

North Pacific Fishery Management Council
C-9 Aleutian Islands Pacific Cod
Motion, 2/8/14

The Council initiates an analysis of Aleutian Islands community protection measures with the following problem statement and alternatives:

Problem statement: *The American Fisheries Act, BSAI Crab Rationalization, and BSAI Amendment 80 management programs provided benefits to processing vessels that were intended to protect their investments in, and dependence on, the respective fishery resources. Each of these programs has also afforded participants opportunities for consolidation, allowing for increased participation in the non-rationalized BSAI Pacific cod fishery in the Aleutian Islands, thus diminishing the historical share of other industry participants and communities that depend on shorebased processing in the region.*

Alternative 1: No action.

Alternative 2: Prior to [options: March 15, 21] the A season trawl catcher vessel Pacific cod harvest in the Bering Sea shall be limited to an amount equal to the BSAI aggregate trawl catcher vessel sector A season allocation minus the lesser of the AI directed fishing allowance or [options: 3,000 mt; 5,000 mt]. Harvest of the AI Pacific cod directed fishing allowance is limited to catcher vessels delivering to shoreplants west of 170 degrees longitude in the AI prior to [options: March 7, 15].

Option: If less than 50% of the AI Pacific cod directed fishing allowance has been landed by [options: March 7, 15], the restriction on delivery to other processors shall be removed.

The Council further requests industry sectors work together on developing additional alternatives to be brought back to the Council for consideration that may achieve the following goals in the AI Pacific cod fisheries:

- Maintain functional Aleutian Islands shore plants west of 170 degrees
- Maintain trawl and fixed gear sector access to AI Pacific cod fisheries
- Minimize pre-emption of the AI CV cod fishery by the BS CV cod fishery