

HCR

25

<TARGET><BILL>HCR 25</BILL><SUBJECT>HCR
25</SUBJECT><COMM>HFSH28</COMM></TARGET>



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

House Fisheries Committee

Representative Paul Seaton, Chair

State Capitol Building, Room 102
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Rep.Paul.Seaton@akleg.gov



HCR 25

Sponsor Statement

A motion to establish a bycatch/catch share program for the Gulf of Alaska trawl fisheries has been under consideration by North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) since October of 2012. The catch share program is proposed as a means to slow the race for fish and minimize bycatch. This trawl catch share/bycatch proposal will be discussed at the April 2014 council meeting.

Past federal catch-share or “rationalization” programs such as Individual Fishing Quota system for halibut, and the Bering Sea Crab Rationalization have resulted in negative impacts to coastal communities as fisheries quota and access migrate away from local residents.

The federal Magnuson-Stevens Act provides a mechanism to protect coastal community interests through the Community Fishing Association (CFA) structure. The Magnuson-Stevens Act indicates that fishing communities can be recipients of catch shares under a rationalization plan. The allocation of quota share to CFAs can enhance catch share programs by anchoring economic development in communities, maintaining employment and fishing heritage in coastal communities, and incorporating community sustainability plans with clear stewardship requirements.

CFAs have been developed within fisheries rationalization programs on the east and west coasts. Coastal Alaskans from King Cove to Kodiak are actively engaging the NPFMC with requests that the CFA structure be included in a Gulf of Alaska trawl catch share program.

HCR 25 asks the Governor to request that the NPFMC protect coastal Alaska communities by including analysis of direct quota allocations to Community Fishing Associations at their upcoming April meeting.

C-5(a) GOA Trawl Bycatch Management
North Pacific Fishery Management Council motion
October 5, 2013

The Council requests that staff provide a discussion paper reviewing the program structure described below using the decision framework provided in the June 2013 'roadmap' document and the Council's purpose and need statement. The paper should evaluate whether and how the elements of this design address the objectives in the Council's purpose and need statement. The intent is to receive feedback characterizing: 1) how the fishery would operate under the new design; 2) how well it may meet the Council's stated objectives; and 3) which second-tier decisions are necessary to transform the program structure into alternative(s) for analysis. The paper should also include information on bycatch reduction results from other trawl catch share programs in the North Pacific and other regions.

GOA Trawl Bycatch Management Program

1. Bycatch management

The primary objective of this action is to improve incentives for PSC reduction and PSC management, achieved in several ways through this program design.

- a. **Reduced PSC.** The Council intends to adopt a program to: (1) minimize Chinook salmon bycatch, and (2) achieve more efficient use of halibut PSC, allowing some efficiency gains to provide additional target fishery opportunity while leaving some halibut PSC savings in the water for conservation and contribution to exploitable biomass.
- b. **Duration of shares.** A portion of target species share allocations (maximum 25%) will be evaluated for retention based on achievement of performance targets relative to bycatch and other Council objectives after a set period of time (3 - 10 years). The time period and the criteria used to evaluate performance will be established in regulation.
- c. **Cooperative management.** A system of cooperative management is best suited to managing and reducing bycatch (such as, hotspot program, gear modifications, excluder use, incentive plan agreements) while maximizing the value of available target species. Cooperatives are intended to facilitate a flexible, responsive, and coordinated effort among vessels and processors to avoid bycatch through information sharing and formal participation in a bycatch avoidance program.
- d. **Gear modification.** Option: gear modifications for crab protection.

2. Observer coverage

All trawl catcher vessels in the GOA will be in the 100% observer coverage category.

3. Areas

Western Gulf, Central Gulf, West Yakutat

4. Sector allocations of target species and PSC

Allocations for the trawl CP and CV sectors for WG and CG Pacific cod (Am 83), CGOA rockfish program (Am 88), and GOA pollock (Am 23) are maintained. Am 80 target sideboards and GOA flatfish eligibility are maintained. Allocate halibut and Chinook salmon PSC caps between the CP and CV sectors.

5. Allocated species

Target species are pollock and Pacific cod. PSC species include halibut and Chinook salmon.

6. Program structure for trawl catcher vessel fishery

Voluntary cooperative structure

- a. Allocate target species (pollock, Pacific cod) at the cooperative level, based on aggregate catch histories associated with member vessels' LLPs.
- b. Apportion halibut PSC and Chinook salmon PSC limits to each cooperative on a pro rata basis relative to target fisheries of GOA trawl vessels in the cooperative [such as, pollock Chinook salmon PSC cap divided based on pollock landings; non-pollock Chinook salmon cap divided based on non-pollock landings (excluding rockfish); halibut PSC apportioned in proportion to the cooperative's allocation of target species.]
- c. Participants can choose to either join a cooperative or operate in a limited access pool [sector-level, non-transferable target allocations and PSC]. Harvesters would need to be in a cooperative with a processor by a specified date prior to the season to access a transferable allocation of target species and PSC.
- d. Initial (2 years) cooperative formation would be based on the majority of a license holder's historical landings (aggregate trawl groundfish deliveries, excluding Central GOA rockfish harvested under a rockfish cooperative quota allocation) to a processor.
- e. Each cooperative would be required to have a private cooperative contract. The contract would require signatures of all harvesters in the cooperative and the processor (option: and community in which the processor is located). The contract would include clear provisions for how the parties may dissolve their contract after the first two years. If a harvester wants to leave that cooperative and join another cooperative, they could do so if they meet the requirements of the contract.
- f. Additional contract elements (such as, bycatch management, active participation, mechanism to facilitate entry, community provisions) may be required to ensure the program is consistent with Council objectives.

Option: Each processor controls a portion of PSC within a cooperative and negotiates terms of access through private agreement. The processor would activate the incremental PSC through NMFS, making it accessible to the cooperative. PSC made available by these agreements cannot be used by processor-owned vessels.

7. Fishery dependent community stability

- a. Consolidation limits
 - Vessel caps and limits on the percentage of the total allocation that a person can hold (accessible only through a cooperative).
 - Processor caps in each area (WG and CG).
- b. Target species quota would be regionalized (WG or WY/CG designation) based on historical delivery patterns.

Option: Target species CG quota that has historically been landed in Kodiak would have a port of landing requirement to be delivered to Kodiak; CG quota not historically landed in Kodiak would be regionalized (WG or WY/CG).

- c. Require individuals or entities to meet fishery participation criteria in order to be eligible to purchase an eligible trawl license with associated history.

8. Transferability

- a. (Annually) Full transferability for annual use within the cooperative. Cooperatives can engage in inter-cooperative agreements on an annual basis.
- b. (Long-term) The LLP is transferable, with the associated history of the target species (which, when entered into a cooperative, brings with it a pro rata share of PSC.) Target species history is severable and transferable to another eligible license.

9. Gear conversion

Upon further development, the Council could include gear conversion provisions that allow Pacific cod trawl allocations to be fished with fixed gear, although any harvest would continue to be deducted from the vessel's annual trawl quota account and would not affect the fixed gear Pacific cod sector allocations.

**Magnuson-Stevens Act Sections on Fishing Communities and
Regional Fishing Associations**

**16 U.S.C. 1802
MSA § 3**

(17) The term “fishing community” means a community which is substantially dependent on or substantially engaged in the harvest or processing of fishery resources to meet social and economic needs, and includes fishing vessel owners, operators, and crew and United States fish processors that are based in such community.

(14) The term ‘regional fishery association’ means an association formed for the mutual benefit of members —

(A) to meet social and economic needs in a region or subregion; and

(B) comprised of persons engaging in the harvest or processing of fishery resources in that specific region or subregion or who otherwise own or operate businesses substantially dependent upon a fishery.

**16 U.S.C. 1853a
MSA § 303A**

(3) FISHING COMMUNITIES . —

(A) IN GENERAL. —

(i) ELIGIBILITY . — To be eligible to participate in a limited access privilege program to harvest fish, a fishing community shall —

(I) be located within the management area of the relevant Council;

(II) meet criteria developed by the relevant Council, approved by the Secretary, and published in the Federal Register;

(III) consist of residents who conduct commercial or recreational fishing, processing, or fishery-dependent support businesses within the Council’s management area; and

(IV) develop and submit a community sustainability plan to the Council and the Secretary that demonstrates how the plan will address the social and economic development needs of coastal communities, including those that have not historically had the resources to participate in the fishery, for approval based on criteria developed by the Council that have been approved by the Secretary and published in the Federal Register.

(ii) FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH PLAN . — The Secretary shall deny or revoke limited access privileges granted under this section for any person who fails to comply with the requirements of the community sustainability plan. Any limited access privileges denied or revoked under this section may be reallocated to other eligible members of the fishing community.

(B) PARTICIPATION CRITERIA. — In developing participation criteria for eligible communities under this paragraph, a Council shall consider —

(i) traditional fishing or processing practices in, and dependence on, the fishery;
(ii) the cultural and social framework relevant to the fishery;

(iii) economic barriers to access to fishery;

(iv) the existence and severity of projected economic and social impacts associated with implementation of limited access privilege programs on harvesters, captains, crew, processors, and other businesses substantially dependent upon the fishery in the region or subregion;

(v) the expected effectiveness, operational transparency, and equitability of the community sustainability plan; and

(vi) the potential for improving economic conditions in remote coastal communities lacking resources to participate in harvesting or processing activities in the fishery.

(4) REGIONAL FISHERY ASSOCIATIONS. —

(A) IN GENERAL. — To be eligible to participate in a limited access privilege program to harvest fish, a regional fishery association shall —

- (i) be located within the management area of the relevant Council;
- (ii) meet criteria developed by the relevant Council, approved by the Secretary, and published in the Federal Register;
- (iii) be a voluntary association with established by-laws and operating procedures;
- (iv) consist of participants in the fishery who hold quota share that are designated for use in the specific region or subregion covered by the regional fishery association, including commercial or recreational fishing, processing, fishery dependent support businesses, or fishing communities;
- (v) not be eligible to receive an initial allocation of a limited access privilege but may acquire such privileges after the initial allocation, and may hold the annual fishing privileges of any limited access privileges it holds or the annual fishing privileges that members contribute; and
- (vi) develop and submit a regional fishery association plan to the Council and the Secretary for approval based on criteria developed by the Council that have been approved by the Secretary and published in the Federal Register.

(B) FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH PLAN . — The Secretary shall deny or revoke limited access privileges granted under this section to any person participating in a regional fishery association who fails to comply with the requirements of the regional fishery association plan.

(C) PARTICIPATION CRITERIA. — In developing participation criteria for eligible regional fishery associations under this paragraph, a Council shall consider

- (i) traditional fishing or processing practices in, and dependence on, the fishery;
- (ii) the cultural and social framework relevant to the fishery;
- (iii) economic barriers to access to fishery;
- (iv) the existence and severity of projected economic and social impacts associated with implementation of limited access privilege programs on harvesters, captains, crew, processors, and other businesses substantially dependent upon the fishery in the region or subregion;

(v) the administrative and fiduciary soundness of the association; and

(vi) the expected effectiveness, operational transparency, and equitability of the fishery association plan.

Community Fishing Associations

Strengthening Alaska's Fishing Communities Amidst the Gulf of Alaska Catch Share Program

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council is in the process of developing a catch share program (rationalization) for the Gulf of Alaska trawl fishery. As the current title suggests, the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Trawl Bycatch Management Program is in response to a growing management concern: bycatch of critical species, particularly Chinook salmon, halibut and Tanner crab in the Gulf of Alaska trawl fisheries.

Catch share programs or individual transferable quota (ITQs) programs allocate a specific portion of the fishery resource to participants thus ending the 'race for fish' and providing the trawl fleet with the tools needed to reduce bycatch. Nevertheless, nearly 20 years of direct experience with catch share programs in Alaska demonstrates clearly how catch share programs can adversely impact fishing dependent coastal communities. The problems encountered in catch share programs in Alaska and around the world are widespread, well-documented and now predictable. These include:

- absentee ownership of quota
- fewer locally based vessels
- high leasing fees
- rapid vessel consolidation
- consolidation of quota ownership
- lower crew pay and job loss
- out-migration of fisheries based wealth and fishery access opportunities from communities



WHAT IS A COMMUNITY FISHING ASSOCIATION?

Direct allocations to fishing communities were authorized in the 2006 reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA). Under this provision, fishing communities are eligible to receive initial allocations of quota, or to purchase or hold quota. The North Pacific Fishery Management Council held a workshop on Community Fishing Associations (CFAs) at their Seattle meeting in February 2014 to inform the Council and other North Pacific stakeholders on key issues and elements that need to be considered in order to facilitate the inclusion of a CFA in a GOA Bycatch Management Program. The workshop provided valuable real-world examples of how CFAs benefit communities, support new generations of fishermen, and promote growth and stability of fishing businesses.

There is a NEW management construct, proven successful on both the east and west coasts, that can help mitigate the community impacts caused by catch share programs: Community Fishing Associations (CFAs). CFAs ensure that a portion of the fishing quota is anchored in the community in perpetuity. The strongest CFAs have quota allocated at the time a catch share program is started. Quota allocated to the community is then used to address community goals of keeping a local fleet, encouraging participation by future fishermen, equitable crew compensation and vessel/owner residency. Creating a CFA as part of the GOA Bycatch Management Plan will enable Gulf of Alaska communities to address some of the adverse community impacts associated with rationalizing fisheries.

HOW WILL A CFA STRENGTHEN GOA FISHING COMMUNITIES UNDER A CATCH SHARE PROGRAM?

1. CFAs effectively anchor quota to communities in perpetuity.

Anchoring quota to communities will provide a local management tool that should ensure long-term multiplier of benefits, especially fish dollars, to local communities. Anchoring quota to communities allows the community to leverage its quota to encourage fishermen to deliver to the community, remain in the community, use community services and infrastructure and treat crew equitably.

2. CFAs support new generations of fishermen, including crew and new entrants.

CFAs are often designed to help transition fishermen without adequate capital into a new fishery and they also can be used to acknowledge crew as real stakeholders. CFAs can include crew contracts and codes of conduct as a way to protect crew from reduced compensation because of lease rates for quota transferred within a catch share program.

3. Initial allocation of quota to CFAs amplifies community benefits.

Initial allocation of quota to communities is critical to buffering initial changes caused by catch shares. Initial allocation of fishing quota to communities via the CFA will advance community protections by years if not generations as the community works to build or rebuild strong local businesses and enable positive local impacts.

4. CFAs provide for community involvement and diversity within decision-making.

CFAs offer a way to include fishermen and community perspectives in the operation and decision-making processes which impact local communities and businesses. The inclusion of community perspectives in decision-making processes ensures that the variety of participants and stakeholders in local communities benefit from local fishery resources.

Summary

Healthy fishing communities depend on healthy ecosystems, but they also depend on fisheries access, second generation fishermen transitioning into the fishery and local participation. A CFA structure can strengthen the emerging GOA catch share program and help to ensure that the program benefits Gulf of Alaska coastal communities. Looking back on our experience over the past 20 years and identifying the negative impacts catch share programs have had on fishing communities elsewhere makes clear: Now is the time for Alaska catch share programs to include the CFA management tool.

For more information, contact:



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ALASKA **Journal of Commerce**

Alaska's Paper of Record • Established 1977

Stakeholders ponder protections under Gulf rationalization

By Molly Dischner, Alaska Journal of Commerce

Published: 2014.02.20 12:04 PM

King Cove Mayor Henry Mack overlooks the empty King Cove boat harbor just days before the crab season was set to begin in October 2005. Before the fleet was severely consolidated under crab rationalization, 75 to 80 boats arrived at the harbor to pick up crab pots, fuel up, buy groceries and get their tanks checked before the crab season began. More than 1,000 crew jobs were eliminated in the crab fishery under rationalization, with severe impacts on King Cove and Kodiak. Preventing such effects is a now major focus for the North Pacific Fishery Management Council as it prepares to rationalize the Gulf of Alaska trawl fisheries.



SEATTLE — Fisheries stakeholders gathered Feb. 10 to talk about community protections in the pending Gulf of Alaska rationalization program.

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council has asked for a discussion paper on how to provide bycatch management tools for the Gulf of Alaska trawl fisheries, in particular through a rationalization program that ends the race for fish by allocating harvest privileges among user groups.

In October, the council asked staff to analyze a general structure for rationalizing Gulf of Alaska trawl fisheries as a means to minimize bycatch.

A program could allocate pollock and Pacific cod to cooperatives in the western Gulf, central Gulf and west Yakutat based on members' catch history. The prohibited species catch, or PSC, of species such as chinook salmon and halibut would be apportioned out to cooperatives on a pro rata basis.

Fishery participants could also have the option of operating in a limited access pool. A portion of the target species allocation could be based on performance standards that emphasize low bycatch rates.

The council's October motion also asked for analysis of regional delivery requirements, inclusion of processors and communities into the cooperatives and certain cooperative requirements addressing active participation, bycatch management and other issues.

Caps on the allowable levels of king salmon and halibut bycatch have already been set, and the trawl fleet has asked for the action to help them meet those caps.

Some past rationalization programs, however, have had unanticipated consequences for fishery participants and communities, particularly through consolidation of effort that has led to job losses.

When the Bering Sea crab fisheries were rationalized in 2005, some 1,000 jobs were eliminated in the first season when the fleet consolidated its effort to about one-third of the boats that had operated under open access.

Community entities have asked for certain protections, concerned that the rationalization program could lead to increased consolidation and will raise the cost of entry, limiting the number of participants who can invest in the fishery.

At the workshop, the council heard from those who have implemented community-fishing programs in a response to rationalization in an effort to see how inclusion of communities in cooperatives, or in the program via another mechanism, might play out.

The workshop was held in a panel format with representatives from East and West Coast community fishing organizations sharing their stories, as well as council members and analysts involved in the relevant rationalization programs.

The West Coast representatives were involved in a Morro Bay program in Northern California, while the East Coast individuals were from the Cape Cod area.

In Morro Bay, the city worked with other community groups to acquire quota share and vessel permits for the West Coast Groundfish Fishery's trawl sector. Those are used by local fishermen, and have helped maintain a fishing industry in the community. After rationalization, fishing activity out of that port declined to the point where the only remaining processor considered leaving and other support businesses also faced the possibility of shutting down.

A similar program is now being developed for Monterey Bay, according to David Crabbe, who talked about the West Coast program.

The Cape Cod Fisheries Trust also provides access to quota to local fishermen participating in Northeast groundfish and scallop fisheries. Generally, the goal is to see help them enter the fishery, or continue fishing, until they are able to buy their own quota. Much of that quota has been purchased from retiring fishermen, and is then leased out with certain requirements for residency and other qualifications.

In both regions, the community quota entities developed after the rationalization programs.

That detail stuck out to council member John Henderschedt, who represents the state of Washington on the council, who said he thought it provided food for thought.

"I was taken by how bottom up both of the models that we heard about were," Henderschedt said.

Ernie Weiss, from the Aleutians East Borough, noted that the North Pacific council has the opportunity to craft such programs from the beginning.

"We have the possibility to get out in front of it," he said. "Even a small initial allocation could help a community leverage more."

Nicole Kimball, who serves as the alternate to Alaska Department of Fish and Game Commissioner Cora Campbell on the North Pacific council, wrote in an email that the programs showed how a community can develop a way for both long-term fishermen and new entrants to participate in a fishery.

"I don't think they gave themselves enough credit for the community leadership necessary to make these programs successful," Kimball wrote. "And what came out loud and clear was the need for regional councils to make the hard decisions upfront, both allocation decisions and other provisions that can avoid excessive consolidation and either facilitate or promote the continued direct and indirect participation of the coastal communities that are dependent upon the fisheries you are proposing to change."

The workshop also drew additional members of the public to the council meeting.

Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins, D-Sitka, came down from Juneau for the discussion.

Kreiss-Tomkins said he's had a few conversations with other legislators about the council's pending Gulf of Alaska action, and that there's increasing interest from lawmakers in making sure that Alaska fisheries benefit people in Alaska communities. That, he said, is hopefully a "healthy development" in the rationalization conversation.

Kreiss-Tomkins said he had the chance to talk to the Cape Cod representatives, and was impressed with their ability to self-govern and deal with management politics.

Council members have expressed concerns about creating a mechanism that required constant council oversight.

In the case of the Cape Cod program, much of the management has been done by the fishery participants, and Henderschedt said he was interested by the collaborative relationship between managers and the communities.

The council is expected to take the bycatch management package up again in April, and Weiss of the Aleutians East Borough said it's now up to communities to come up with some possible ideas for community fishing associations. How to make one or multiple entities that reflect the diversity of needs and communities throughout the Gulf will be the challenge, he said.

"That's an unanswered question," he said.

Molly Dischner can be reached at molly.dischner@alaskajournal.com.



Alaska House Bush Caucus

Representative Bryce Edgmon, Chair
Alaska State Legislature
Capitol Building, Room 410
Juneau, AK 99801

Honorable Sean Parnell
Governor, State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811

March 11, 2014

Dear Governor Parnell,

At the April 7 through 15 meeting of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) there will be deliberations over the development of a catch share program to manage by-catch in the Gulf of Alaska groundfish trawl fishery.

While Individual or Vessel Transferable Quota systems allow for strategies that can significantly lessen levels of prohibited species catch, they also have been shown to adversely impact Alaskan coastal communities that depend on fishing. Catch share programs in other fisheries have resulted in less access for young Alaskans, loss of jobs and other economic benefits through extreme fleet consolidation, loss of locally based vessels, and flight of wealth from our ports.

The federal Magnuson-Stevens Act recognized this problem and provided a provision making fishing communities eligible to receive initial allocations of quota for catch share programs. In other catch share programs Community Fishing Associations (CFAs) have proven effective in mitigating the drawbacks noted above. By ensuring that a portion of the fishing quota remains with the community, CFAs allow communities to retain local fleets, sustain opportunities for resident skippers and deckhands, and support the entry of new generations into gainful fishing careers.

Experience has shown how difficult it is to redress unwanted impacts on communities once catch share programs have been established. Because it is so crucial that CFAs be given careful consideration at this early juncture in the process, we members of the Alaska House Bush Caucus respectfully request that you strongly urge the Council to add this important matter to its agenda. We ask you to instruct your Alaskan representatives on the NPFMC to include Community Fishing Associations among the program components to be analyzed for consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Bryce Edgmon in black ink.

Representative Bryce Edgmon
House District 36
Bush Caucus Chairman

Handwritten signature of Alan Austerman in black ink.

Representative Alan Austerman
House District 35



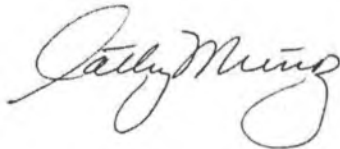
Representative Eric Feige
House District 6



Representative David Guttenberg
House District 38



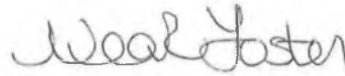
Representative Sam Kito
House District 32



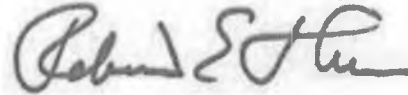
Representative Cathy Munoz
House District 31



Representative Paul Seaton
House District 30



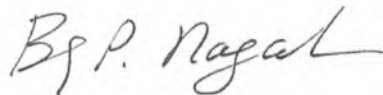
Representative Neal Foster
House District 39



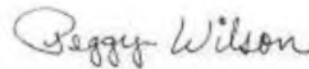
Representative Bob Herron
House District 37



Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins
House District 34



Representative Benjamin Nageak
House District 40



Representative Peggy Wilson
House District 33

Cc by Email Delivery:

ADF&G Commissioner Cora Campbell

Eric Olson, Chairman, North Pacific Fishery Management Council

John Henderschedt, Vice Chairman, NPFMC

Jim Balsinger, NPFMC

Craig Cross, NPFMC

Ed Dersham, NPFMC

Duncan Fields, NPFMC

Dave Hanson, NPFMC

Dan Hull, NPFMC

Roy Hyder, NPFMC

David Long, NPFMC

Doug McBride, NPFMC

(Bush Caucus to Gov. Parnell RE: CFAs, Page 3 of 3)

Cc by Email Delivery, Cont.:

Lisa Lindeman, NPFMC

RADM Tom Ostebo, NPFMC

Nicole Ricci, NPFMC

Bill Tweit, NPFMC

Stefanie Moreland, Office of the Governor



BOARD RESOLUTION 2014-02

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ANALYSIS OF COMMUNITY FISHING ASSOCIATIONS FOR SOUTHWEST ALASKA FISHING COMMUNITIES IN THE GULF OF ALASKA BYCATCH MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, healthy fisheries are the backbone of the economies and cultures for Southwest Alaska coastal communities, including fishermen, processors, support businesses and community residents; and

WHEREAS, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC), is currently considering a bycatch management program for the Gulf of Alaska groundfish trawl fisheries which includes a catch share or rationalization program; and

WHEREAS, catch share programs, if improperly designed, result in significant harm to coastal communities through fleet consolidation, unnecessary loss of crew jobs, high quota lease rates, reduced crew compensation, reduced revenues for support business and municipal infrastructure and loss of access to fisheries resources for local fishermen and processors; and

WHEREAS, Community Fishing Associations on both the East and West Coasts of the US have successfully mitigated some of the adverse impacts that catch share programs can have on coastal communities.

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that the SWAMC Board of Directors requests the NPFMC include an option for Community Fishing Associations to be analyzed for possible inclusion as a component of the Gulf of Alaska trawl bycatch management/catch share program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SWAMC Board of Directors requests the NPFMC ensure that the Gulf of Alaska trawl bycatch management/catch share program includes adequate community protections to sustain fisheries access and maximize, to the extent practicable, economic benefits for Southwest Alaska communities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference Board of Directors this 8th Day of March, 2014.

IN WITNESS THERETO:

ATTEST:

Alice Ruby, SWAMC President

Erik O'Brien, SWAMC Interim Director

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version HCR 25
Fiscal Note Number _____
() Publish Date 3/24/2014

Identifier (file name) _____ Dept. Affected _____
Title Catch shares in NPFMC Groundfish Plan Appropriation _____
Allocation _____
Sponsor House Rules By Request
Requester House Fisheries OMB Component Number _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	FY15 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY15 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY15	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants, Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE		(Thousands of Dollars)					
1002	Federal Receipts						
1003	GF Match						
1004	GF						
1005	GF/Prgm (DGF)						
1007	I/A Rcpts (Other)						
1156	Rcpt Svcs (DGF)						
		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS							
Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

CHANGE IN REVENUES							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY14) operating costs _____ (separate supplemental appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY15) costs _____ (separate capital appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? _____
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended, or repealed? _____ Discuss details in analysis section.

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Prepared by Louie Flora, House Fisheries Committee Aide
Division House Fisheries Committee
Approved by _____
Division _____

Phone 465-3923
Date/Time 3/24/14 12:00 AM
Date 3/24/2014

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HCR 25

Analysis

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