

## H.2 Sablefish Gear Switching - Initial Preliminary Preferred Alternative

### Council Action:

1. Select an iPPA.
2. Provide other guidance on the alternatives, as needed.
3. Discuss and provide guidance on the process and timeline for selecting the PPA, as needed.

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**I move the council adopt No Action and Alternative Two as outlined below as its Initial Preferred Proposed Alternatives to address gear switching in the trawl fishery. Regarding Alternative Two it would be as follows:**

- **Gear Switching Control: Trawl-Only and Any-Gear (Unrestricted) QP** Northern sablefish QP will be issued as trawl-only QP and any-gear QP (unrestricted QP).
- **Procedure for Determining the Amount and Distribution of Any-Gear QP:** NMFS will classify as legacy participants those individuals that owned QS on the control date and at the time of implementation, based on the qualification criteria listed in the following section.
- **Legacy Participants:**  
Legacy participation will receive any-gear QP for their eligible QS (eligible QS is any QS owned by a legacy participant that does not exceed what the participant owned on the control date).
- **QS owned by non-legacy participants (and legacy participant QS that is not eligible): Any-gear QP and trawl-only QP will be distributed as follows.**  
*QP Distribution Option 1: Increasing Proportion of Any-Gear QP* **Each year**, any-gear and trawl-only QP will be issued in a ratio such that the total amount of any-gear QP will equal 29 percent. As legacy participants divest of their eligible QS, the any-gear/trawl-only QP ratio will increase to maintain 29 percent any-gear QP.

*QP Distribution Option 2: Constant Proportion of Any-Gear QP* — In the **first year** of the program, any-gear and trawl-only QP will be issued in a ratio such that the total amount of any-gear QP will equal 29 percent. As legacy participants divest of their eligible QS, the any-gear/trawl-only QP ratio will not change, such that the total amount of any-gear QP declines to less than 29 percent.

~~*QP Distribution Option 3: No Any Gear QP: Only trawl only QP is issued. As legacy participants divest of their eligible QS, the total amount of any-gear QP declines to zero.*~~

- **Legacy Participants and Qualifying Criteria**  
Legacy participants are individuals that meet the qualifying criteria provided below. The designation as a legacy participant stays with the individual and is not transferable. As legacy participants divest themselves of QS, the total legacy participant holdings of eligible QS will decline.

**To qualify as a legacy participant:**

**Qualification Option 1:** As of and since the control date, an individual must have some ownership interest in a permit (or permits) that landed northern sablefish QPs with non-trawl gear totaling at least 30,000 pounds per year in at least 3 years between January 1, 2011 and September 15, 2017 (the control date) and had some ownership interest in northern sablefish quota shares (any amount).

~~**Qualification Option 2:** Same as Option 2 plus, as of and since the control date, the current permit owner also have some ownership interest in a trawl permitted vessel that made at least one gear switched landing of northern sablefish prior to the control date.~~

**Transferability and Accumulation Limits:**

As under status quo, all QS and QP would remain fully transferable and the existing QS control limit (3.0 percent) and annual vessel QP use limit (4.5 percent) will continue to be applied for northern sablefish quota as a whole (without distinction by gear type).

Moved by Phil Anderson

Second by Butch Smith

Motion passed. Ms. Yaremko and Ms. Ridings voted no.

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Motion by Corey Ridings; Second by Marci Yaremko:  
I move to instruct staff to stop work on this action.

Motion roll call vote – 2 yes, 10 no; motion failed.

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