

Amendment 93
to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska

1. In Table ES-2, row “Prohibited Species”, add the following:
Salmon: All salmon intercepted in the pollock fisheries in the Western and Central GOA must be retained until an observer is provided the opportunity to count the number of salmon and to collect scientific data or biological samples from the salmon.
2. In Table ES-2, row “Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) Limits”, add the following:
Chinook salmon: The annual PSC limit for the pollock fishery in the Central Regulatory Area and adjacent State of Alaska waters is 18,316 Chinook salmon. The annual PSC limit for the pollock fishery in the Western Regulatory Area and adjacent State of Alaska waters is 6,684 Chinook salmon. Attainment closes the directed pollock fishery in the respective regulatory area.
3. In Section 3.1.2, “Stocks”, revise the first sentence of 2.a, “Prohibited Species” to read as follows:
 - a) Prohibited Species – are those species and species groups the catch of which must be avoided while fishing for groundfish, and which must be immediately returned to the sea with a minimum of injury except when their retention is authorized by other applicable law or when their retention is required under section 3.6.1.2 (see also Prohibited Species Donation Program described in Section 3.6.1.1).
4. In Section 3.6.1, “Prohibited Species”, revise the second sentence of the first paragraph to read as follows:

Species identified as prohibited must be avoided while fishing groundfish and must be immediately returned to the sea with a minimum of injury when caught and brought aboard, except when their retention is authorized by other applicable law or when their retention is required under section 3.6.1.2.
5. In Section 3.6.1, “Prohibited Species”, insert a new subsection 3.6.1.2, as follows, and renumber remaining subsections accordingly:

3.6.1.2 Salmon retention

All salmon species that are intercepted in the pollock fisheries in the Western and Central Regulatory Areas and adjacent State of Alaska waters in the GOA must be retained consistent with regulatory requirements. All salmon must be retained until an observer is provided the opportunity to count the number of salmon and to collect scientific data or biological samples from the salmon. Requirements for retaining and handling intercepted salmon species will be established in regulations implementing the FMP.
6. In Section 3.6.2, “Prohibited Species Catch Limits”, revise the first sentence to read, “Prohibited Species is non-retainable catch, except when their retention is required under section 3.6.1.2.”
7. In Section 3.6.2, “Prohibited Species Catch Limits”, add a new subsection (3.6.2.2, or sequential numbering as appropriate), as follows:

3.6.2.2 Chinook salmon

Attainment of a Chinook salmon PSC limit will result in the closure of the respective fishery for the remainder of the year.

Central GOA pollock fishery: The annual PSC limit for Chinook salmon in the directed fishery for pollock in the Central Regulatory Area and adjacent State of Alaska waters is 18,316 Chinook salmon.

Western GOA pollock fishery: The annual PSC limit for Chinook salmon in the directed fishery for pollock in the Western Regulatory Area and adjacent State of Alaska waters is 6,684 Chinook salmon.

If PSC limits are implemented mid-year 2012, specific PSC limits of 8,929 Chinook salmon in the Central Regulatory Area and adjacent State of Alaska waters and 5,598 Chinook salmon in the Western Regulatory Area and adjacent State of Alaska waters will be established for the 2012 C and D seasons, and attainment of either PSC limit in those seasons will result in the closure of the respective pollock fishery for the remainder of the year.

8. Footnote 1 to table 3-1 is revised to read as follows: Must be immediately returned to sea with a minimum of injury except when their retention is authorized by section 3.6.1.2 or other applicable law.
9. In Appendix A, add the following:
 - Amendment 93 implemented on (*insert effective date of amendment*):
 1. Established PSC limits for Chinook salmon in the Central and Western GOA pollock fisheries.
 2. Required full retention of salmon in the Central and Western GOA pollock fisheries.

