

Proposed Amendment Text for Amendment 85 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska

1. In Appendix A, add the following in numerical order to the list of history of amendment changes:

Amendment 85 implemented _____, revised Amendment 68:

Removed the BSAI July stand down sideboard provision that applied to catcher processors participating in the Central GOA Rockfish Demonstration Program.

2. In Section 3.7.2.3.2, modify the ninth paragraph, as marked below, where text to be deleted is marked with strikethrough.

Additionally, each catcher processor participant would be required to abide by a stand-down in all the ~~Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands~~ Gulf of Alaska ~~non-pollock~~ groundfish fisheries. The stand-down would start on the July opening of the rockfish fishery and end on the earlier of two weeks or on the harvest of 90 percent of the participant's cooperative allocation, if the harvest of the allocation began on the traditional July opening. The maximum stand-down would allow participants to begin at a time other than early July, provided they are willing to abide by the two week stand-down.

3. In the same Section 3.7.2.3.2, modify the 11th and 12th paragraphs as follows:

Participants that choose to fish in the limited access fishery and who account for less than 5 percent of the allocated catcher processor history of Pacific Ocean perch, would be subject to no sideboard or stand-down, beyond the aggregate sector sideboards. Limited access fishery participants that account for 5 percent or more of the sector's Pacific Ocean perch would be required to stand-down in Gulf of Alaska, ~~as well as in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands non-pollock~~ groundfish fisheries, until 90 percent of the limited access Pacific Ocean perch is harvested.

Eligible catcher processors could also choose to "opt-out" of the program, forgoing the opportunity to fish CGOA rockfish. Participants that choose to opt-out would be subject to two week stand-downs in the Gulf of Alaska, ~~Bering Sea, and Aleutian Islands~~ fisheries in which they have less than two years of participation during the first week of July in the qualifying years. History of vessels that "opt-out" of the pilot program would be reallocated within the catcher processor sector, based on history to persons that elect to remain in the fishery.

Rbaker

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