

AMENDMENT 25 - TEXT TO AMEND THE FMP FOR THE GROUND FISH FISHERY OF THE BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS AREA

1. In Chapter 2.0, Section 2.1 entitled "History and Summary of Amendments," add the following:

Amendment 25 implemented on _____, 1994:

Eliminated the primary halibut bycatch mortality limit established for the trawl gear fisheries (3,300 mt). The overall bycatch mortality limit established for these fisheries (3,775 mt) remained unchanged.

2. In Chapter 14, entitled "Management Regime," the following sections are amended:

Section 14.4.2.1 Bycatch Limitation Zones

In Section 14.4.2.1, paragraph D is deleted

Section 14.4.2.2 Prohibited Species Catch Limits

In Section 14.4.2.2, paragraph D is amended to read as follows:

- D. Annual BSAI-wide Pacific halibut bycatch mortality limits for trawl and non-trawl gear fisheries will be established in regulations and may be amended by regulatory amendment. When initiating a regulatory amendment to change a halibut bycatch mortality limit, the Secretary, after consultation with the Council, will consider information that includes:
1. Estimated change in halibut biomass and stock condition;
 2. Potential impact on halibut stocks and fisheries;
 3. Potential impacts on groundfish fisheries;
 4. Estimated bycatch mortality during prior years;
 5. Expected halibut bycatch mortality;
 6. Methods available to reduce halibut bycatch mortality;
 7. The cost of reducing halibut bycatch mortality; and
 8. Other biological and socioeconomic factors that affect the appropriateness of a specific bycatch mortality limit in terms of FMP objectives.