea Tanner crab biomass increased substantially and a TAC was established for the 2005/06 fishery. This represents the first time this fishery has opened since 1997. Harvest will be restricted to the western portion of the stock given harvest strategy constraints with the eastern portion. Survey biomass increases were also observed in the Bristol Bay red king crab stock and the Bering Sea snow crab stock. Copies of the SAFE report may be obtained through the Council office.

The Council was notified of progress by the Inter-Agency working group on the analysis of revisions to the crab overfishing definitions. This amendment analysis is scheduled for initial review by the Council in April 2006. Staff contact is Diana Stram.

Crab Rationalization

At its October 2005 meeting, the Council took final action selecting alternatives for allocating harvest and processing shares for the Bering Sea *C. bairdi* fisheries under the crab rationalization program. The options would allocate harvesting and processing shares consistent with the management of two separate stocks of Bering Sea *C. bairdi*. Under its authority under the FMP, the State of Alaska has determined to manage Bering Sea *C. bairdi* as two separate stocks, one east of 166° W longitude and one west of 166° W longitude.

Under the rationalization program as originally adopted by the Council, *C. bairdi* QS were to be allocated for a single fishery based on catch of eligible harvesters from the 1991/1992 season to the 1996 season (with each harvester's allocation based on its 4 best seasons). In this amendment, the Council selected an alternative for LLP license holders and eligible captains allocations, that would make two equivalent allocations of QS (one for each fishery) based on all of a person's *C. bairdi* history during the qualifying years (regardless of where those harvests occurred). This structure would have two QS pools, one for the east fishery and one for the west fishery. These QS would each yield IFQ in their respective fisheries.

Under the rationalization program as originally adopted by the Council, *C. bairdi* PQS were to be allocated for a single fishery based equally on qualified processing history in the Bering Sea *C. opilio* fishery and the Bristol Bay red king crab fishery. Under this amendment, the Council selected an alternative that would make two equivalent allocations of PQS (one for each *C. bairdi* fishery) based equally on a company's qualified Bering Sea *C. opilio* processing history and qualified Bristol Bay red king crab processing history (regardless of where harvests that led to those landings occurred). This alternative would result in two PQS pools, one for each fishery. These PQS would each yield IPQ in their respective fisheries.

It is anticipated that, if approved by the Secretary of Commerce, this amendment will be implemented for the 2006-2007 season. Staff contact is Mark Fina.

GOA Groundfish Rationalization

At the October 2005 meeting, the Council received a report from staff showing historic fishery participation levels and catch from the different Gulf management areas by gear type. Data showed the division of catch among LLP license holders and participants without LLP licenses in State waters (0 to 3 nm) and Federal waters (3 to 200 nm). Staff also provided a preliminary estimate of one possible allocation to sectors and individuals under the alternatives. The Council took no action on the alternatives at this meeting, but requested staff to work with NMFS and ADF&G to explore potential systems for the collection of detailed crew participation data and report back to the Council at its December meeting. The Council also noted that it would review staff discussion papers on options and program alternatives, (Mark Fina) community provisions, (Nicole Kimball) and crab and salmon bycatch (Diana Stram) at the December meeting.

Rockfish Management

The Council reviewed a discussion paper on rockfish management which is posted on the website. The paper provides a review of life history, recent research on population biology, fishery history and status, the current harvest strategy (CHS) for rockfish management, rockfish management issues, and a preliminary analysis to identify potential species of concern. To further explore suitability of rockfish CHS, the Council requested that AFSC scientists conduct a management strategy evaluation (MSE) for BSAI and GOA POP and northern rockfish stocks. This study may provide insight into population responses (and sensitivity) to environmental conditions not conducive to rockfish recruitment. The Council scheduled a review of the draft ranking of species of concern and update on the status of its MSE request at its February 2006 meeting. Staff contact is Jane DiCosimo.

Proposed Groundfish Harvest Specs for 2006/2007

The Council approved proposed overfishing levels (OFLs), acceptable biological catches (ABCs), and total allowable catches (TACs) for BSAI and GOA groundfish for 2006 and 2007. These recommendations will be incorporated into the proposed rule for setting 2006-2007 groundfish specifications. The Council also recommended (for the proposed rule) rolling over the annual and seasonal BSAI prohibited species bycatch allowances for halibut, crab, and herring in the BSAI trawl and non-trawl fisheries and the GOA halibut PSC apportionments, annually and seasonally, for 2006 and 2007. The purpose of establishing proposed specifications in the proposed rule is to better inform the public as to the likely final specifications that will be adopted by the Council during its December 2005 meeting. The proposed specifications for the GOA and BSAI are posted on the website. **Note that the fisheries will begin in 2006 on the final specifications established by the Council in December 2004.** The OFLs, ABCs, and TACs that will start the 2006 fishing year are posted on the Council website.

The Council received a report from Dr. Jennifer Boldt of the Alaska Fisheries Science Center on the draft Ecosystem Considerations chapter of the annual Stock Assessment Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) report. The Council appreciated the update and anticipates continued progress towards incorporation of ecosystem considerations into the stock assessments. Staff contacts are Diana Stram (GOA) and Jane DiCosimo (BSAI).

Pollock “A” Season Date Change

The Council received a discussion paper on the issues associated with starting the Bering Sea pollock fishery “A” season 5 days early. The Council directed staff to revise the discussion paper by adding alternatives and a problem statement, and requested that NMFS Office of Protected Resources review the alternatives to determine if any would trigger the formal ESA Section 7 consultation process. The following alternatives would be evaluated:

- January 15 start date with an end date of June 5
- January 13 start date with an end date of June 3
- January 17 start date with an end date of June 7

For each alternative the following provision also applies: For each day prior to January 20th a vessel fishes in an early opening, the vessel would be required to stand down for an equal number of days after completing a delivery/offload of pollock before beginning fishing for other groundfish in either the GOA or the BSAI.

In December, the Council will consider the following draft problem statement:

The eastern Bering Sea pollock fishery accounts for a major proportion of the harvest tonnage in the BSAI region and a large amount of the ex-vessel revenues generated from the BSAI groundfish fisheries. Pollock roe is a valuable by-product from the EBS pollock fishery, nearly all of which comes from the “A” season. Current fishery regulations prohibit fishing for pollock before January 20. The eastern Bering Sea pollock fleet is concerned that a portion of the peak roe production is missed due to the January 20 start date, partly because roe-bearing pollock appear to be maturing earlier. An earlier start date, as little as five days, could enable the fleet to better maximize its production of high quality roe. In this proposed action to the extent possible, the Council intends to avoid negative effects on other fisheries, minimize impacts on the support industry, and avoid negative effects on protected resources.

The Council intends to review this proposal at its December 2005 meeting and receive a report from NMFS on potential ESA consultation issues. Staff contact is Bill Wilson.

Short-tailed Albatross Recovery Plan

The Council received a report that a draft Recovery Plan for the endangered short-tailed albatross is now available from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The draft Recovery Plan provides recovery criteria that, when met, may allow the USFWS to consider downlisting the species to threatened or delisting. The draft Recovery Plan can be obtained from the USFWS website at <http://alaska.fws.gov/>, or from the USF&W offices in Anchorage (Greg_Balogh@fws.gov). Staff contact is Bill Wilson.

Section 7 Re-initiation

The Council received a discussion paper outlining the process for reinitiation of formal Section 7 consultation on the BSAI and GOA groundfish fisheries under the Endangered Species Act. Since the last FMP-level consultation, the Council believes there is now considerable new information on Steller sea lions and other listed species and on the groundfish fisheries in the North Pacific that a reinitiation of the consultation process may be warranted. The Council requested that NMFS begin the consultation on the 2000 FMP Biological Opinion covering the FMPs for groundfish in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands, and Gulf of Alaska, and that the consultation review all new scientific information since the completion of the FMP-level Biological Opinion. The Council requested periodic briefings on progress. The Council intends to consider, in 2006 to 2007, possible revisions to the management measures currently in place and evaluate them under a separate project-level Biological Opinion. The Council requested that NMFS also work closely with the State of Alaska in this process and include impacts on State fisheries in the analysis and resulting Incidental Take Statement. Staff contact is Bill Wilson.

Northern Right Whale Critical Habitat

On June 14, 2005, U.S. District Court Judge William Alsup remanded to NMFS the matter of revising Critical Habitat for the North Pacific stock of northern right whale. In response to the Judge’s order, NMFS intends to issue a proposed rule in the Federal Register designating an area as Critical Habitat based on a review of available information on right whale habitat in the North Pacific. The Council received an update on NMFS’ progress in drafting the Proposed Rule, and was advised that the rule will be published by the October 28 deadline specified in the Judge’s order and that the Council would have an opportunity to review the Proposed Rule at its December 2005 meeting. The Council requested that staff prepare a package of information on the fisheries that are prosecuted in the areas that NMFS designates as Critical Habitat, including target species, gear types, locations, seasons, and the economic value of these fisheries to harvesters, processors, and communities. The Council intends to use this information at their December 2005 meeting in preparing comments on the Proposed Rule. Staff contact is Bill Wilson.

Upcoming Meetings

- Non-Target Species Committee - (T) prior to Feb 2006 Council meeting.
- Charter GHL Committee (T) Late December, Late January
- Enforcement Committee - December Council Meeting
- Groundfish Plan Team meetings: November 14-18th, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, Seattle, WA

BSAI Salmon Bycatch

The Council took final action on the EA/RIR/IRFA for Amendment 84 to modify the existing bycatch reduction measures for Chinook and chum salmon in the BSAI groundfish FMP. The analysis examines the environmental and economic impacts of the existing regulatory salmon savings area closures as well as alternatives to repeal or suspend the closures and allow the pollock fleet to use their hot spot management system to avoid salmon bycatch.

The Council identified the following as their preferred alternative:

Alternative 3. Suspend the regulatory salmon savings area closures and allow pollock cooperatives and CDQ groups to utilize their voluntary rolling hot spot closure system to avoid salmon bycatch

Option 2: Maintain the regulatory salmon savings area triggers and closures but participants in a cooperative voluntary rolling hotspot (VRHS) system would be exempted from compliance with savings area closures. Continuation of this exemption is subject to Council approval and review of the effectiveness of a VRHS system.

Suboption: Extend the exemption to the chum salmon savings area closure to vessels in the trawl cod and/or flatfish targets.

The effect of selecting the alternative, option and suboption as listed above, is that the current regulatory savings areas will remain in place, however participants in the VRHS system will receive an exemption from fishing in the SSA closures if triggered. The voluntary rolling hot spot (VRHS) system allows the fleet the opportunity to respond quickly given indications of areas of high salmon bycatch and penalizes offenders with weekly area closures if cooperative's bycatch rates are excessively high. The intent of allowing the fleet to operate under this system is to provide a more dynamic tool for better management of salmon bycatch. The chum salmon savings area closure will be re-specified in regulations to apply only to the pollock fleet (similar to the Chinook salmon savings area). If a cooperative chooses not to participate in the VRHS system, they will be subject to the annual chum SSA closures in August as well as additional SSA closures (both chum and Chinook) once triggered. Bycatch of all salmon species will continue to accrue towards the trigger limits for both chum and Chinook salmon. An annual performance review by the Inter-cooperative will be presented to the Council following implementation of the program. Regulations to promulgate this change are anticipated to be in place by August 1, 2006.

The Council revised their problem statement and draft suite of alternatives for amendment package B, the broader scope suite of measures for bycatch reduction. The revised problem statement and alternatives are available on the Council website at: www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/current_issues/bycatch/bycatch.htm A timeline for this analysis has not yet been established. The Council will discuss any potential regulatory constraints with these draft alternatives at the December Council meeting. The Council is also intending to tentatively schedule a workshop to review salmon genetic research at the December meeting. Staff contact is Diana Stram.

Improved Retention/Utilization

The Council conducted an initial review of the Amendment 80 EA/RIR/IRFA, and developed a third strawman alternative. During the process of developing the new strawman alternative, the Council added new options and modified some existing options. Significant additions and modifications to the components include:

Component 3 – The Council added a new suboption under Option 3.3 (retain catch of the sector/retain catch of all sectors) that would require an ICA that is funded before allocations to the Non-AFA Trawl CP sector. The ICA would accommodate incidental catch by participants in the general limited access fishery. The Council also clarified that the analysis should include total and retained catch of the general limited access fishery. The Council clarified that eligibility for trawl catcher vessels to target yellowfin sole, rock sole, flathead sole, Atka mackerel, and AI POP is dependent on catching the required amount of any groundfish species.

Component 6 – The Council clarified that PSC allocation amounts to the Non-AFA Trawl CP sector should be based on total trawl PSC usage and total trawl PSC allowance.

Component 7 – The Council add the option of restricting LLP that are used for eligibility in Amendment 80 from being used outside of the Amendment 80 sector.

Component 11 – The Council added a new suboption that would apply excessive share caps (20%, 30%, and 50%) based on the aggregation of the allocated species.

Component 12 – The Council clarified and revised the sideboard options for the GOA. The primary clarification was participation threshold should be based on weeks fished in the GOA flatfish fisheries and would limit participation in the GOA flatfish fisheries. The Council also added an option to exempt vessels with significantly higher participation in the GOA flatfish fisheries relative to other Non-AFA Trawl CP vessels.

After responding to the comments and direction from this meeting, the Council determined that the analysis of Amendment 80 should be updated and released for public review with final action now scheduled for February 2006. A complete copy of the initial review analysis and the components and options are available on the Council's website. The Public Review draft should be available in early January. Staff contacts are Mark Fina and Jon McCracken.



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CDQ Program

The Council reviewed an initial draft analysis to consider changes to the management of the CDQ reserves. The Council requested that the analysis be released for public review, with the following revised alternatives: **Alternative 1**) status quo; **Alternative 2**) remove the prohibition disallowing the transfer of CDQ from one CDQ group to another to cover in-season overages of groundfish CDQ allocations; **Alternative 3**) remove the prohibition disallowing the transfer of CDQ from one CDQ group to another to cover in-season overages of groundfish CDQ allocations and allow the CDQ groups to form cooperatives; and **Alternative 4**) remove the prohibition disallowing the transfer of CDQ from one CDQ group to another to cover in-season overages of groundfish CDQ allocations and only allocate target species CDQ reserves among individual CDQ groups. Under Alternative 4, CDQ target species allocations to the individual groups would be managed as hard caps and CDQ reserves (not allocated to individual groups) would be managed as soft caps. **Option 1** to Alternative 4 would allow the Council to select TAC categories to allocate to the individual CDQ groups during the annual specifications process. The Council requested that staff respond to the SSC comments on the analysis, with the exception of restructuring the alternatives. The Council also identified Alternative 4, Option 1 as its preliminary preferred alternative. Final action is scheduled for December 2005.

The Council also received a report from the Blue Ribbon Panel established by Governor Murkowski in May 2005 to evaluate the CDQ Program. The panel conducted its review over the summer and

submitted its final report to the Governor on September 14, 2005. The primary recommendations of the panel were related to the duration of the allocation cycle; government oversight; approval of the Community Development Plans; and use of CDQ funds. The panel also recommended five evaluation criteria for evaluating the groups' performance and to change the allocation process such that the groups would be evaluated against themselves (i.e., comparison of each group's performance relative to the evaluation criteria at the start and end of a ten-year allocation period). The panel also recommended establishing 90% of the allocations in regulation. In effect, the allocation process would be limited to potentially adjusting 10% of the overall allocations on a ten-year cycle. The Governor accepted the recommendations of the panel on October 4, noting that the State would undertake an allocation process in the near future in order to recommend the baseline allocations for each group to NMFS by May 2006. These allocations would be in effect 2007 – 2011, with the intent being to apply the new evaluation criteria and process to the subsequent ten-year cycle (2012 – 2022).

Upon review of the panel's report, the Council requested staff to provide a proposed structure for alternatives and options for a revised Amendment 71 analysis, which incorporates the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Panel, for consideration at the December 2005 Council meeting. The Council motion on the CDQ Program is on the Council website. Council contact is Nicole Kimball.

DRAFT NPFMC THREE-MEETING OUTLOOK - updated 10/17/05

December 5, 2005 Anchorage, Alaska	February 6, 2006 Seattle, Washington	April 3, 2006 Anchorage, Alaska
Halibut Charter IFQ: Notice to Rescind	Halibut Charter GHL: Initial Review (T)	Halibut Charter GHL: Final Action
IFQ Omnibus 5 Amendments: Initial Review	IFQ Omnibus 5 Amendments: Final Action	
BSAI Crab Rationalization: Discuss arbitration timing	BSAI Crab Rationalization: Initial/Final Action on arbitration timing	
CDQ Management of Reserves: Final Action		
CDQ community eligibility Reg amendment: Initial Review	CDQ community eligibility Reg amendment: Final Action	
CDQ Amendment 71: Review revised alternatives/options		
	Observer Program: Initial Review (T)	Observer Program: Final Action (T)
BS Habitat Conservation: Review alternatives		
GOA Rationalization: Action as necessary	GOA Rationalization: Action as necessary	GOA Rationalization: Action as necessary
BOF Action on State pollock fishery: Action as necessary	Flatfish IRIU Am 80: Final Action (T)	
ESA Consultation on FMPs: Action as necessary	ESA Consultation on FMPs: Action as necessary	ESA Consultation on FMPs: Action as necessary
Right Whale Critical Habitat: Review proposed rule		Scallop SAFE: Review and approve
BSAI pollock A-season start date: Review Discussion Paper	BSAI pollock A-season start: Initial Review/Final Action (T)	
	Rockfish Management: Review Report	Rockfish Management: Review Discussion Paper
Groundfish SAFE Report: Review and Adopt	GOA Dark rockfish: Initial Review (T)	GOA Dark rockfish: Final Action (T)
Groundfish specs for 2006/07: Adopt final specs and EA/IRFA	Research Priorities: Review	Crab Overfishing Definitions: Initial Review (T)
AI FEP and EAM: Discussion/Direction	Non-target mgmt: SSC review GOA O.species Assessment	O.species breakout: Preliminary Review (T)
	SSC Workshop on Ecosystem Modeling	
BSAI P.cod sector allocations: Status Report	BSAI P.cod sector allocations: Initial Review (T)	BSAI P.cod sector allocations: Final Action (T)
BSAI Salmon Bycatch Package B: Review alternatives	BSAI Salmon Bycatch Package B: Action as necessary	BSAI Salmon Bycatch Package B: Action as necessary
Chiniak gully experiment: Report	Chiniak gully experiment: Initial Review/Final Action	Salmon genetic research: Report
Scallop Assessment Methods: SSC Review		VMS Requirements: Initial Review (T)

TAC - Total Allowable Catch
 BSAI - Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands
 IFQ - Individual Fishing Quota
 GHL - Guideline Harvest Level
 HAPC - Habitat Areas of Particular Concern
 LLP - License Limitation Program
 PSC - Prohibited Species Catch

AI - Aleutian Islands
 GOA - Gulf of Alaska
 SSL - Steller Sea Lion
 BOF - Board of Fisheries
 FEP - Fishery Ecosystem Plan
 CDQ - Community Development Quota
 IRIU - Improved Retention/Improved Utilization

SAFE - Stock assessment and fishery evaluation
 VMS - Vessel Monitoring System
 EAM - Ecosystem Approach to Management
 SSC - Scientific & Statistical Committee
 FMP - Fishery Management Plan
 DPSEIS - Draft Programmatic Groundfish SEIS
(T) Tentatively scheduled