

Alaska Groundfish Cooperative
Report to the North Pacific
Fishery Management Council
for the 2013 Fishery

01 March 2014

Introduction

On January 20th 2013, the Alaska Groundfish Cooperative (AGC) began fishing under regulations implementing Amendment 80. This report summarizes AGC operations during 2013.

AGC membership

AGC membership includes the following four companies, and nine non-AFA trawl catcher processors and/or permits.

Company	Vessel/Permit	LLP LOA
Arctic Sole Seafoods, Inc.	Ocean Cape	122
Tremont Vessel, LLC	Tremont	125
O'Hara Corporation	Harvester Enterprise	181
The Fishing Company of Alaska, Inc.	Alaska Juris	238
	Alaska Spirit	221
	Alaska Victory	227
	Alaska Warrior	215
	Alaska Ranger	203
	Alaska Voyager	228

Co-op Management

The AGC co-op manager is responsible for the management of the cooperative. This includes communications, regulatory compliance, catch and bycatch tracking, and QS management.

Transfers occurred during the year between co-op members, and between Am 80 cooperatives.

2011 was the first year for the Alaska Groundfish Cooperative. During the 2013 fishing year we lost 365 days of fishing due to shipyard time.

Catch Monitoring

The AGC manager receives observer data from the vessels fishing. Catch and species composition information is received from the Observer Program, and from NMFS Alaska Region. Production information is received from Alaska Region. All of these sources are used to ensure that the vessels do not exceed quotas. Software on the vessels allows the Captains to keep close track of quota usage.

Seastate, Inc. also monitors AGC catch and production, and the co-op manager is able to compare information through a secure web site to ensure any possible errors are caught and resolved.

GOA Sideboards

Some AGC vessels participated in the Rockfish Pilot Program Co-op fishery in the CGOA. These vessels are sideboarded under the rockfish program. One AGC vessel participated in the WGOA Am 80 rockfish sideboard fishery. At the time AGC's WGOA Am 80 sideboard eligible vessel left the GOA, no sideboard limits were exceeded.

2013 AGC Catch

The following tables provide AGC catch information. Data has been rounded to the nearest whole number. **All co-op catch during 2013 fell within allocation levels and no overages occurred.**

BSAI AGC Allocated Quota & PSC and Catch Amounts

Species	AGC Am 80 Allocation (mt)	AGC Catch (mt)	Total Transfer In (mt)	Total Transfer Out (mt)
Mackerel 541	7,271	7,269.02		
Mackerel 542	3,563	3,543.45		
Mackerel 543	783	73.67		
Flathead Sole	2,982	592.38		1,571
Pacific Cod	6,929	5,136.76		1,238
POP 541	4,077	4,063.91		
POP 542	2,939	2,909.38		
POP 543	4,728	4,704.09		
Rock Sole	20,348	6.834.03		3,707
Yellowfin Sole	59,403	18,450.57		15,063
Bairdi Z1 (#)	197,904	125,868	27,540	27,822
Bairdi Z2 (#)	473,655	126,787		91,456
Halibut Mortality (mt)	757	593.84		117
COBLZ Opilio (#)	2,483,863	107,231		324,093
Red King Crab (#)	20,188	8,119		2,753

BSAI Salmon Catch Amounts

Species	AGC Catch (#)
Chinook	201
Non-Chinook	114



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Materials and Methods:

Observer data were supplied to Sea State, Inc via the Northwest Groundfish Observer Program's password-protected web site. Logon credentials were supplied by all members of the Alaska Groundfish Cooperative. Production data were obtained via the NMFS Alaska Region e-Landings system, again using credentials supplied by member companies. Unsourced hauls in the observer data were extrapolated using standard methods documented by NMFS Alaska Region to produce total groundfish catch estimates in accord with those in the Alaska Region Catch Accounting System. Retained product data were expanded to round weight equivalents using published Product Recovery Rates (PRRs). Groundfish retention was then calculated according to the formula:

$$\text{Retention percentage} = \text{Retained catch (retained product RWE)} / \text{Total catch (CAS)}$$

For 2013, the Ak groundfish cooperative Total Catch (CAS) of FMP species was 75,347 mt. The round-weight equivalent of products (RWE) from this catch was 68,362 mt. The coop-wide retention percentage was 90.7%