SaMTAAC CHARGE AND PRINCIPLES

Committee Charge

The Sablefish Management and Trawl Allocation Attainment Committee (SaMTAAC) was appointed by the Council at its April 2018 meeting and given the following charge:

Identifying obstacles to achieving the goals and objectives of the catch share plan related to under attainment of non-sablefish trawl allocations and unharvested sablefish quota pounds (QP) south of 36° N. latitude. As appropriate to overcome identified obstacles, the committee will discuss and develop options, including but not limited to, actions that may modify rules for gear switching by trawl permit holders and QP leasing to vessels using fixed gear, as well as options that may encourage increased utilization of sablefish QPs south of 36° N. latitude.

Principles (October 2018)

At its October 2018 meeting, the SaMTAAC reviewed the principles that were originally developed by the Community Advisory Board (CAB) along with the SaMTAAC discussion of principles and related objectives from its June 2018 meeting (SaMTAAC Agenda Item D, Attachment 1, October 2018, attached here as an appendix). On the basis of that review, the committee adopted the following principles.

A. We want to ensure there is trawl affordable access to sablefish.
B. We believe that unlimited catch of sablefish through gear switching is not desirable.
C. We want to consider impacts on existing operations/investments.
D. We want to maintain the gear switching option for trawl operations.
E. We will consider industry and community impacts and ensure long-term stability
F. We will consider the effect on the value of trawl permits.
G. We want to increase the net economic value of the trawl individual fishing quota fishery.

The recommended alternatives that the committee moves forward are expected to support the principles adopted; and the principles, along with Amendment 20 (trawl catch share program) goals and objectives, will contribute to an objective evaluation of those alternatives in the next step of the process. Different alternatives may meet and address the principles to differing degrees. The principles are also expected to provide a tool for communicating to stakeholders the committee’s intent with respect to the alternatives it develops.