

North Pacific Fishery Management Council Progress on Annual Catch Limits

CCC Meeting, May 2010

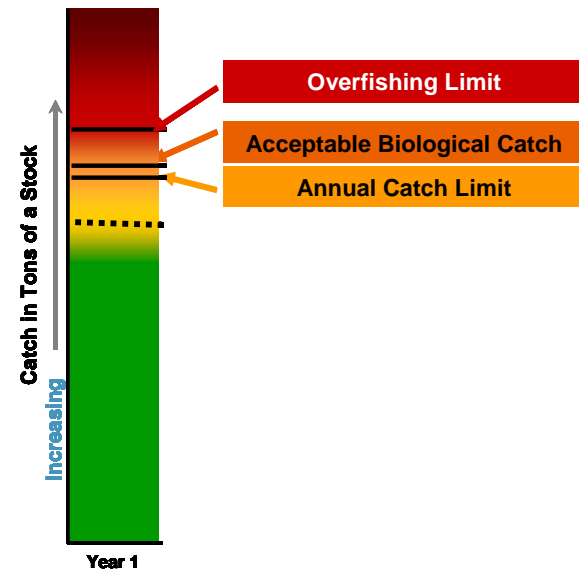


Annual Catch Limits

Fishery Management Plans

- ✓ Gulf of Alaska Groundfish
- ✓ Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Groundfish
- Bering Sea Crab
- Scallop
- Salmon

Standard framework for NPFMC:
OFL > ABC = ACL ≥ TAC = ACT

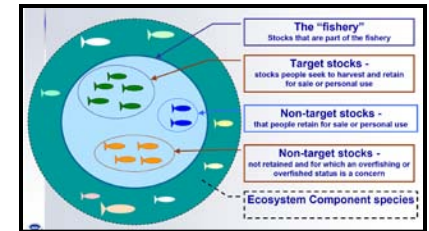


Groundfish FMPs

Final Action - April 2010

FMP amendments:

- Eliminated "other species" assemblage and will manage sculpins, sharks, octopus, and (GOA) squid separately in the target species category (skates and BSAI squid previously identified for separate ACLs).
- Identify target species as "in the fishery."
- Identify prohibited species assemblage and forage fish assemblage as in the ecosystem component category.
- Remove non-specified species from the FMPs



Implementation - by January 1, 2011

BSAI Crab FMP

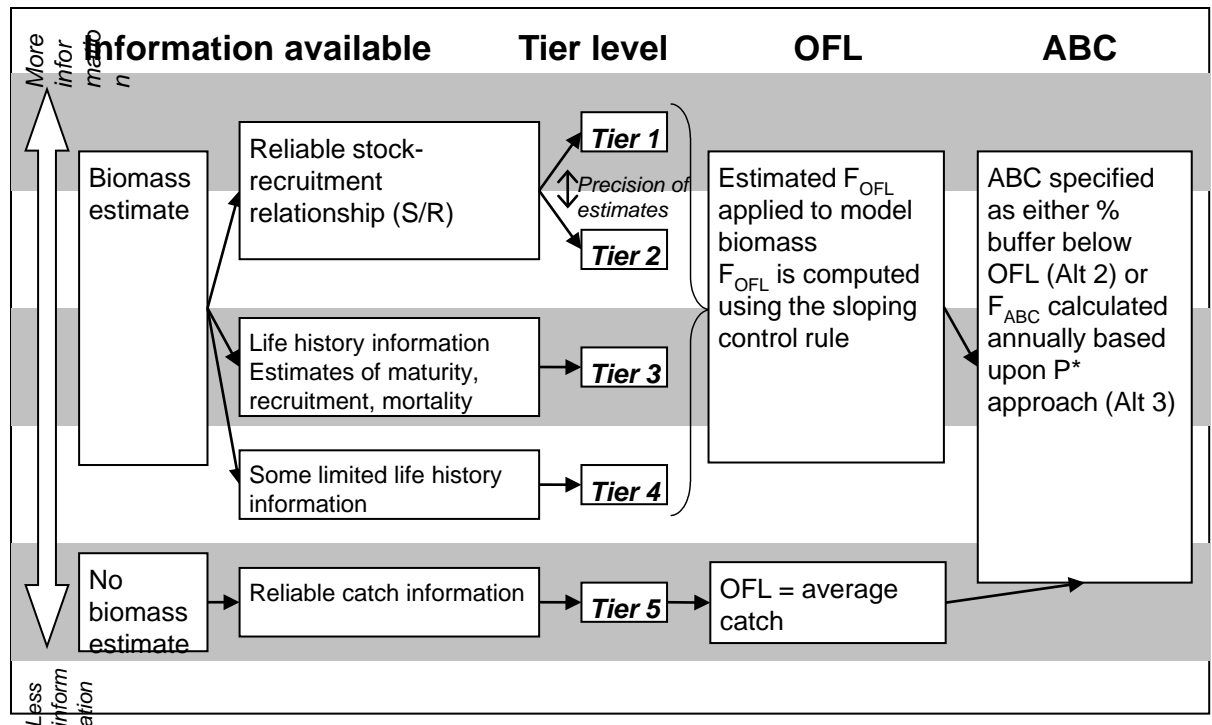
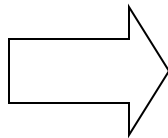
Final Action - October 2010

FMP amendment:

- Establish ABC control rules for 10 BSAI crab stocks which explicitly accounts for uncertainty in the OFL estimate

• ACL = ABC

Crab Tier system and proposed ABC process



BSAI Crab FMP (continued)

- Alternative ABC control rules considered based upon either a constant buffer or a P^* approach by stock or Tier

Additional aspects of amendment:

- Establish process for SSC recommendation of ABCs for 10 BSAI crab stocks annually
- Establish Accountability Measures should ACLs be annually exceeded
 - Directed fishery (Crab) as well as Council consideration in future of crab bycatch limits in BSAI groundfish fisheries
- Implementation by May 2011



Scallop FMP

Final Action - October 2010

FMP amendments:

- Establish ABC control rules using constant buffer approach either statewide or by region
- $ACL = ABC$
- Establish process for SSC recommendation of annual ABC
- Identify weathervane scallop as 'in the fishery'; determine appropriate management measures for non-target scallop stocks (rock, spiny, pink scallops)
- Establish Accountability Measures should ACLs be annually exceeded



Implementation - by April 2011

Salmon FMP

Final Action - 2011?

The Salmon FMP:

- prohibits fishing in the EEZ with a few small area exceptions
- Provides ability to limit entry into SEAK EEZ salmon troll fishery
- Delegates all management to the State of Alaska

Issues:

- Possibly thousands of separate stocks
- State desires FMP for ESA and treaty reasons
- Existing lawsuits
- MSA allows State of Alaska to manage fisheries in EEZ, but the Salmon FMP precedes date specified (8/1/1996) in MSA

Staff preparing discussion paper to:

- 1) explore possibility of revising FMP to limit area of management to SEAK,
- 2) Explore 'alternative approaches' for salmon ALCs provided in NS1 Guidelines,
- 3) Review international treaty obligations for salmon,
- 4) Explore potential rulemaking to clarify guidelines wrt Alaska salmon.