

June 2008 Meeting
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
Draft Motion
Kodiak, Alaska

Crab Management

C-3(a) – Amendment to cost recovery fee program

The Council adopts the following as its preferred alternative:

Alternative 3 – modifying the FMP text to provide NMFS discretion to determine the amount of fees set aside for loan financing

C-3(b) Crab Committee Report

The Council requests staff to initiate a discussion paper on ‘emergency relief from the regional delivery requirement’ including the use of civil contracts between harvesters, processors, and the designee of the affected community. The civil contracts are intended to facilitate, clarify and streamline the process that may result in a waiver of the regionalization requirement by NMFS.

Further, the Council requests the crab committee to continue to work on the remaining issues previously assigned to the committee, as follows 1) crew issues, 2) rights of first refusal, and 3) Western Aleutian Islands golden king crab, giving the highest priority to crew issues.

The Council also requests staff to work with crew representatives to put their proposals in more direct terms for delivery to the crab advisory committee at its September meeting. Possible alternatives include those listed below, as well as those identified in the submission of the crewmen’s association.

Draft Alternatives

Alternative 1 (status quo)

Alternative 2 – (Alternatives in the April motion to the committee)

Alternative 3 – Up to 20 percent of the total TAC for each BSAI crab fishery will be allocated annually to a ‘pool’ that is distributed as C shares to ‘qualified crew’.

Alternative 4 – Up to 40 percent of that portion of the TAC for each BSAI crab fishery that is above the average TAC level in the qualifying years will be allocated annually to a pool that would be distributed as C shares to ‘qualified crewmen’.

Alternative 5 – For those crewmen who have received 1099 income from BSAI crab fisheries for two or more years, set a minimum amount for their crew shares as follows: No less than 5, 6, or 7 percent of the vessel’s gross earnings less food, fuel, bait, and taxes for the time the crewman is aboard the vessel.