



# NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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## Action Memo

**File Number:**Catch 15-028

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**Agenda Date**10/5/2015

**Agenda Number:**C4

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**Dan Hull, Chairman**  
**Chris Oliver, Executive Director**

**SUBJECT:**

AI Pacific Cod Allocation - Final Action

**ACTION REQUIRED:**

Review document for final action.

**BACKGROUND:**

For several years, the Council has periodically requested information to help determine the need for community protections in the AI that have evolved due to the implementation of rationalization programs, which have resulted in excess processing capacity in the AI Pacific cod fishery. The specific rationalization programs are the American Fisheries Act (AFA), Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) crab rationalization, and BSAI Amendment 80 program. These programs provide benefits to processing vessels and afford opportunities for consolidation, thus freeing some processing capacity to target the non-rationalized BSAI Pacific cod fishery. At its February 2014 meeting, the Council initiated an analysis that would prioritize a portion of the AI Pacific cod to catcher vessels and designate it be delivered to shoreplants in the AI, with some constraints on the amount and dates by which the prioritization and delivery requirement would be removed to prevent standing of AI Pacific cod. The intent of the proposed action is to provide some stability to AI shoreplant operations and the communities dependent on shoreside processing activity.

At the February 2015 meeting, the Council reviewed an initial review draft of a proposed action to limit the AI Pacific cod fishery during a specific period to CVs exclusively and designate a portion of the AI Pacific cod TAC for delivery to shoreplants in the AI. During that meeting, the Council modified the problem statement, modified the proposed action, and released the analysis for public review.