

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT ON SABLEFISH GEAR SWITCHING (ANDERSON)

This report is being submitted by Council Member Phil Anderson relative to the gear switching agenda item that is on the Council's April agenda.

I am utilizing this report to bring to the attention of the Council and all those who are engaged in the gear switching issue that I am thinking about bringing forward a sub-option for Alternative 2, and I would value hearing perspectives on the sub-option as the Council further considers this issue.

The objective of the sub-option is to put forward an alternative that places an upper limit of 29% of the annual trawl sablefish allocation that can be landed with fixed gear while providing a level of protection to those individuals who purchased trawl sablefish quota shares prior to the control date and who met the qualifying criteria in Alternative 2.

The individual permit owners who qualified under the qualifying criteria would have their eligible quota share (QS) converted to any-gear QS (eligible QS is the amount the qualifiers owned at time of implementation but not more than what they owned as of the control date). All other QS in each account would be converted to any-gear and trawl-only QS in a proportion such that the total QPs issued each year for all any-gear QS would be 29 percent of the trawl allocation.

The any-gear and trawl-only QS and QP would be transferable just as all other QS and QP issued under the trawl individual fishing quota program.