

**HALIBUT AND SABLEFISH IFQ PROGRAM  
AMENDMENT PROPOSAL  
North Pacific Fishery Management Council  
Fax: (907) 271-2817**

AGENDA D-4(a)(8)  
DECEMBER 2008

Name of Proposer:

Robert Snell

Address:

5889 South Shore Rd.

Anacortes, WA 98221

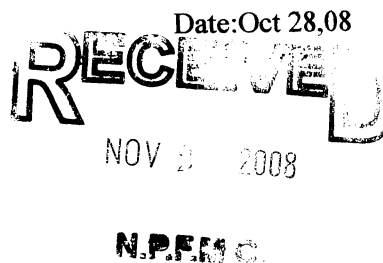
Telephone:

360-293-5037

Cell 360-770-6763

Brief Statement of Proposal:

To permit my D class quota to be caught on C class vessels in area 4B.



Objectives of Proposal (What is the problem?):

After purchasing my approximately 4000 lbs of D class quota in May 08 and fishing it successfully in June, July and August this year on my 32 foot vessel in conjunction with a cod jigging operation I had at Adak, I was made aware of several situations that will make it complicated to fish it in the foreseeable future. The main problem is the lack of adequate moorage and storage for my vessel especially in the off season at Adak. Initially I was told by Kjetil Solberg, the owner/manager of Adak Fisheries, that this would not be a problem. In fact I saw his two 35 foot vessels taken in and out during my time there. As the end of the season approached, I went to the city officials in charge of lift- out equipment and had no reason to believe it would not be possible until Will Tillion the safety administrator told me he thought my vessel was too heavy for the lift- out hoist and denied my request for haulout. Having seen some other boats that had been left in the small boat harbor in near sinking condition at Adak due to inadequate surveillance complicated by lack of shore power, I felt I had to leave Adak and I moved the vessel to Sand Point. In addition after having fished in the area, I learned that the more productive cod and halibut areas require some considerable travel, usually six or more hours one way around capes and through passes that have potential for hazardous conditions even during the most favorable summer fishing periods- thereby, restricting harvest to primarily mid- June to mid- September. In fact the predominant percentage of D class halibut quota in 2007 and 2008 was landed in July and August as seen on supplied catch history tables provided by NOAA ( see data enclosures). To move my boat between Adak and Sand Point to harvest 4000 lbs of IFQ in this small window with the time, expense and hazard involved is not a viable option. A complete list of the share holders of D class quota in 4B exhibits a pattern that makes it easier to do IFQ in 4B. There are 11 of the 14 shareholders with Atka mailing addresses, one with an Adak address, one in Dutch Harbor, (two other listings were sweep up shares that presumably have been swept up) and myself with two small blocks. I inquired at the Atka Fisheries plant to see if they would help me with cod and halibut purchase and was told they would not buy cod and had no fuel and limited services for nonresidents. Also note the small number of D class , only 3 individual vessels landing quota in 4B in 2008 with a total of 18 landings of which I had 12. I landed 4000 lbs; the other two vessels landed 42,000 lbs in 6 deliveries. Another complicating factor is obtaining insurance for hull and crew on a D class vessel in 4B. It is not available for short term and costs are considerable . Due to the constraints placed on small boat fishermen in Adak, insurance would become cost prohibitive, since by necessity the boat could not be put in winter storage.

Need and Justification for Council Action (Why can't the problem be resolved through other channels?)

I need a safe and secure place to leave my 32 foot boat for storage through the off season and currently that does not exist, or I must locate an individual with a D class vessel for hire to help me. I am unaware of any D class vessels available for hire other than those owned by Kjetil Solberg , the current owner/ manager of Adak Fisheries Both historical and current problems at

Adak Fisheries prohibit this option. There are several vessels that do fish class C quota that may be a viable option for me and that fished at Adak this past summer. Some of these vessels travel between Dutch Harbor and Adak on a more regular and frequent basis. These vessels have range and opportunity to catch and deliver my product at times and under conditions not available for D class vessels. Some of these owners have expressed interest in working with me if it were permissible. A list of available owners is in the data provided.

#### Foreseeable Impacts of Proposal (Who wins, who loses)

I would have a financial benefit if I could harvest my approximately 4000 lbs of halibut, but it is not going to make a large impact on the stocks in 4B and appears that the two other vessels doing 4B D class IFQ would also benefit. Since they are Atka residents and not out of area requiring Adak off season storage they might not need or want this option. I didn't see any other class D vessels fishing halibut there this past summer. After a careful review of the criteria used to justify permitting D class share holders in 3B and 4C as provided in the Council's Report, it would appear that such consideration would apply in 4B also - the primary reason being the safety concerns of smaller vessels fishing isolated and remote areas during short seasonal opportunity. This previous paper [www.fakr.gov/npfine/council/\\_membership.htm](http://www.fakr.gov/npfine/council/_membership.htm)... addresses these issues in ways that have a similar rationale here.

Are there Alternative Solutions? If so, what are they and why do you consider your proposal the best way of solving the problem?

Funds could be appropriated to complete the Adak small boat harbor which is 25% complete and provide power there. A larger boat lift could be purchased by Adak City. Another management could take over the fish plant or floating processors could be made available to purchase and process for the summer fisheries in Adak. I was told that my presence along with the other four cod jiggers might move the powers-that-be into action to provide progress on the above, but I never saw that take place and in fact, the existing infrastructure has deteriorated since I left there in particular as regards electricity and Adak Fisheries. My other option might be to sell my halibut IFQ shares but that might not be easy under the current circumstances.

#### Supportive Data and Other Information (What data are available and where can they be found?)

Since the option I requested is in line with what has already been granted in 4c and 3B to harvest D class quota on C class vessels, I am requesting that same option. I was encouraged and recruited by Adak Fisheries to help build a small boat fleet out of Adak and although I was somewhat aware of the history and problems there, I believed that people were working to make the jig fishery viable and that the inherent problems could be eventually worked out. Although jigging Cod in the Bering Sea was a new experience for me, I have 39 years experience in varied fisheries with more than 20 of those years in Alaska. I learned of this opportunity from a friend who had extensive experience in the Bering Sea and we traveled together on this endeavor. We had some measure of success and intended to finish our fishing careers doing this in Adak if things had worked out. I brought my equipment to longline and jig with me and we would have stayed and may return if things improve. I still believe there is potential but the reality is that it may take quite some time to bring this to fruition and in the mean time fishermen like myself could use some help so we have some return on our IFQ while we wait to see what happens. At this stage of my fishing career at age 71 it's difficult to wait.

Thanks for your consideration.

Signature:

Robert J. Small

11/18/08

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**Date:** Fri, 31 Oct 2008 15:51:44 -0700  
**From:** bob and connie snell <besnell@cablerocket.com>  
**To:** Ram, Alaska@noaa.gov

Based on a discussion I had with this office yesterday (10/30/08) I have prepared a list of questions that will help me prepare a proposal I am making to NPFMC in regard to permitting Dclass quota in 4B to be caught on C class vessels as has been already done for areas 3B and 4C. The rational for this proposal and justification for doing so has already been discussed and provided to me by an email I have received from Jane DiCosimo and is available from her office. I am currently a D class shareholder and have successfully fished my 4B quota this year. NMFS ID 48985 Permit 00118961. permit holder Robert Snell

1. How many D class permit holders in 4B? Same for C class?
2. How many D class vessels made landings in 4B in 2008? Same for 2007?
3. How many C class vessels fished quota shares for other IFQ owners than the vessel owner in 4B in 2008? Same for 2007?
4. How many D class IFQ landings were made in 2008? Same for 2007?
5. What were the monthly distribution of D class landings in 4B for 2008? Same for 2007?
6. What was the total IFQ poundage for D class vessels available in 4B for 2008? Same for C class?
7. How many vessels had D class landings in 2008? Same for 2007?

Thanks for any help you can provide as regards this information. I can be reached at the phone and address provided below.

Sincerely, Robert Snell  
5889 South Shore Rd.  
Anacortes, WA 98221  
360-293-5037

11/6/2008

**bob and connie snell**

**From:** "Jessica Gharrett" <Jessica.Gharrett@noaa.gov>  
**To:** "bob and connie snell" <bcsnell@cablerocket.com>  
**Cc:** "Jane DiCosimo" <Jane.DiCosimo@noaa.gov>; "Tracy Buck" <Tracy.Buck@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 05, 2008 11:39 AM  
**Attach:** Jessica\_Gharrett.vcf  
**Subject:** Re: [Fwd: [Fwd: [Fwd: Questions pertaining to IFQs in area 4B] snell]]

Dear Mr. and Ms. Snell:

Following are answers to your questions.

Notes:

- a. In some cases I took the liberty of providing more, or slightly different, data than you requested.
- b. Note that while you asked for landings in 4B, I interpreted that to mean harvests in 4B. These data represent IFQ halibut only, and exclude CDQ halibut.
- c. Also note that the halibut QS categories are:  
 "D" less than or equal to 35 feet length overall (LOA);  
 "C" 36-60' LOA; and  
 "B" greater than 60' LOA.

1. How many D class permit holders in 4B? Same for C class?

For 2007, data are as of year end. For 2008, data are as of today.

The numbers of QS holders and permitholders are the same in each case; apparently each QS holder held (his) own IFQ permit and did not lease any out.

The numbers of IFQ permits and Permitholders are the same because each permitholder is issued only one IFQ permit per QS category for a species.

Year	Halibut QS Category	Number of QS Holders	Number of IFQ Permitholders with Fishable Pounds	Number of IFQ Permits with Fishable Pounds
2007	C	31	31	31
2007	D	15	15	15
2008	C	30	30	30
2008	D	14	14	14

2. How many D class vessels made landings in 4B in 2008? Same for 2007? (combined with

4. How many D class IFQ landings were made in 2008? Same for 2007?

The following table represents the number of vessels 35 feet or less LOA that had harvests of Category D halibut in 4B.

Year	Halibut QS Category	Number of Vessels Used to Harvest Category D Halibut in 4B	Number of Landings Made for These Harvests
2007	D	4	8
2008	D	3	18

3. How many C class vessels fished quota shares for other IFQ owners than the vessel owner in 4B in 2008? Same for 2007?

Here, I provide harvest data for of all categories of halibut IFQ.

Year	Halibut QS Category	Number of Vessels >35 and <61' LOA Used to Harvest Category C Halibut in Area 4B for IFQ Permitholders that Were Owners of the Harvesting Vessel	Number of Landings of Those Harvests
2007	B	12	27
2007	C	10	21
2008	A	3	3
2008	B	13	26
2008	C	12	17

5. What were the monthly distribution of D class landings in 4B for 2008? Same for 2007?

I regret that annual and monthly harvest data for category D halibut in 4B are confidential and as such I cannot provide them as pounds landed. However, I can provide percentages of the total (confidential) annual harvest that was taken each month for the two years.

Year	Month	Percent of Annual 4B Category D Harvest

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2007	July	55.7
2007	August	44.3
2008	June	12.8
2008	July	39.1
2008	August	46.3
2008	September	1.8

6. What was the total IFQ poundage for D class vessels available in 4B for 2008? Same for C class? As I mentioned in a previous email, the "fish down" provision allows catcher vessel QS (categories "B", "C") to be fished on vessels of any smaller length category. Under "fish down", "B" halibut QS/IFQ may be fished on a "C" or "D" LOA vessel; and "C" halibut QS/IFQ may be fished on a "C" or "D" LOA vessel. In addition, category "A" QS may be fished on vessels of any LOA. Following are the amounts of "start year fishable pounds" available for each category, "C" and "D". "Fishable pounds" incorporates the effects of adjustments from the prior year; that is, the amounts differ a bit from the amounts established for annual harvest by the IPHC for 4B; and in fact are higher. Feel free to combine the amounts of each category as you wish. The ability to hold 3 halibut blocks and the provision allowing "fish up" of category "D" halibut on category "C" size vessels in areas 3B and 4C were effective September 10, 2007. I have provided data for both 2007 and 2008. As you can see, a "fish up" provision for 4B would provide a relatively small additional amount and percentage of total 4B IFQ that could be used on category "C" vessels.

Year	Halibut QS Category	Start Year Area 4B Fishable Pounds	Percentage of Total Annual 4B Fishable Pounds	Could be Fished on Category D Size Vessel in 4B That Year?	Could be Fished on Category C Size Vessel in 4B That Year?
2007	A	75,710	6.36	Yes	Yes
2007	B	899,592	75.59	Yes	Yes
2007	C	177,545	14.92	Yes	Yes
2007	D	37,236	3.12	Yes	No
2008	A	95,001	6.27	Yes	Yes
2008	B	1,149,976	75.96	Yes	Yes
2008	C	223,074	14.73	Yes	Yes
2008	D	45,913	3.03	Yes	No

I hope you find this information helpful in your efforts to recommend program changes to the Council. I can be reached at this email address if you have questions about these data.

Sincerely,  
/s/  
Jessica Gharrett  
Program Administrator, RAM

bob and connie snell wrote:

In regard to the question I would be interested in the total number of distinct vessels that harvested C class quota share in 4B in 2007 and 2008. Hope that clarifies the question. ie I would like to know how many vessels might be available to harvest D class shares if it were permissible to do so which of course now is not an option.

— Original Message —

From: Jessica Gharrett  
To: bob and connie snell  
Sent: Monday, November 03, 2008 2:17 PM  
Subject: Re: [Fwd: [Fwd: [Fwd: Questions pertaining to IFQs in area 4B] snell]]

Another question:

In your #3: How many C class vessels fished quota shares for other IFQ owners than the vessel owner in 4B in 2008? Same for 2007? I assume you want the count of vessels greater than 35' LOA and less than 61' LOA that harvested IFQ halibut from area 4B only; and did you mean that harvested IFQ of any QS category or only of a particular category?

or any area halibut IFQ?

bob and connie snell wrote:

Hi Jessica,

11/6/2008

halibut 4B	D	B	N	10820 SNELL ROBERT I	5889 SOUTH SHC ANACOF WA	98221
halibut 4B	D	B	N	11640 ZAOCHN MARTIN	PO BOX 47044 ATKA AK	99502
halibut 4B	D	B	N	13474 SNELL ROBERT I	5889 SOUTH SHC ANACOF WA	98221
halibut 4B	D	B	N	14389 GOLOD RANDY J	PO BOX 47063 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	14874 GOLOD VICTOR J	PO BOX 47063 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	15004 GOLOD RANDY J	PO BOX 47063 ATKA AK	99502
halibut 4B	D	B	N	15466 ZAOCHN MARTIN	PO BOX 47044 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	15896 ZAOCHN ALAN	PO BOX 47003 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	16925 NEVZORNICK	PO BOX 47036 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	17285 DIRKS NICHOLAS	PO BOX 47065 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	20567 SHAISHI BILL	PO BOX 196 UNALASAK	99685
halibut 4B	D	B	N	30726 GOLOD VICTOR J	PO BOX 47063 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	3114 GOLOD GREGORY	PO BOX 47064 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	32962 DIRKS NICHOLAS	PO BOX 47065 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	340 BOWEN DOUGL L	PO BOX 1642 HOMER AK	99603
halibut 4B	D	B	N	7293 GIDDING ALBERT N	PO BOX 1825 ADAK AK	99546
halibut 4B	D	B	N	7817 PROKOF LAWRENCE	PO BOX 470033 ATKA AK	99547-0033
halibut 4B	D	B	N	953 ELLIS RICK	341 S. GASTMAN WASILLI AK	99687
halibut 4B	D	B	N	9631 ZAOCHN ALAN	PO BOX 47003 ATKA AK	99547
halibut 4B	D	B	N	9820 SNIGAR MARK	PO BOX 47007 ATKA AK	99547

CLASS SHARE HOLDERS IN 4B WITH MAILING ADDRESSES

ROBERT SNELL 6

