

SUMMARY OF DECISION POINTS WITHIN THE CURRENT GEAR SWITCHING
ACTION ALTERNATIVES

Gear Specific QP Alternative (Action Alternative 1)
<p>Allocation of Gear Specific QP</p> <p>Gear Specific QP Option 1: 70 percent trawl-only/30 percent unrestricted (any gear)</p> <p>Gear Specific QP Option 2: 90 percent trawl-only/10 percent unrestricted (any gear)</p> <p><i>If the Council selects the opt-out described below, then both Option 1 and 2 are available. If not, then only Option 1 is available.</i></p>
<p>Option for Conversion to Unrestricted QP</p> <p>Conversion Date Provision: Yes or No. <i>If yes, then:</i></p> <p>Conversion Option 1: On August 1, any remaining unused trawl-only sablefish QP in individual accounts will convert to unrestricted sablefish QP.</p> <p>Conversion Option 2: On September 1, any remaining unused trawl-only sablefish QP in individual accounts will convert to unrestricted sablefish QP.</p> <p>Conversion Option 3: Any trawl-only QP left at the end of the year will be converted to unrestricted QP (either before post-season trading or when issued as carryover, to be determined).</p> <p>[Note that Option 3 essentially includes two suboptions for which a choice would need to be made.]</p>
<p>Option for an Opt-out Provision.</p> <p>Opt-out Provision: Yes or no. <i>If yes, then:</i></p> <p>Opt-out Qualification Suboption:</p> <p>Opt-out Qualification Suboption A: between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2018, one fixed gear sablefish north landing.</p> <p>Opt-out Qualification Suboption B:¹ between January 1, 2011 and September 15, 2017, a minimum of 10,000 lbs of fixed gear sablefish north landings.</p> <p>Opt-out Qualification Suboption C:^{Error! Bookmark not defined.} between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2018, a minimum of 10,000 lbs of fixed gear sablefish north landings.</p> <p>Opt-out Qualification Suboption D: between January 1, 2011 and September 15, 2017 or between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2018, a minimum of 30,000 lbs of fixed gear sablefish north landings.</p>

¹ Opt-out qualification Suboptions B and C might be combined at the time of Council preliminary and/or final action.

Gear-Switching Endorsement Alternative (Action Alternative 2)

Gear-Switching Endorsement and Qualification

To qualify for a gear-switching endorsement, between January 1, 2011 and September 15, 2017 (the control date) the limited entry trawl permit must have landed northern sablefish IFQ with fixed gear totaling at least:

Endorsement Qualification Option 1: 10,000 lbs per year in at least 3 years
Recent Participation Suboption: and participated in at least one year from 2016 through 2018.

Endorsement Qualification Option 2: 30,000 lbs per year in at least 3 years
Recent Participation Suboption: and participated in at least one year from 2016 through 2018.

Endorsement Qualification Option 3: 30,000 lbs per year in at least 3 years and participated in at least one year from 2016 through 2018;
or caught 90,000 lbs of northern sablefish cumulatively across three years from 2014 to 2018, with at least one gear-switched landing in each of the three years.

Sablefish Gear-Switching Limits

Trawl permits with gear-switching endorsements. The annual sablefish north gear-switching limit for a gear-switching endorsed permits is:

Endorsement Limit Option 1: for each qualifying permit, the average percentage of the sablefish north trawl allocation caught with fixed gear for years fished between 2011 and the control date.

Endorsement Limit Option 2: the standard northern sablefish vessel QP limit (the current limit is 4.5 percent but this could change in the future).

Sequential Permit Registration

For further Council discussion: Should a vessel be able to expand its gear-switching opportunity by sequentially fishing under multiple gear-switching endorsed permits?
Note: Gear switching limits apply to the permit, thereby allowing the limit for a permit to be shared among vessels through a transfer of the permit from one vessel to another.

Gear-Switching Endorsement Alternative (Action Alternative 2)

Gear-Switching Limit Overages

Gear switching overages would be deducted from the associated permit’s gear-switching limit for the following year.

Suboption: Any QP a vessel uses for gear switching in excess of its gear-switching limit will not reduce the following year gear-switching limit.

Endorsement Expiration

Expiration Option 1: Gear-switching endorsements will expire when the permit is transferred to a different owner or a new owner is added to the existing permit ownership (ownership-based phase-down of gear switching).

Expiration Option 2: Gear-switching endorsements do not expire when the permit is transferred.

Active Trawler Alternative (Action Alternative 3)

Exemption Qualification.

To qualify a permit for an exemption, a vessel must have used fixed gear in the trawl catch share program to land a minimum of:

Exempted Vessel Qualification Option 1: 30,000 lbs of northern sablefish per year in at least three years between January 1, 2011 and September 15, 2017.

Exempted Vessel Qualification Option 2: 30,000 lbs of northern sablefish per year in at least three years between January 1, 2011 and September 15, 2017 or 90,000 lbs cumulatively across three years from 2014 to 2018, with at least one gear-switched landing in each of the three years.

Exemption Expiration.

Exemptions will expire upon transfer of the limited entry permit to a new owner...

Exemption Expiration Suboption: ... or 12 years after any fishing under the regulations start, whichever comes earlier.

Gear-Switching Limit Overages.

Gear-switching overages would be deducted from the associated vessel or permit’s gear-switching limit for the following year (depending on whether it is an active trawler or fishing under an exempted permit).

Suboption: Any QP a vessel uses for gear switching in excess of its gear-switching limit will not reduce the following year gear-switching limit.