

Report of the  
**Arctic Enterprise Association**  
**2006**

Presented to the  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
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## I. Arctic Enterprise Association

### A. Cooperative Membership

The Arctic Enterprise Association was made up of one vessel for the year 2006. The table below shows the member vessel and its 100% share of the Coop. As in the past, Coop percentages listed represent the vessels share of the Coop pollock based on the relevant catch history of each member vessel. The M/V Arctic Enterprise owned and operated by Trident Seafoods Corp is the registered purchasing and processing facility for the Arctic Enterprise Association. The Arctic Enterprise operated during the 2006 “A” season but did not operate during the 2006 “B” season. Therefore, all of the “B” season pollock allocation attributed to this Coop was delivered to another plant.

Vessel	Coop Percent
INTREPID EXPLORER	100.00%

### B. Cooperative Management

The Arctic Enterprise Association is governed by a Board of Directors as well as through active participation by the owners and operators of the member vessels. The Arctic Enterprise Assoc. remains very active in the inter-coop process and is bound contractually to the inter-coop through the Inter-Coop Agreement. Inter-coop issues and fishery management decisions are brought to the Coop level in the form of preferred alternatives. The preferred alternatives are a result of discussions and negotiations with the other Coops resulting in unanimous decisions by all Coop representatives. All preferred alternatives are discussed and voted on at the Coop level prior to being supported at the inter-coop level.

### C. In-Season Management

The day to day management of the Coop is the responsibility of the Coop Manager. The Coop Manager is responsible for all communications with the fleet regarding Coop and inter-coop issues as well as providing all Coop information back to the vessel owners and managers. The Coop Manager also schedules all meetings, budgets and manages Coop costs and attends all inter-coop meetings.

In addition to the above duties, the Coop Manager is also responsible for all pollock and sideboard distribution as well as the in-season management of all pollock, sideboard fisheries and PSC. Prior to individual season openings, it is requested that the Coop members “pre-register” for fisheries they will participate in. This is not always a formal process but it provides the Coop Manager adequate information as to which vessels will participate in which fisheries prior to the fisheries commencing. During this process, member vessels are informed of allocations or sideboard restrictions and any other pertinent information that needs to be conveyed. As the fisheries proceed, landing data is obtained by the Coop Manager from the plant that received the catch and landing totals are tabulated and compared against allocation or sideboards in the pertinent area. Vessels keep updated on their allocation progress via direct communication with

the Coop Manager. An update is also sent to the processor and the vessel owners on a regular basis. This process ensures that no allocation or sideboard limits are exceeded.

It is also the responsibility of the Coop Manager to complete all Coop reporting requirements as outlined by the Government. This includes the submission and reconciliation of all weekly reports and the compilation and completion of the annual report to the Council.

Transfers of allocation are used within and between Coops to allow for efficient use of our allocations. The Coop Manager is responsible for tracking all transfers and preparing any necessary paper work to facilitate the transfers. All completed transfers are then reported to the Coop membership via changes to the allocation spreadsheets that are distributed regularly. In many cases the manager aids in the transfer process by identifying remaining allocations or fishing situations in which a transfer might be beneficial or requested.

All landings data, including prohibited species catches, are also gathered by Sea State, Inc. Since the inception of AFA Coops, Sea State has been hired to act as a third party to aid in our fishery management. Harvest and bycatch data is obtained by Sea State via the NMFS eLandings program which is used by the plants, or via observer data which is acquired through the observer program office in Seattle. This data allows Sea State to aid the Coop Manager with in-season management as needed. This service is used primarily to monitor the harvest of prohibited species and the facilitation of the various bycatch programs put in place by the inter-coop group. All data gathered by Sea State is available to the Coop Manager via a password protected website. Data on the website is available in the aggregate or by individual vessel deliveries.

## **II. Arctic Enterprise Association AFA Pollock**

### **A. Cooperative Pollock Allocation**

Based on the NMFS verified catch history of the one member vessel, the Arctic Enterprise Association was allocated 1.146% of the pollock available for directed fishing by the Bering Sea onshore sector. This resulted in a 2006 Bering Sea pollock allocation of **7,566 MT**. The final annual allocation included a 134 MT reallocation from both the bycatch account as well as reallocation from what was originally set aside for the Aleutian Islands fishery. A total of 40% of the annual allocation was given to the boat in the “A” season and the balance in the “B” season. The “B” season allocation included both reallocations described above. The one boat in this Coop, the Intrepid Explorer, did not fish pollock in 2006. The pollock allocation to this Coop was harvested by vessels contracted from other Coops under Amendment 69.

### **B. Vessel Allocations and Harvest**

Table 1 shows initial pollock allocations to the Arctic Enterprise member vessel as well as the total harvest of pollock by the one member vessel and by vessels contracted by this Coop. Table 2 shows the pollock harvest along with non-target groundfish and PSC catch.

#### TABLE 1:

As indicated on this table in the bottom right hand corner, 7.0 MT of pollock was left unharvested in this Coop for 2006. This amount was left unharvested intentionally as a cushion to prevent over harvesting.

Four vessels from the Akutan Coop were contracted by the Arctic Enterprise Association to catch this year’s pollock allocation. These vessels were contracted in the both the “A” and “B” season. As mentioned earlier, the one member vessel in this Coop did not fish for pollock in 2006. A summary of the contract fishing is seen in Table 1.

**TABLE 1**  
**ARCTIC ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION**  
**2006 POLLOCK ALLOCATIONS AND HARVEST BY VESSEL (MT)**

2005 Total Pollock Alloc: 7,566 MT

Vessel	Coop Percent	2005 Initial Allocation (MT)	Vessel Harvest "A" Season	Vessel Harvest "B" Season	Total 2005 Harvest	(Over)/Under Allocation (MT)
INTREPID EXPLORER	100.00%	7,566.00	0.00	0.00	<b>0.00</b>	7,566.00
Bristol Explorer	Am69	0.00	951.00	0.00	<b>951.00</b>	(951.00)
Pacific Explorer	Am69	0.00	1,136.00	406.00	<b>1,542.00</b>	(1,542.00)
Northwest Explorer	Am69	0.00	899.00	346.00	<b>1,245.00</b>	(1,245.00)
Ocean Explorer	Am69	0.00	0.00	3,821.00	<b>3,821.00</b>	(3,821.00)
<b>TOTALS</b>	100.00%	7,566.00	2,986.00	4,573.00	<b>7,559.00</b>	<b>7.00</b>

TABLE 2:

Table 2 shows the PSC harvest and non-target harvest by member vessels and the vessels contracted by this Coop.

**TABLE 2**  
**ARCTIC ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION**  
**2006 ACTUAL CATCH AND BYCATCH IN DIRECTED POLLOCK FISHERY (MT)**

Vessel	Pollock Harvest (MT)	Non-Target Groundfish (MT)	Halibut Mort. (MT)	RKC (N)	Bairdi (N)	Tanner Other (MT)	Chinook (N)	Other Salmon (N)
INTREPID EXPLORER	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bristol Explorer	951.00	18.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.00	0.00
Pacific Explorer	1,542.00	39.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	197.00	46.00
Northwest Explorer	1,245.00	16.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	118.00	35.00
Ocean Explorer	3,821.00	52.00	0.00	0.00	41.00	5.00	592.00	1,158.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	7,559.00	<b>125.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>43.00</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>926.00</b>	<b>1,239.00</b>
<b>TOTAL ALLOC</b>	<b>7,566.00</b>							
<b>UNHARVESTED</b>	<b>7.00</b>							

### **III. 2006 Bering Sea Sideboards**

#### **A. BSAI Cod Sideboard Allocations**

BSAI sideboards were established for each AFA Coop for Pacific cod, Yellowfin sole and Rock sole. No vessels from the Arctic Enterprise Association participated in either Bering Sea flatfish fishery in 2006. Coop sideboard allocations for Bering Sea flatfish have not been distributed to individual vessels in the Coop.

Based on the Sea State verified catch history of its member vessel, the Arctic Enterprise Association was allocated **1.20%** of the BSAI cod sideboards available to the AFA non-exempt fleet. This resulted in a total 2006 Pacific cod sideboard total of **423 MT** to the Arctic Enterprise Coop. The one vessel in this Coop is a Bering Sea non-exempt vessel.

#### **B. Cod Sideboard Transfers**

In addition to the annual sideboard allocation indicated above, this Coop also received a net additional **1074.70 MT** of BSAI cod sideboards via transfer from other Coops. All transfers took place during the late winter/spring fishery to allow participating member vessels to harvest beyond the Coop sideboard allocations at that point in the year. A summary of these transfers are listed at the bottom of Table 3.

#### **C. Bering Sea Cod Sideboard and PSC Harvest**

Table 3 shows the cod sideboard allocation for the one member vessel as well as transfers and harvest amounts. Table 4 shows the total cod sideboard harvest as well as the non-target groundfish and PSC harvest for the member vessel.

##### TABLE 3:

A total of 85.00 MT of cod was left unharvested during 2006. This includes cod sideboards transferred to this Coop as described above. All of the cod harvest took place in the winter and spring during the January through April time frame. No member vessels participated in the cod fishery during the second half of the year.

**TABLE 3**  
**ARCTIC ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION**  
**2006 BS PACIFIC COD SIDEBOARD ALLOCATIONS AND HARVEST (MT)**

Vessel	Coop Percent	2006 Sideboard (MT)	Sideboard Transfers (MT)	2006 Total Sideboard	Vessel Harvest (MT)	(Over)/Under Allocation (MT)
INTREPID EXPLORER	100.00%	423.00	1,074.70	1,497.70	<b>1,412.70</b>	85.00
TOTALS	100.00%	423.00	1,074.70	1,497.70	<b>1,412.70</b>	<b>85.00</b>

Transfer Summary:	Transferred From:	Transferred To:	Amount (MT)
		Unalaska Coop	Arctic Enterprise Assoc.
	Westward Coop	Arctic Enterprise Assoc.	558.75
	Akutan CV Assoc	Arctic Enterprise Assoc.	451.93
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1074.70</b>



TABLE 4:

PSC caps were established for halibut, Zone 1 red King crab as well as zone 1 Bairdi and Opilio. Below is the PSC and non-target groundfish harvest data for the one boat in this Coop.

**TABLE 4**  
**ARCTIC ENTERPRISE ASSOCIATION**  
**2006 BSAI PACIFIC COD SIDEBOARD HARVEST AND PSC BYCATCH**

Vessels	Pacific Cod Harvest (MT)	Non-Target Grndfish (MT)	Halibut Mort (MT)	Red King Crab (N)	Bairdi (N)	Other Tanner (N)	Chinook (N)	Other Salmon (MT)
INTREPID EXPLORER	1,412.70	82	12	0	841	408	33	3
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,412.70</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>841</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>TOTAL ALLOC</b>	1,497.70		9	79	1,102	839		
<b>UNHARVESTED</b>	<b>85.00</b>		<b>(3)</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>431</b>		

## **IV. Bering Sea Salmon Bycatch Management**

Chinook and Chum salmon bycatch programs were once again in place for 2006 through the work of the inter-coop group. The results of these programs were the Chinook and Chum Salmon Bycatch Agreements which were adopted by all of the Coops. All Coops were bound contractually to these agreements. The overall goal of both programs is to provide to the fleet real-time bycatch data that is used to alter fishing grounds as needed to harvest pollock with as little salmon bycatch as possible. Incorporated in to these programs were weekly closed areas affecting Coops that had shown high salmon bycatch over the previous couple of weeks.

Under these programs, vessels were asked to transmit tow-by-tow salmon bycatch data to Sea State. Sea State was hired to monitor the fishery and salmon bycatch performance by the Coops. Sea State was responsible for gathering the data, notifying the Coop Managers of bycatch rates by area as well as announcing the weekly closures. Vessels in the Arctic Enterprise Association used two methods for transmitting bycatch data. Most of the vessels used software that worked in conjunction with the vessel's VMS system to send the tow data from the grounds. In cases where the VMS transmission was failing, vessels sent data directly to Sea State via Sat C email.

Prior to the "B" season pollock fishery in the BS, the bycatch agreement was used to obtain an EFP which ultimately gave the member vessels in this Coop an exemption from the large Chinook and Chum salmon savings areas that are present in the Bering Sea. These large closures have had a dramatic effect on the fleet's ability to harvest pollock over the last few seasons. In addition, at times it appeared that the large savings closures might have driven bycatch of salmon up. The exemption from the savings areas allowed the inter-coop group to execute the salmon bycatch program without the hindrance of the savings areas. Having access to those areas allowed the vessels to be able to harvest their pollock and maintain high quality standards which resulted in a better product. The bycatch program seemed to work well, although that is difficult to measure when the overall abundance of salmon in the BS is unknown. The program did get boats communicating and doing their best to avoid salmon. The fleets was constantly moving to attempt to find pollock and avoid the areas of high salmon bycatch.

## V. Gulf of Alaska Sideboards

Sideboards were established for the major target fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska. NMFS published informational tables with GOA sideboards percentages for each Coop's non-exempt vessels. Sideboard totals for each Coop were calculated by taking the Coop's percentage of the overall AFA sideboard for that area and species. Coop percentages are based on the relevant verified catch histories of member vessels.

No vessels from the Arctic Enterprise Association participated in GOA sideboard fisheries in 2006.

Table 5 shows the Arctic Enterprise Association 2006 non-exempt sideboard limits for pollock and cod. This Coop has no rockfish or flatfish sideboards in the GOA.

### TABLE 5:

This table lists the total sideboard amounts in MT by area and season based on a total of the member's catch histories.

Again, no harvest of GOA sideboard species took place by vessels in this Coop during 2006.

**TABLE 5**  
**ARCTIC ENTERPRISE**  
**ASSOCIATION**  
**2006 GOA SIDEBOARD ALLOCATIONS BY AREA**

Area/Species	Coop Sideboards "A" Season (MT)	Coop Sideboards "B" Season (MT)	Coop Sideboards "C" Season (MT)	Coop Sideboards "D" Season (MT)
610 Pollock	20	20	41	41
620 Pollock	0	0	0	0
630 Pollock	0	0	0	0
640 Pollock	41.96 Annual			

Area/Species	Coop Sideboards "A" Season (MT)	Coop Sideboards "B" Season (MT)	Coop Sideboards Total Shares (MT)
Pacific Cod Western	120.6	80.4	201
Pacific Cod Central	0	0	0
Pacific Cod Eastern	0	0	0