

AMENDMENT 29 - TEXT TO AMEND THE FMP FOR GROUND FISH OF THE GULF OF ALASKA

1. In chapter 2 entitled "Goals and Objectives," the following sections are amended:

Under Section 2.2 entitled "Operation Definition of Terms," the definition "Salmon Donation Program" is added and the definitions "Prohibited Species" and "Prohibited Species Catch" are amended as follows:

Prohibited species are those species and species groups the catching of which must be avoided while fishing for groundfish and which must be immediately returned to sea with minimum of injury when caught and brought aboard except when their retention is authorized by other applicable law (see Salmon Donation Program defined in this section).

Prohibited species catch (PSC) is nonretainable catch. It can take the form of a prohibited of nongroundfish species and/or as a fully utilized groundfish species captured incidentally in groundfish fisheries. Such catch must be recorded and returned to sea with a minimum of injury except as provided in the Salmon Donation Program. A PSC limit is an apportioned, nonretainable amount of fish provided to a fishery for bycatch purposed. PSC limits of groundfish may be provided to JVP and TALFF when the species is fully utilized by the wholly domestic fishery (i.e., DAP = TAC).

Salmon Donation Program. The Salmon Donation Program authorizes the distribution of Pacific salmon taken as bycatch in the groundfish trawl fisheries in the groundfish fisheries off Alaska to economically disadvantaged individuals through a NMFS authorized distributor selected by the Regional Director in accordance with Federal regulations implemented under the FMP.