

**Alaska Groundfish Cooperative**  
**Report to the North Pacific**  
**Fishery Management Council**  
**for the 2011 Fishery**

20 March 2012

**Introduction**

On January 20<sup>th</sup> 2011, the Alaska Groundfish Cooperative (AGC) began fishing under regulations implementing Amendment 80. This report summarizes AGC operations during 2011.

**AGC membership**

AGC membership includes the following four companies, and nine non-AFA trawl catcher processors and/or permits.

Company	Vessel/Permit	LLP LOA
Arctic Sole Seafoods, Inc.	Ocean Cape	122
Iquique U.S., L.L.C.	Tremont	125
O'Hara Corporation	Harvester Enterprise	181
The Fishing Company of Alaska, Inc.	Alaska Juris	238
	Alaska Spirit	221
	Alaska Victory	227
	Alaska Warrior	215
	Alaska Ranger	203
	Alaska Voyager	228

### **Co-op Management**

The AGC co-op manager is responsible for the management of the cooperative. This includes communications, regulatory compliance, catch and bycatch tracking, and QS management.

Transfers occurred during the year between co-op members, and between Am 80 cooperatives.

2011 was the first year for the Alaska Groundfish Cooperative. Due to events beyond our control, we did not have as many fishing days as we were expecting. With the experience gained in the 2011 fishery, we anticipate increased efficiencies during the 2012 fishery.

### **Catch Monitoring**

The AGC manager receives observer data from the vessels fishing. Catch and species composition information is received from the Observer Program, and from NMFS Alaska Region. Production information is received from Alaska Region. All of these sources are used to ensure that the vessels do not exceed quotas. Software on the vessels allows the Captains to keep close track of quota usage.

Seastate, Inc. also monitors AGC catch and production, and the co-op manager is able to compare information through a secure web site to ensure any possible errors are caught and resolved.

### **GOA Sideboards**

Some AGC vessels participated in the Rockfish Pilot Program Co-op fishery in the CGOA. These vessels are sideboarded under the rockfish program. One AGC vessel participated in the WGOA Am 80 rockfish sideboard fishery. No sideboard limits were exceeded.

## 2011 AGC Catch

The following tables provide AGC catch information. Data has been rounded to the nearest whole number. All co-op catch during 2011 fell within allocation levels and no overages occurred.

*BSAI AGC Allocated Quota & PSC and Catch Amounts*

Species	AGC Am 80 Allocation (mt)	AGC Catch (mt)	Total Transfer Amounts (mt)
Mackerel 541	19,181	19,142	
Mackerel 542	5,389	5,128	
Mackerel 543	755	183	
Flathead Sole	6,269	460	3,940
Pacific Cod	5,079	3,600	1,034
POP 541	2,364	2,332	
POP 542	2,078	2,054	
POP 543	3,879	3,835	
Rock Sole	19,902	5,071	4,573
Yellowfin Sole	59,798	21,487	8,737
Bairdi Z1 (#)	174,839	54,801	35,137
Bairdi Z2 (#)	407,987	297,279	80,641
Halibut Mortality (mt)	732	488	205
COBLZ Opilio (#)	1,834,026	274,157	197,479
Red King Crab (#)	41,602	6,407	6,274

*BSAI Salmon Catch Amounts*

<b>Species</b>	<b>AGC Catch (#)</b>
Chinook	0
Non-Chinook	270



P.O. Box 74, Vashon, WA 98070

Ph: (206)463-7370  
Fax: (206)463-7371  
Email: karl@seastateinc.com

February 26, 2012

## 2011 Groundfish Retention by the Alaska Groundfish Cooperative

### Materials and Methods:

Observer data was supplied to Sea State, Inc via the Northwest Groundfish Observer Program's password-protected web site. Logon credentials were supplied by all members of the Alaska Groundfish Cooperative. Production data were obtained via the NMFS Alaska Region e-Landings system, again using credentials supplied by member companies. Unsampled hauls in the observer data were extrapolated using standard methods documented by NMFS Alaska Region to produce total groundfish catch estimates in accord with those in the Alaska Region Catch Accounting System. Production data were processed using published Product Recovery Rates (PRRs). Groundfish retention was then calculated according to the formula:

$$\text{Retention percentage} = \text{Retained catch (retained product RWE)} / \text{Total catch (CAS)}$$

The coop-wide retention percentage (all vessels' groundfish catch and retained product data pooled) was 87.6%