

Goal: Develop regulatory changes to the Atka mackerel, Pacific cod, and pollock fisheries' SSL mitigation measures that continue to meet the mandates of the ESA, MMPA, MSFCMA, and other applicable laws, while conserving marine biodiversity and sustaining viability of the diverse fishing communities dependent upon the Alaska fishery resources.

Objectives:

1. Continue to avoid jeopardy and adverse modification.

- Is there additional fishing effort inside of SSL critical habitat?
- Does the proposal provide trade-offs that reduce the total negative effects to SSL?
- Does the proposal open a substantial amount of critical habitat?
- Does proposal indirectly provide protection to additional sites?
- Does proposal indirectly affect nearby SSL sites?
- Does proposal affect important research site? (eg Chiswell)
- Does proposal offer additional measures to control fishing rate or effort?
- Does the proposal affect an SSL site that has special importance? (eg. Marmot)
- Does the proposal reduce the no-fishing time between end of year (December) and first of year (January) fisheries at a critical time for SSL?
- Does proposal shift effort into a time/space or prey availability level that may have negative effect on SSL?
- Does the proposal affect the number of fishing days required to harvest the quota?

2. Encourage development of a sound experimental design for monitoring.

3. Minimize adverse social and economic impacts.

- Does the proposal provide economic benefits?
- What is the impact upon harvesting and/or processing efficiency?
- Does the proposal have any effects on other fisheries?
- Will the proposed action be further affected by recent or pending council actions?

4. Minimize bycatch of PSC and other groundfish.

- Does the proposal potentially create bycatch issues in other SSL prey species?
- Does the proposal potentially create bycatch issues in PSC species?

5. Promote safety at sea.

- Does the proposal reduce or increase safety for the fleet?

6. Minimize adverse impacts to threatened and endangered species in the BSAI and GOA