

# Inshore Salmon Savings Incentive Plan – SSIP

Managing Chinook Bycatch for the Bering Sea  
Inshore Pollock Sector



# Bering Sea Pollock Fishery Chinook Bycatch Regulations

- New regulations for Chinook salmon came into place in 2011 – Amendment 91
- Implemented a Hard Cap on Chinook salmon bycatch in the Bering Sea pollock fishery
- Provided 3 Hard Cap options

# Amendment 91

- Three Hard Cap Options:
  1. 60,000 Chinook Hard Cap & 47,591 Performance Standard with Incentive Plan Agreement (IPA)
  2. 47,591 Chinook Hard Cap with no vessels participating in an IPA
  3. Up to 28,496 Chinook in an Opt Out Pool for vessels choosing not to participate in an IPA when a portion of the fleet does participate in an IPA.

# IPA Requirements

1. Provide incentives at the individual vessel level
2. Incentivize vessels to avoid Chinook bycatch at all levels of abundance in all years
3. Reward vessels that successfully avoid Chinook and/or penalize vessels that fail to avoid Chinook

# IPA Requirements

4. Incentives must influence fishing decisions at levels below the hard cap
5. Hold Bycatch to a Performance Standard of 47,591 in most years

# IPA Requirements

- The Incentive Plan Agreement must describe how each vessel will manage their bycatch to keep total bycatch below the sector level regulatory Performance Standard
  - The Agreement must contain rules to prevent the sum of vessel bycatch within a sector from exceeding that sector's portion of 47,591 in any 3 years within a consecutive 7 year period

# Amendment 91

- Options 1 & 2 Include sub allocations to each pollock sector.
  1. CDQ
  2. Catcher/Processor
  3. Mothership
  4. Inshore

# Sector Hard Cap Limits

1. HARD CAP AVAILABLE IN ONLY 3 OF 7 YEARS
2. EXCEEDING THE PERFORMANCE STANDARD – NOT REACHING THE HARD CAP - COUNTS AS ONE OF THE 3 YEARS

	<b>Performance Standard - 47,591</b>	<b>IPA Hard Cap - 60,000</b>
<b>All Sectors</b>	<b>47,591</b>	<b>60,000</b>
<b>Inshore</b>	<b>26,484</b>	<b>33,390</b>
<b>Mothership</b>	<b>3,707</b>	<b>4,674</b>
<b>C/P</b>	<b>13,516</b>	<b>17,040</b>
<b>CDQ</b>	<b>3,883</b>	<b>4,896</b>

# Sector Performance Standard Allocations

1. THE **PERFORMANCE STANDARD** IS THE BYCATCH LIMIT  
TYPICALLY IN PLAY
2. ALLOCATIONS MADE SEASONALLY
3. ALLOCATIONS MADE TO THE VESSEL LEVEL

	<b>Performance Standard - 47,591</b>	<b>IPA Hard Cap - 60,000</b>
<b>All Sectors</b>	<b>47,591</b>	<b>60,000</b>
<b>Inshore</b>	<b>26,484</b>	<b>33,390</b>
<b>Mothership</b>	<b>3,707</b>	<b>4,674</b>
<b>C/P</b>	<b>13,516</b>	<b>17,040</b>
<b>CDQ</b>	<b>3,883</b>	<b>4,896</b>

# INSHORE SECTOR'S SALMON SAVINGS INCENTIVE PLAN - SSIP -



IPAs found at: <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/sustainablefisheries/bycatch/default.htm>

# Inshore SSIP Rules

- Each inshore vessel receives a Base Cap Allocation
  - its share of the 26,484 Inshore Performance Standard.
- And an Annual Use Limit
  - its share of the 33,390 Inshore Hard Cap Limit.
- Allocations and limits are made Pro Rata to each vessel's pollock allocation.

# Inshore SSIP Rules

- Vessels may not exceed their Base Cap Allocation unless they earn Salmon Savings Credits - The *Incentive* in SSIP

# Inshore SSIP Rules

- Salmon Savings Credits
  - When a vessel's annual Chinook bycatch is below its Base Cap, Salmon Savings Credits are earned.
  - Savings Credits bridge the gap between the Performance Standard and the Hard Cap Limit.
  - One credit earned for every 3 salmon avoided below the Base Cap.

# Inshore SSIP Summary

- Under the Inshore SSIP program the 33,390 Hard Cap Limit is not a “Hard Cap” in the usual sense.
- Inshore SSIP participants have their share of the 33,390 Limit available to them only if they earned the necessary Salmon Savings Credits.
- The SSIP rules make it impossible for participants to continuously approach bycatch levels at, or even near, the Hard Cap Limit.

# Inshore SSIP Summary

- SSIP Program contains mechanisms that guarantees average bycatch will be at or below the Performance Standard level.
- The 26,484, *or less*, bycatch average is not theoretical or experimental; but rather an **absolute fact**.
- The Inshore SSIP program provides incentives to keep inshore average annual bycatch at or below *21,750 Chinook salmon*.

# Fishing Grounds Access Controls

- Includes a Rolling Hot Spot Program during times with low Chinook bycatch
- Includes a Chinook Conservation Closure in the A Season

