

Amendment 13
to the
Fishery Management Plan
for Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands King and Tanner Crab

Section 8.0 Management Measures of *The Fishery Management Plan for the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands King and Tanner Crab* is revised to read as follows:

8.1.6 American Fisheries Act (AFA) sideboard restrictions

On October 21, 1998, the President signed into law the American Fisheries Act (AFA) which mandated sweeping changes to the conservation and management program for the pollock fishery of the BSAI and to a lesser extent, affected the management programs for the other groundfish fisheries of the BSAI and the groundfish fisheries of the GOA, the king and Tanner crab fisheries of the BSAI, and the scallop fishery off Alaska. With respect to the fisheries off Alaska, the AFA requires a suite of new management measures that fall into four general categories: (1) regulations that limit access into the fishing and processing sectors of the BSAI pollock fishery and that allocate pollock to such sectors, (2) regulations governing the formation and operation of fishery cooperatives in the BSAI pollock fishery, (3) sideboard regulations to protect other fisheries from spillover effects from the AFA, and (4) regulations governing catch measurement and monitoring in the BSAI pollock fishery.

While the AFA primarily affects the management of the BSAI pollock fishery, the Council is also directed to develop and recommend harvesting and processing sideboard restrictions for AFA catcher vessels, AFA catcher/processors, AFA motherships, and AFA inshore processors that are fishing for or processing king and Tanner crab harvested in the BSAI. Section 211 of the AFA addresses crab harvesting and processing sideboards and this entire section of the AFA is incorporated into the AFA by reference. Crab harvesting and processing sideboard restrictions that are consistent with section 211 of the AFA will be implemented through regulation or provided to the Board of Fish as recommendations. Any measure recommended by the Council that supersedes section 211 of the AFA must be implemented by FMP amendment in accordance with the provisions of section 213 of the AFA and the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Limits on participation by AFA vessels. NMFS may issue regulations, as approved by the Council, which define the participation criteria for AFA vessels that wish to participate in the king and/or Tanner crab fisheries of the BSAI.

8.2.10 Harvest limitations for AFA vessels.

The Council may provide crab harvesting sideboard recommendations to the Board of Fisheries for each king and Tanner crab species. The State of Alaska, through the Board of Fisheries, may issue regulations, as described within Category 2 and 3 of this FMP, to establish an allowable harvest percentage of the GHL by AFA eligible vessels in any BSAI crab fishery, and to govern the in-season management of any sideboard harvest levels established for AFA eligible vessels.