



NOAA FISHERIES SERVICE



For more information on the
Western Alaska CDQ Program:

<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/cdq/default.htm>

<http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/ram/ifqcdq.htm>

Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) Program

Vital Stats

First year: 1992

Type of Catch Share Program: CDQs for Groundfish, Halibut, Crab, and Prohibited Species.

Management units: Six non-profit corporations (CDQ entities or CDQ groups) that represent 65 eligible communities.

Vessels / Gear types: All vessel types and sizes ranging from small catcher vessels to large catcher/processors and motherships, many gear types.

Available Trend Data

Season length: Varies by species.

Ex-vessel value: 2005 ~ \$65M (no comparable values to compare before the program)

Consolidation: NA

Stock status: Groundfish – no overfishing, not overfished. Halibut - no overfishing, not overfished (although managed under the Halibut Act). Crab – see crab rationalization spotlight #4, of which CDQ groups are an entity receiving Quota Share.

Nature of Harvest Privilege

Eligibility: The Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) Program allocates a percentage of all Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands quotas for groundfish, prohibited species, halibut, and crab to eligible communities. The purpose of the CDQ Program is to provide eligible western Alaska villages with the opportunity to participate and invest in fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area; to support economic development in western Alaska; to alleviate poverty and provide economic and social benefits for residents of western Alaska; and to achieve sustainable and diversified local economies in western Alaska.

Duration: Indefinite. CDQ allocations are required by section 305(i)(1) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Transferability: CDQ allocations may be transferred among CDQ groups, but not outside the program.

Accumulation: NA

Initial Allocation: Allocations among the CDQ groups are established under section 305(i)(1)(C) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act with a limited opportunity for adjustments through the decennial review and allocation adjustment process.



For additional Catch Share
Spotlights in this series go to:

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/catchshares>

Questions, comments or need
more information? Contact us
via email at:

catchshares@noaa.gov

Management

Identified Costs: 2007 estimated costs are \$0.664M.

Cost recovery: Cost recovery for crab CDQ is done through the crab rationalization program. The Magnuson-Stevens Act authorizes cost recovery for the other CDQ allocations, but regulations requiring cost recovery in these CDQ fisheries have not yet been implemented. Statute allows the CDQ groups to deduct from cost recovery fees any costs for observer or reporting requirements that are in addition to costs incurred by participants in non-CDQ fisheries.

Monitoring: Halibut CDQ is managed under the IFQ Program. Crab CDQ is managed by the State of Alaska. Groundfish CDQ is managed by NMFS. Each CDQ landing is reported electronically, in real time. Reports of catch of groundfish and prohibited species are received daily through electronic reports from observers and weekly from the CDQ group managers.

Special Insights

Amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Act in the Coast Guard Act (2006) and the Magnuson-Act Reauthorization (2007) significantly revised CDQ Program requirements. These amendments addressed all aspects of management and oversight of the CDQ Program, including the purpose of the program allocations to the program, allocations among the CDQ groups, management of the CDQ fisheries, eligible communities, eligibility criteria for participation in the program, limits on allowable investments, the creation of a CDQ administrative panel made up of representatives from the CDQ groups, compliance with State of Alaska reporting requirements, a decennial review and allocation adjustment process, and removal of NMFS authority to require approval of community development plans and prior approval of investments and expenditures.

Summary

While Alaska has one of the most highly productive marine systems in the world, coastal Alaska Natives were historically excluded economically from participating in many of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Island (BSAI) fisheries. The Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) program was created to allow access to these fisheries for coastal native communities.

The Community Development Quota Program began in December of 1992 with the goal of promoting fisheries-related economic development in western Alaska. The program is a federal fisheries program that involves eligible coastal communities who have formed six regional organizations, referred to as CDQ groups. There are 65 communities within a fifty-mile radius of the Bering Sea coastline who participate in the program.

The CDQ program allocates a portion of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Island (BSAI) harvest amounts to CDQ groups, including pollock, halibut, Pacific cod, crab and bycatch species. Exact allocations vary by fishery.