

**E1 Council Motion for Staff tasking
Limit access to the BSAI parallel fishery for Federal fishery participants
April 8, 2019**

The Council requests staff to initiate a draft initial review document based on the following purpose and need and alternatives

Purpose and Need

Currently, there are no limits on entry into the parallel waters groundfish fisheries, and no limits on the proportion of the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BSAI) Pacific cod TAC that may be harvested in parallel waters. There is concern that harvests of Pacific cod in the parallel waters fishery by vessels that do not hold LLP licenses may continue to increase. The Council, in consideration of options and recommendations for the parallel fishery, will need to balance the objectives of providing stability to the long-term participants in the sectors, while recognizing that new entrants who do not hold Federal permits or licenses may participate in the parallel fishery.

Alternative 1: Status quo

Alternative 2: Limit access to the parallel fishery for Federal fishery participants

Fixed gear vessels: Require any pot or longline vessel designated on an LLP or FFP to have the appropriate Pacific cod endorsement and area endorsement on the LLP; and the Bering Sea (BS) or Aleutian Islands (AI) area designation and the appropriate gear and operation type designations on the FFP in order to participate in the BS or AI Pacific cod parallel waters fishery.

Trawl gear vessels: Require any trawl vessel with an LLP or an FFP to have the appropriate gear and area endorsements on the LLP; and the BS or AI area designation and the appropriate gear and operation type designations on the FFP in order to participate in the BS or AI Pacific cod parallel waters fishery.

In addition, require the above Federally-permitted or licensed vessels that fish in the parallel waters to adhere to Federal seasonal closures of the BSAI sector allocations corresponding to the sector in which the vessel operates.

Vessels with a BS or AI area, gear, and operation type designations specified in this alternative cannot remove these designations from the FFP and can only surrender or reactivate the FFP once every three years.