

# Sablefish Management and Trawl Allocation Attainment Committee (SaMTAAC)

April Webinar

(If you are having technical issues with RingCentral audio, please call Kris Kleinschmidt at 503-820-2412)

# A. Call to Order

1. Roll Call, Intro, Announcements
2. Chair Comments
3. Approval of the Agenda

## A.1. Roll Call, Intro, Announcmnts

### Voting Members

Ames, Kelly, NMFS

Anderson, Phil, Council Chair

Dooley, Robert, California Council Member

Hassemer, Peter, Council Member at Large

Niles, Corey, WDFW

Sommer, Maggie, ODFW

### Advisors

Alverson, Bob

Crabbe, David

Dunn, Kevin

Okoniewski, Mike

Platt, Dan

Scheiblaue, Steve

## A.2 Chair Comments

- Meeting Objective
  - *Finalize preferred range of alternatives and purpose and need statement*
  - *Determine need for additional meetings*
- SaMTAAC Charge (slide 5)
- SaMTAAC Principles (slide 6)

# SaMTAAC Charge (A.2. Attachment 1)

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 (A.2. Attachment 1)

- 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.

# A.3 Approval of Agenda

## PROPOSED AGENDA Sablefish Management and Trawl Allocation Attainment Committee (SaMTAAC) By Webinar April 1, 2020

~~SaMTAAC~~ meetings are open to the public. *Public comments will be taken during the meeting at a time or times announced by the ~~SaMTAAC~~ Chair.* Times on this agenda are subject to change once the meeting begins.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2020 – 9:00 AM

### A. Call to Order

(9:00 a.m.; 0.25 hour)

1. Roll Call, Introductions, Announcements, etc. Phil Anderson, Chair
2. Chair Comments

#### Meeting Objective:

Finalize preferred range of alternatives and purpose and need statement.

Determine need for additional meetings.

Reminder: ~~SaMTAAC~~ Charge and Principles Adopted by the Committee

3. Approval of Agenda

### B. NMFS Report on Regulatory Burdens (All Alternatives)

(9:15 a.m.; 0.25 hour)

Gretchen ~~Hanshaw~~

### C. Qualifying Requirement Options (All Alternatives)

(9:30 a.m.; 0.75 hour)

1. Staff Summary of Agenda Issues (5 min) Jim Seger
2. Orientation on the Qualifying Requirement Analysis (5 min) Jessi ~~Doerpinghaus~~
3. Rationale for Matching Particular Qualifying Options with Particular Alternatives.
4. Use of Qualifying Options from One Alternative with a Different Alternative.
5. Absence of Options Entirely Within Control Dates (Alternatives 1 and 2).

BREAK (10:15; 15 Min)

### D. Treatment of Gear Switching Overages (Alternatives 2 and 3)

(10:30 a.m.; 30 min)

When a vessel reaches its gear switching limit, how are any overages for the trip treated?  
What about vessels under Alternative 3 that have no gear-switching opportunity (are neither active trawlers nor exempted).

1. Staff Summary of Agenda Issues (5 min) Jim Seger
2. NMFS Report on Overages Gretchen ~~Hanshaw~~

3. Committee Discussion

### E. Other Alternative 1 Issues: Trawl-Only Conversion on Carryover

(11:00 a.m.; .25 hours)

1. Staff Summary of Agenda Issues (5 min) Jim Seger
2. Committee Discussion

### F. Other Alternative 2 Issues

(11:15 a.m.; 1.25 hours)

1. Staff Summary of Agenda Issues (10 min) Jim Seger
2. Committee Discussion
  - a. Gear Switching Limit Size When Permits Are Combined
  - b. Stacking and Dual Endorsed Permits
  - c. Fishing Multiple Permits Sequentially on a Single Vessel

LUNCH (12:00-1:00 p.m.)

### F. Other Alternative 2 Issues (continued)

### G. Other Alternative 3 Issues

(1:30 p.m.; 0.75 hours)

1. Staff Summary of Agenda Issues (10 min) Jim Seger
2. Committee Discussion
  - a. Effect of QS Divestment on Exempt Permit Limits
  - b. Limits for Exempt Vessel that Are Also Active Trawlers
  - c. Fishing a Single Exempted Permit on Multiple Vessels
  - d. Reduction of the 0.6 percent Limit to Stay Within 10 Percent Backstop

### H. Review Purpose and Need and Range of Alternatives

(2:15 p.m.; 0.5 hours)

### I. Scheduling Next Meeting, As Needed, and Final Business

(2:45 p.m.; 0.25 hour)

ADJOURN – 3:00 PM

# B. NMFS Report on Regulatory Burdens *(All Alternatives)*

B.1 NMFS Report  
(Gretchen Hanshew)

For the Alternatives see:  
Agenda Item B,  
Attachment 1



# C. Qualifying Requirement Options *(All Alternatives)*

1. Staff Summary
2. Qualifying Requirement Analysis
3. Rationale for Matching Qualifier to Alternative
4. Cross Matching Qualifiers and Alternatives
5. Use of Control Dates in Qualifiers

# C.1 Staff Summary

C.1, Att 1, Table 1	Alternative 1			Alternative 2			Alternative 3	
Allocation Based on	Permit			Permit			Vessel	
Option	SubOp-A	SubOp-B	SubOp-C	Op-1	Op-2	Op-3	Op-1	Op-2
Time Period	2011-2018	2011-CD or 2014-2018	2011-CD or 2014-2018	2011-CD	2011-CD	2011-CD or 2014-2018	2011-CD	2011-CD or 2014-2018
Landings Amount	1 landing	10,000 lbs	30,000 lbs	10,000/3 yrs	30,000/3 yrs	30,000/3 yrs or 90,000 across 3 yrs		30,000/3 yrs or 90,000 across 3 yrs
Recent Part.				2016-2018 (1 landing)	2016-2018 (1 landing)	2016-2018 (1 landing)		
Qualify Only on Post-CD Landings	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Post CD Credit	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

## C.2 Qualifying Requirement Analysis

([C.2 Attachment 1](#))

- Update of number of qualifiers from January meeting based on criteria
- Average percentage utilization (including zeros) of 2020 trawl allocation provided for reference- not a projection.

Sub-Option	Qualification	Number of Qualifying Permits	Number Qualifying Under All Options	% of GS Permits	% 2020 All. based on Avg. Catch 2011-2018
A	Between 2011-2018, one fixed gear sablefish landing	39	34	100%	27.18%
B	Between 2011-CD or between 2014-2018, a minimum of 10,000 lbs	36		92.3%	27.16%
C	Between 2011-CD or between 2014-2018, a minimum of 30,000 lbs	34		87.2%	27.06%

# Alternative 1- Gear Specific QPs

Option	Qualification	Number of Qualifying Permits	Number Qualifying Under All Options	% of GS Permits	% 2020 All. based on Avg. Catch 2011-2018
1	10,000 lbs/yr in 3+ years b/t 2011-CD & participated in 1+ yr b/t 2016- 2018	14	10	35.9%	18.42%
2	30,000 lbs/ yr in 3+ years b/t 2011-CD & participated in 1+ yr b/t2016 through 2018	10		25.6%	17.05%
3	30,000 lbs/yr in 3+ years b/t 2011-CD & participated in 1+ yr b/t 2016-2018 or caught 90,000 lbs cumulatively across 3 years from 2014-2018, w/ at least 1 GS landing in each of those 3 years.	13		33.3%	18.78%

## Alternative 2- Gear Switching Endorsement

Option	Qualification	Number of Qualifying Vessels	Number Qualifying Under All Options	% of GS Vessels	% 2020 Allocation based on Avg. Catch 2011-2018
1	30,000 lbs of northern sablefish trawl QPs per year in at least 3 years between 2011-CD	11	11	28.2%	20.3%
2	30,000 lbs of northern sablefish trawl QPs per year in at least three years between 2011-CD or 90,000 lbs cumulatively across 3 years from 2014- 2018, with at least 1 FG landing in each of the 3 years.	12		30.8%	20.5%

## Alternative 3- Active Trawler/Exemption

## Committee Discussion

C. 3. Rationale for Matching Particular Qualifying Options with Particular Alternatives

C. 4. Use of Qualifying Options from One Alternative with a Different Alternative

C. 5. Absence of Options Entirely within Control Dates (Alternatives 1 and 2)

C.1, Att 1, Table 1	Alternative 1			Alternative 2			Alternative 3	
Allocation Based on	Permit			Permit			Vessel	
Option	SubOp-A	SubOp-B	SubOp-C	Op-1	Op-2	Op-3	Op-1	Op-2
Time Period	2011-2018	2011-CD or 2014-2018	2011-CD or 2014-2018	2011-CD	2011-CD	2011-CD or 2014-2018	2011-CD	2011-CD or 2014-2018
Landings Amount	1 landing	10,000 lbs	30,000 lbs	10,000/3 yrs	30,000/3 yrs	30,000/3 yrs or 90,000 across 3 yrs		30,000/3 yrs or 90,000 across 3 yrs
Recent Part.				2016-2018 (1 landing)	2016-2018 (1 landing)	2016-2018 (1 landing)		
Qualify Only on Post-CD Landings	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Post CD Credit	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes



# Break (15 minutes)

*Will return at*

# D. Treatment of Gear Switching Overages (Alternatives 2 and 3)

1. Staff Summary
2. NMFS Report
3. Committee Discussion

## D.1 Staff Summary ([D.1. Attachment 1](#))

Specific to Alternatives 2 and 3

Questions to resolve:

- When a vessel reaches its gear switching limit, how are any overages for the trip treated?
- What about vessels under Alternative 3 that have no gear-switching opportunity (are neither active trawlers or exempted)?

# Options for Handling Overages

Objective, provide a way for vessels to take full gear switching limit without incurring a violation  
(some compliance opportunity through discard at sea and 80 percent survival credit)

When a vessel reaches the gear-switching limit, it ...

**Overage Option 1:** ...must discard ...

**Overage Option 2:** ...may retain ... but such sablefish may not reach the commercial market ...

**Overage Option 3:** ...may retain and sell any sablefish caught in excess of the limit ...

For all options, vessel may not deploy non-trawl in IFQ sector.

All catch must be covered with QP.

# Comparable Existing Overage Policies

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Description	Discard	Retain, but can't sell	May retain and sell
Similar to current management practice	Cumulative Limits	Prohibited Species	Annual Vessel QP Limit

# Existing Overage Policies

Cumulative limits— At-sea Discards Don't Count Against Limits (no violation)

- If overage is delivered, vessels subject to enforcement action
- Processors receive and sell product, but vessels don't receive payment, state does

Prohibited Species—Landings Allowed in Certain Circumstances (no violation)

- Processors receive but can't enter commercial market
- Issues with finding places to donate or finding rendering locations (de minimis value)

Annual Vessel Limit—Vessels Over Limit Are Off Water—Repay Following Year (no violation)

- Up to 10% of total QPs deficit carry-over allowed (potential violation for > 10%)

# Concerns to Take Into Account

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Description	Discard	Retain, but can't sell	May retain and sell
Concerns to Take Into Account	<p>Disposition of discards brought to port:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring Discard</li> <li>Standards for Discard</li> <li>Entering Market Channels</li> </ul> <p>MSA bycatch related objectives</p>	<p>Finding charities or rendering opportunities</p> <p>Incentives for company vessels to exceed limits</p> <p>MSA OY related objectives</p>	<p>Would be a threshold, not necessarily a limit</p> <p>Strategies to maximize gear-switching in excess of limit (overage cap could mitigate those strategies)</p>

Gretchen Hanshew

## D.2 NMFS Report (See [B.1 NMFS Report](#) )

SaMTAAC Agenda Item B and  
SaMTAAC Agenda Item D.1  
NMFS Report  
April 2020

*April 2020  
SaMTAAC*

### NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT

#### Handling Gear-Switching Limit Overages

We are concerned with some of the options for handling gear-switching limit overages under Action Alternative 2, and we note that these concerns would carry over similarly to the elements of Action Alternative 3 that are gear switching limits based on vessel or permit activity rather than on quota share use. We provide the following information for Committee consideration.

In our October 2019 report to the Committee, we noted our concerns with an alternative (that has since been removed from consideration) that would have required discarding of fixed-gear caught sablefish by vessels that were determined to be ineligible, but that could gear switch for other species. Specifically, we stated that a provision like that would reduce the consistency of the Shorebased Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program with National Standard 9 - minimize bycatch to the extent practicable and Objective 3 of the Trawl Rationalization Program - promote practices that reduce bycatch, discard mortality, and minimize ecological impacts. While that Alternative is no longer being considered, we would like to highlight similar concerns about discards under the gear-switching limit overage options under Alternative 2. Our recommendations carry over to Alternative 3 as well and how catch beyond a gear switching limit is addressed.

Under Alternative 2, overage option 1 (that sablefish caught in excess of the limit must be discarded) has the potential to undo the positive work of the IFQ Program in reducing discards



## D.3 Committee Discussion

- When a vessel reaches its gear switching limit, how are any overages for the trip treated?
- What about vessels under Alternative 3 that have no gear-switching opportunity (are neither active trawlers or exempted)?

# E. Other Alternative 1 Issues— Trawl-only QP Conversion ([E.1 Attachment 1](#))

1. Staff Summary
2. Committee Discussion

## E.1. Staff Summary

### Trawl Only QPs Carryover

- Primary issue: conversion of trawl-only QP to unrestricted gear QP
- Possible option: If no conversion date, convert on surplus carryover.
- NMFS guidance not yet available.

## E.2. Committee Discussion

# F. Other Alternative 2 Issues (F.1. Attachment 1)

1. Staff Summary
2. Committee Discussion

## F.1 Staff Summary

### a. Gear Switching Limit Size

When Permits are Combined

### b. Stacking and Dual Endorsed Permits

### c. Fishing Multiple Permits

Sequentially on a Single Vessel

# a. Gear Switching Limits when Permits Combined

Sometimes Two Permits are Combined to Get a Larger Size Endorsement  
What happens to gear switching limits?

Two Endorsement Limit Options:

- Option 1: Average percentage of trawl allocation caught with fixed gear
- Option 2: 4.5 percent (same as AVL)

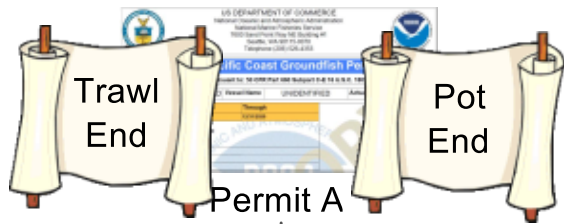
Possible Approaches for Option 1

- Combine limits for resulting permit - up to 4.5%?
- Take higher of two limits

## b. Stacking and Dual Endorsed Permits

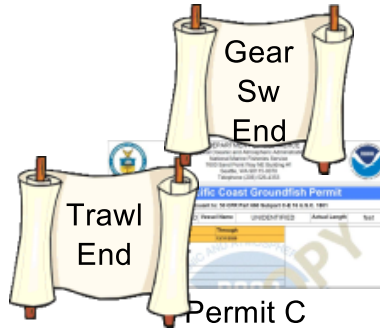
Some limited entry permits are endorsed for trawl and one of the fixed gears (dual endorsed). Two trawl permits cannot be on a vessel at the same time.

Scenarios here involve a vessel with a fixed gear permit that wants to lease or buy a gear switching endorsed trawl permit.

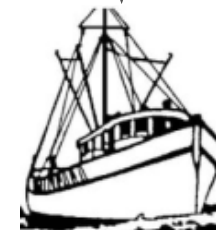
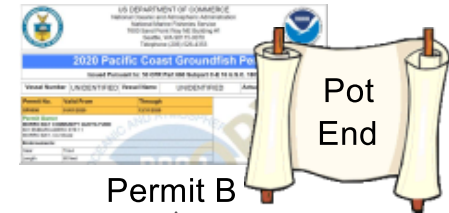


Vessel A

Not  
OK



OK



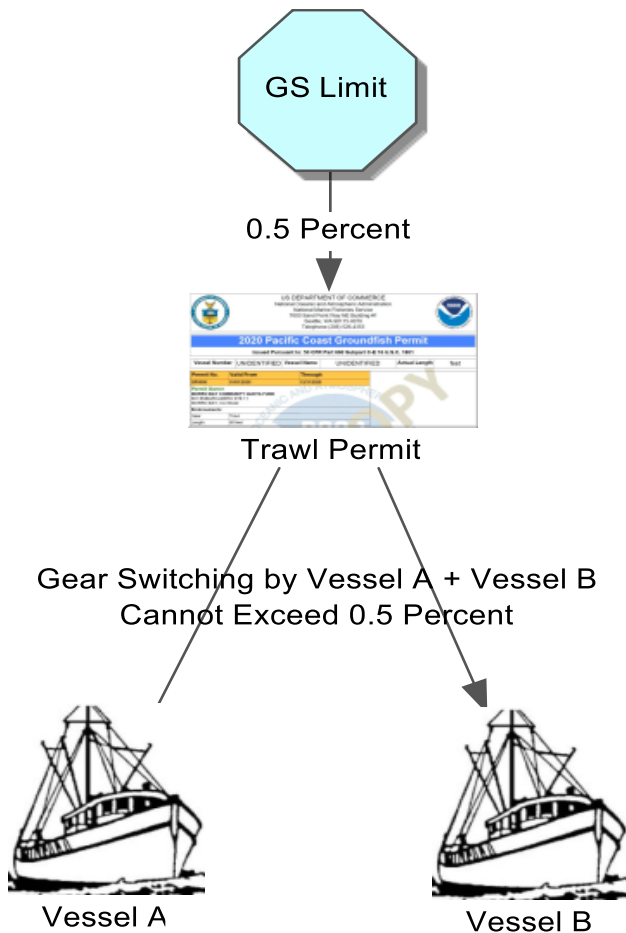
Vessel B

## Dual Endorsed Permits: Gear Switching History

Status of the Five Dual Trawl -Fixed Gear Endorsed Permits	Likely to Qualify for a Gear Switching Endorsement	Permits Have No Gear Switching History or Are Unlikely to Qualify
Sablefish Tier Endorsements (Fixed Gear)	X	-
No Sablefish Tier Endorsements (Fixed Gear)	-	X

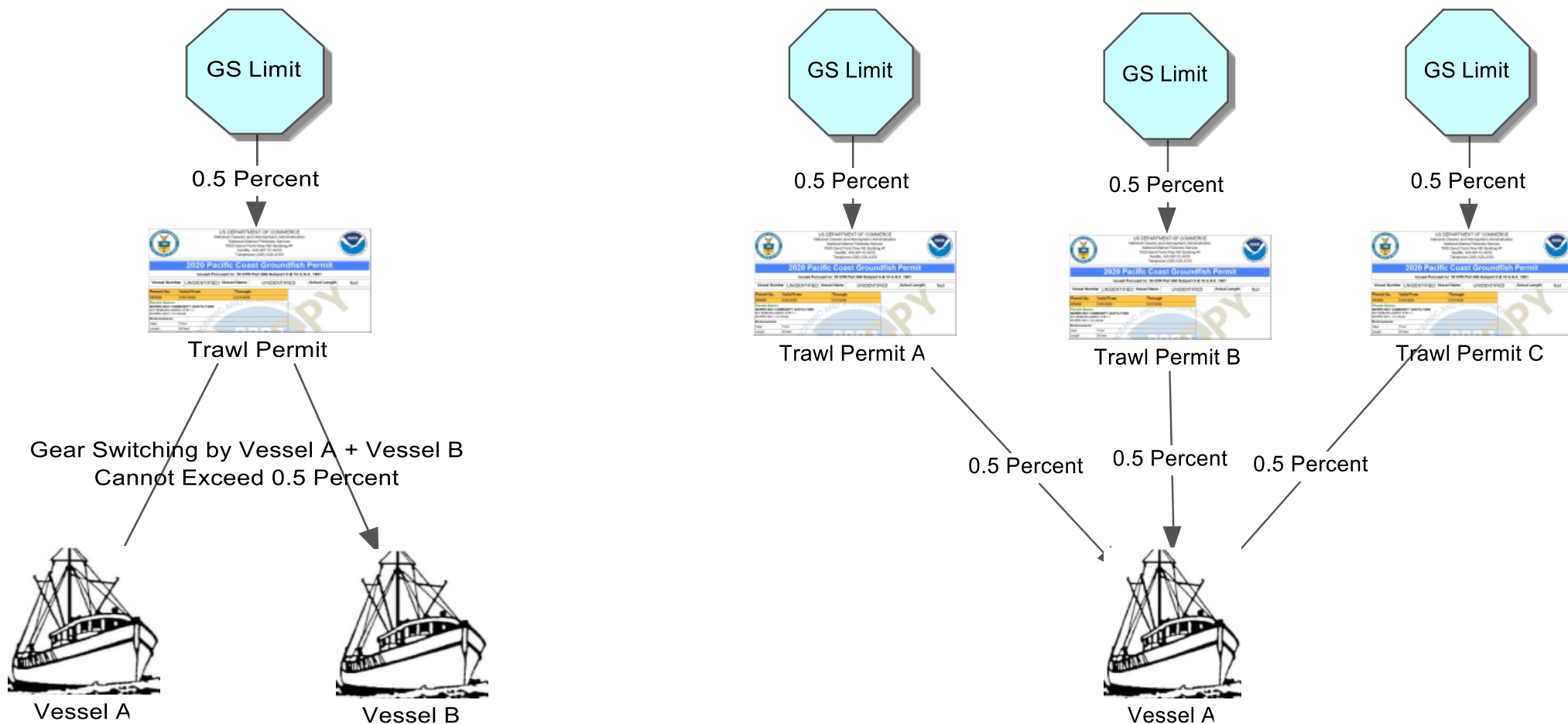


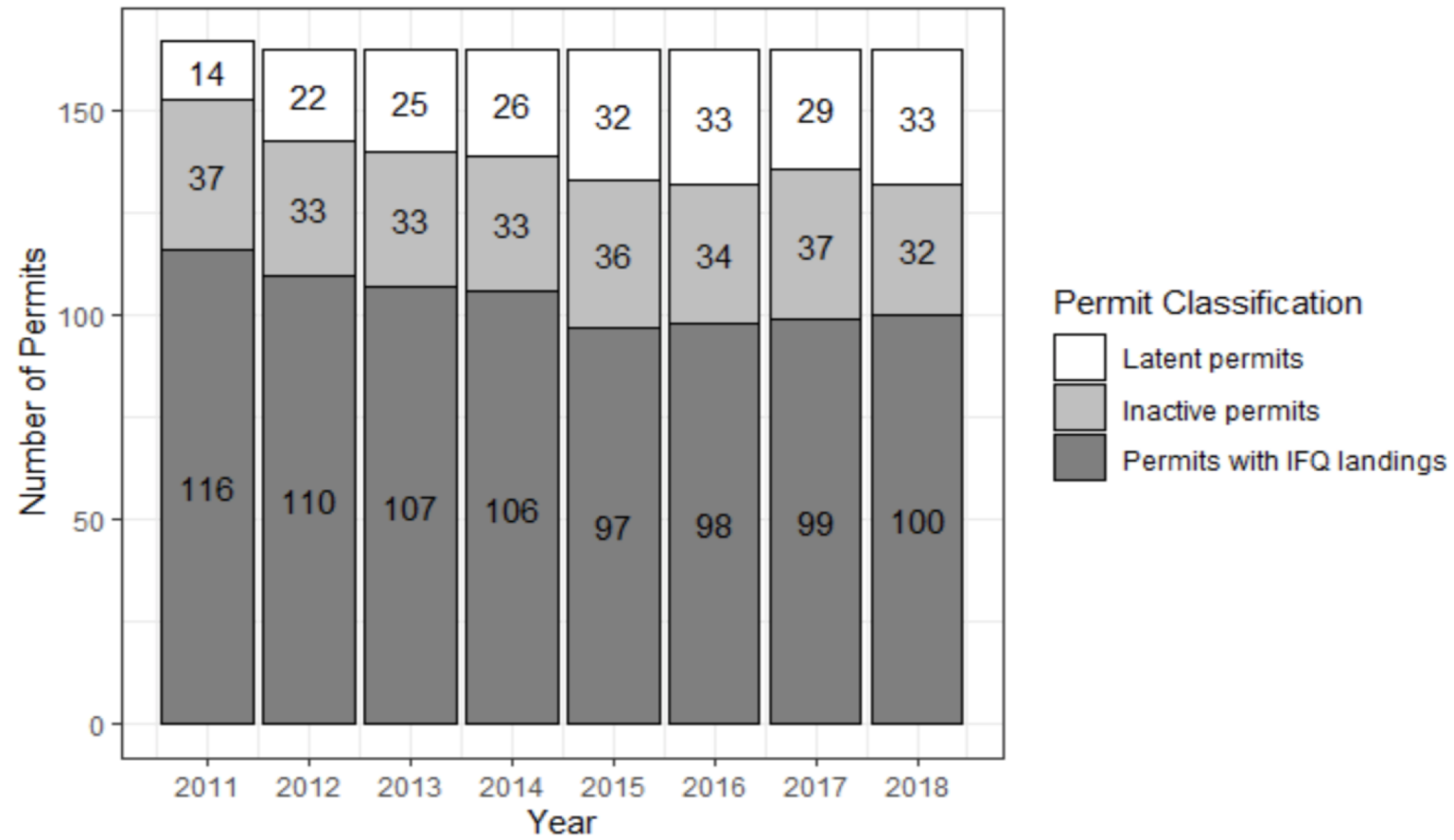
## c. Fishing Multiple Permits Sequentially on a Single Vessel



- In January decided limits would be associated with a permit.
- Applies to endorsed and nonendorsed permits (0.5% limit)
- Left off with question: Can a vessel fish multiple permits?

# c. Fishing Multiple Permits Sequentially on a Single Vessel





# Number of Latent and Inactive Permits

## F.2 Committee Discussion

- a. Gear Switching Limit Size When Permits are Combined
- b. Stacking and Dual Endorsed Permits
- c. Fishing Multiple Permits Sequentially on a Single Vessel

# Lunch Break

*Will Return at*

# G. Other Alternative 3 Issues (G.1. Attachment 1)

1. Staff Summary
2. Committee Discussion
  - a. QS Divestment
  - b. Limits for Vessels with Exempt Permits that are also Active Trawlers
  - c. Fishing Exempted Permit on Multiple Vessels
  - d. Reduction of 0.6% limit to stay within 10% Backstop

# G.1 Staff Summary

## a. Effect of QS Divestment on Exempt Permit Limits

Exempt Permit Limit =  
amount of n. sablefish QS owned  
"as of and since the control date"

What happens if QS is divested after implementation?

Staff assumption:

If an vessel owner divests of northern sablefish QS its based limit would go down.

Looking for confirmation or guidance.



## b. Limits for Exempt Vessels that are also Active Trawlers

Situations: vessel with an exempt permit qualifies as an active trawler; or an exempt permit is transferred to an active trawler.

What limits should apply:

- Only one of the limits?

- If only one, which one (1% active trawl or the exempt permit limit\*)?

- The sum of both limits?

Historically, fewer than 3 exempted vessels would have qualified as an active trawler.

*\* Exempt permit limit is 0.6 percent or an amount equal to QS owned by vessel owner.*

## c. Fishing Exempted Permits on Multiple Vessels

Qualifying vessel chooses the permit which will be exempted.

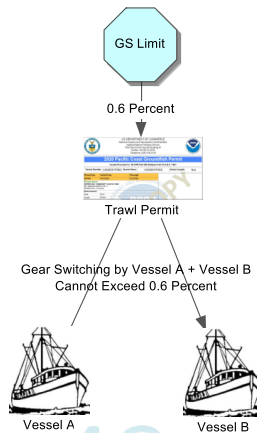
The vessel has a limit based on being registered to the exempted permit.

The permit is transferable between vessels as long as ownership does not change.

If that happens:

*Does each vessel get its own limit?*

*Is there an annual limit associated with the permit (vessels share in that limit)?*



## d. Reduction of 0.6% limit to stay within 10% backstop

Concern was that 0.6% could be reduced to zero to stay within 10 percent backstop.  
No longer a concern because total is expected to be less than 10 percent.

Option	Qualification	Number of Qualifying Permits	Number of Permits that Own QS	Max Percentage Utilization Assuming Each Vessel Takes Full Limit
1	30,000 lbs of northern sablefish trawl QPs per year in at least 3 years between 2011-CD	11	4	8.85%
2	30,000 lbs of northern sablefish trawl QPs per year in at least three years between 2011-CD or 90,000 lbs cumulatively across 3 years from 2014- 2018, with at least 1 FG landing in each of the 3 years.	12		9.45%

## G.2 Committee Discussion

- a. Effect of QS Divestment on Exempt Permit Limits
- b. Limits for Exempt Vessel that are also active trawlers
- c. Fishing a Single Exempted Permit on Multiple Vessels
- d. Reduction of the 0.6% Limit to Stay Within 10% Backstop

# H. Review Purpose and Need and Range of Alternatives (H.1. Attachment 1 H.1. Attachment 2)

- Is the range of alternatives adequate?
- Is an adjustment to purpose and need required?

# Committee Discussion

## PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT

1<sup>st</sup> paragraph- Northern attainment issues

2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph- Southern attainment issues

3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph- Relates need to goals and objectives of FMP

## RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES

3 northern alternatives

- Alt 1: Gear Specific QP
- Alt 2: Gear Switching Endorsement
- Alt 3: Active Trawler

2 tabled southern alternatives

- Alt 4: Shift QP South to North
- Alt 5: Fish Southern QP Up to 42 N. lat. with Trawl Gear

# I. Scheduling Next Meeting, As Needed, and Final Business

# Calendar

Month/Year	Purpose
April 2020	SaMTAAC Webinar
May 4-5, 2020	Tentative SaMTAAC Webinar?
June 2020	Council Meeting: Select Range of Alternatives
November 2020	Council Meeting: Select PPA
TBD	Council Meeting: Select FPA