

Proposed FMP amendment language for GOA Amendment 86

Deletions are stricken and additions are in bold.

p. 20, Section 3.3.1 License Limitation Program

Beginning on January 1, 2002, a Federal groundfish license is required for harvesting vessels (including harvester/processors) participating in all directed GOA groundfish fisheries, other than fixed gear sablefish throughout the GOA and demersal shelf rockfish in the Southeast Outside area (east of 140E W. longitude). Vessels fishing in State of Alaska waters (0-3 miles offshore) will be exempt, as will vessels less than 26 ft LOA **and vessels using jig gear, subject to gear restrictions**. Vessels exempted from the GOA groundfish license program, will be limited to the use of legal fixed gear in the Southeast Outside area.

Add Section 3.3.1.2

Species and Gear Endorsements for Vessels Using Hook-and-line, Pot, and Jig Gear

Vessels engaged in directed fishing for Pacific cod in the GOA management area (including catch in federal waters and catch in State of Alaska waters that is deducted from the federal TAC) using hook-and-line, pot, or jig gear must hold a Pacific cod endorsement in addition to holding an area endorsement and general license. The following criteria apply to specific gear types and vessel classes:

- **Hook-and-line catcher processors**. Must have made at least 50 mt of landings in the directed commercial GOA Pacific cod fishery (excluding discards) in the aggregate using hook-and-line gear during the period from 2002 through December 8, 2008.
- **Pot catcher processors**. Must have made at least 50 mt of landings in the directed commercial GOA Pacific cod fishery (excluding discards) in the aggregate using pot gear during the period from 2002 through December 8, 2008.
- **Hook-and-line catcher vessel licenses \geq 60 ft MLOA**. Must have made at least 50 mt of cod landings in the directed commercial GOA Pacific cod fishery (excluding discards) in the aggregate using hook-and-line gear during the period from 2002 through December 8, 2008.
- **Pot catcher vessel licenses \geq 60 ft MLOA**. Must have made at least 50 mt of cod landings in the directed commercial GOA Pacific cod fishery (excluding discards) in the aggregate using hook-and-line gear during the period from 2002 through December 8, 2008.
- **Hook-and-line catcher vessel licenses $<$ 60 ft MLOA**. Must have made at least 10 mt of cod landings in the directed commercial GOA Pacific cod fishery (excluding discards) in the aggregate using hook-and-line gear during the period from 2002 through December 8, 2008.
- **Pot catcher vessel licenses $<$ 60 ft MLOA**. Must have made at least 10 mt of cod landings in the directed commercial GOA Pacific cod fishery (excluding discards) in the aggregate using pot gear during the period from 2002 through December 8, 2008.
- **Jig licenses**. Must have made at least 1 landing of cod in the directed commercial GOA Pacific cod fishery (excluding discards) using jig gear during the period from 2002 through December 8, 2008.

Other Pacific cod endorsement requirements under the License Limitation Program apply as follows:

1. **Vessels Earning Multiple Pacific Cod Endorsements.** Vessels that qualify for a Pacific cod endorsement in more than one gear sector shall be issued an endorsement for each sector for which they qualify. Endorsements that are earned by a vessel shall be attached to that vessel's general license. The Pacific cod endorsement(s) shall not be severable from a general license, just as area endorsements are non-severable.
2. **Vessels class exemptions.** Vessels less than or equal to 26 ft LOA using any gear type, and vessels of any length using jig gear, subject to gear restrictions (up to 5 jigging machines, 5 lines, and 30 hooks per line) are exempt from the License Limitation Program and Pacific cod endorsement requirement in the GOA.

Add Section 3.3.1.3

Licenses available to Community Quota Eligible Communities

Qualified Community Quota Entities (CQEs) in the Central and Western Gulf of Alaska shall be eligible to request, from NMFS, non-transferable fixed gear groundfish licenses with a Pacific cod endorsement for the management area in which the community is located. Yakutat is considered a CQE in the Central GOA. These licenses shall have an MLOA of 60 ft and gear designations will be assigned as follows:

- Western GOA LLPs will be endorsed for pot gear
- In the Central GOA, CQEs will have 6 months after implementation to notify NMFS regarding the gear endorsement (pot or hook-and-line) that will be assigned to CQE LLPs. However, if the CQE does not notify NMFS, the following rule will be applied to assign gear endorsements: for each CQE, LLPs will be split 50% pot gear and 50% hook-and-line gear. If there is an odd number of licenses then the additional LLP will be assigned a pot designation.

The LLP is issued to the CQE and the CQE designates the vessel to which the LLP license is assigned. The CQE shall determine who may use the LLP license and provide them with a letter of authorization. The CQE will attest to NMFS that the authorized person meets residency requirements as under Amendment 66, with the exception of the IFQ crew member sea-days requirement. CQEs that request LLPs shall be required to submit annual reports to the Council and NMFS similar to those required under the CQE halibut and sablefish program.

p. A-11, Appendix A, A.1 Amendments to the FMP

Amendment 86 implemented _____, revised Amendment 58:

Added gear-specific (pot, hook-and-line, and jig) Pacific cod endorsements to Western GOA and Central GOA fixed gear licenses that limit entry to the directed Pacific cod fishery.