

NMFS is proposing to approve the 2019 Trawl Gear EFP, covering all the exemptions stated above, following the conclusion of the public comment period and review of public comment. Pending approval, NMFS would issue the permits for the EFP to the vessel owner or designated representative as the "EFP holder." NMFS intends to use an adaptive management approach in which NMFS may revise requirements and protocols to improve the program without issuing another **Federal Register** Notice, provided that the modifications fall within the scope of the original EFP. In addition, the applicants may request minor modifications and extensions to the EFP throughout the course of research. NMFS may grant EFP modifications and extensions without further public notice if the changes are essential to facilitate completing the proposed research and result in only a minimal change in the scope or impacts of the initially approved EFP request.

NMFS analyzed the potential effects of implementing the 2018 Trawl Gear EFP in an environmental assessment (EA), dated December 2017 (Available at: <http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov>). In that EA, NMFS stated that it anticipated issuing additional, similar, one-year EFPs that would cover a portion or all of the components discussed in the EA. Those EFPs would be supported by the analyses in the EA, as long as there were not substantial changes to the affected environment (e.g., status of the stock), components of the EFP (i.e., gear, area, and time restrictions), or unanticipated effects on the environment from permitting fishing activities that were not discussed in the EA's analysis. Since the 2019 Trawl Gear EFP meets those criteria, NMFS does not anticipate any adverse environmental impacts from the 2019 Trawl Gear EFP beyond those analyzed in the EA for the 2018 Trawl Gear and future similar EFPs. NMFS welcomes public comment on the NEPA coverage for this EFP.

After publication of this document in the **Federal Register**, NMFS may approve and issue the EFP after the close of the public comment period. NMFS will consider comments submitted, as well as the Council's discussion at their September 2018 meeting, in deciding whether to approve the application as requested. NMFS may approve the application in its entirety or may make any alterations needed to achieve the goals of the EFP.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*, 16 U.S.C. 773 *et seq.*, and 16 U.S.C. 7001 *et seq.*

Dated: November 27, 2018.

**Karen H. Abrams,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XG589**

#### Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area; Cost Recovery Programs

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of standard prices and fee percentages.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS publishes standard prices and fee percentages for cost recovery for the Amendment 80 Program, the American Fisheries Act (AFA) Program, the Aleutian Islands Pollock (AIP) Program, and the Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) groundfish and halibut Programs. The fee percentage for 2018 is 0.75 percent for the Amendment 80 Program, 0.24 percent for the AFA inshore cooperatives, 0.34 percent for the AFA mothership cooperative, 3.0 percent for the AIP program, and 0.66 percent for the CDQ groundfish and halibut Programs. This action is intended to provide the 2018 standard prices and fee percentages to calculate the required payment for cost recovery fees due by December 31, 2018.

**DATES:** The standard prices and fee percentages are valid on November 30, 2018.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carl Greene, Fee Coordinator, 907-586-7105.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

Section 304(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act) authorizes and requires the collection of cost recovery fees for limited access privilege programs and the CDQ Program. Cost recovery fees recover the actual costs directly related to the management, data collection, and enforcement of the programs. Section 304(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act mandates that cost recovery fees not exceed three percent of the annual ex-vessel value of fish harvested by a

program subject to a cost recovery fee, and that the fee be collected either at the time of landing, filing of a landing report, or sale of such fish during a fishing season or in the last quarter of the calendar year in which the fish is harvested.

NMFS manages the Amendment 80 Program, AFA Program, and AIP Program as limited access privilege programs. On January 5, 2016, NMFS published a final rule to implement cost recovery for these three limited access privilege programs and the CDQ groundfish and halibut programs (81 FR 150). The designated representative (for the purposes of cost recovery) for each program is responsible for submitting the fee payment to NMFS on or before the due date of December 31 of the year in which the landings were made. The total dollar amount of the fee due is determined by multiplying the NMFS published fee percentage by the ex-vessel value of all landings under the program made during the fishing year. NMFS publishes this notice of the fee percentages for the Amendment 80, AFA, AIP, and CDQ groundfish and halibut fisheries in the **Federal Register** by December 1 each year.

##### Standard Prices

The fee liability is based on the ex-vessel value of fish harvested in each program. For purposes of calculating cost recovery fees, NMFS calculates a standard ex-vessel price (standard price) for each species. A standard price is determined using information on landings purchased (volume) and ex-vessel value paid (value). For most groundfish species, NMFS annually summarizes volume and value information for landings of all fishery species subject to cost recovery in order to estimate a standard price for each species. The standard prices are described in U.S. dollars per pound for landings made during the year. The standard prices for all species in the Amendment 80, AFA, AIP, and CDQ groundfish and halibut programs are listed in Table 1. Each landing made under each program is multiplied by the appropriate standard price to arrive at an ex-vessel value for each landing. These values are summed together to arrive at the ex-vessel value of each program (fishery value).

##### Fee Percentage

NMFS calculates the fee percentage each year according to the factors and methods described in Federal regulations at 50 CFR 679.33(c)(2), 679.66(c)(2), 679.67(c)(2), and 679.95(c)(2). NMFS determines the fee percentage that applies to landings

made during the year by dividing the total costs directly related to the management, data collection, and enforcement of each program (direct program costs) during the year by the fishery value. NMFS captures direct program costs through an established accounting system that allows staff to track labor, travel, contracts, rent, and procurement. For 2018, the direct program costs were tracked from October 1, 2017, to September 30, 2018 (the end of the fiscal year). The individual 2018 fee percentages for the Amendment 80 Program, the American Fisheries Act (AFA) Program, the Aleutian Islands Pollock Program, and the Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) groundfish and halibut Programs are higher relative to percentages calculated for the programs in 2017. Although fishery values in each program rose in 2018 relative to 2017, direct program costs in 2018 also rose, and contributed to the higher percentages.

NMFS will provide an annual report that summarizes direct program costs for each of the programs in early 2019. NMFS calculates the fishery value as described under the section “Standard Prices.”

#### *Amendment 80 Program Standard Prices and Fee Percentage*

The Amendment 80 Program allocates total allowable catches (TACs) of groundfish species, other than Bering Sea pollock, to identified trawl catcher/processors in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI). The Amendment 80 Program allocates a portion of the BSAI TACs of six species: Atka mackerel, Pacific cod, flathead sole, rock sole, yellowfin sole, and Aleutian Islands Pacific ocean perch. Participants in the Amendment 80 sector have established cooperatives to harvest these allocations. Each Amendment 80 cooperative is responsible for payment of the cost recovery fee for fish landed under the Amendment 80 Program. Cost recovery requirements for the Amendment 80 Program are at 50 CFR 679.95.

For most Amendment 80 species, NMFS annually summarizes volume and value information for landings of all fishery species subject to cost recovery in order to estimate a standard price for each fishery species. Regulations specify that for rock sole, NMFS shall calculate a separate standard price for two periods—January 1 through March 31, and April 1 through October 31, which accounts for a substantial difference in estimated rock sole prices during the first quarter of the year relative to the remainder of the year. The volume and

value information is obtained from the First Wholesale Volume and Value Report, and the Pacific Cod Ex-Vessel Volume and Value Report.

Using the fee percentage formula described above, the estimated percentage of direct program costs to fishery value for the 2018 calendar year is 0.75 percent for the Amendment 80 Program. For 2018, NMFS applied the fee percentage to each Amendment 80 species landing that was debited from an Amendment 80 cooperative quota allocation between January 1 and December 31 to calculate the Amendment 80 fee liability for each Amendment 80 cooperative. The 2018 fee payments must be submitted to NMFS on or before December 31, 2018. Payment must be made in accordance with the payment methods set forth in 50 CFR 679.95(a)(3)(iv).

#### *AFA Standard Price and Fee Percentages*

The AFA allocates the Bering Sea directed pollock fishery TAC to three sectors—catcher/processor, mothership, and inshore. Each sector has established cooperatives to harvest the sector's exclusive allocation. In 2018, the cooperatives for the mothership sector and the inshore sector are responsible for paying the fee for Bering Sea pollock landed under the AFA. Cost recovery requirements for the AFA sectors are at 50 CFR 679.66.

NMFS calculates the standard price for pollock using the most recent annual value information reported to the Alaska Department of Fish & Game for the Commercial Operator's Annual Report and compiled in the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission Gross Earnings data for Bering Sea pollock. Due to the time required to compile the data, there is a one-year delay between the gross earnings data year and the fishing year to which it is applied. For example, NMFS used 2017 gross earnings data to calculate the standard price for 2018 pollock landings.

Under the fee percentage formula described above, the estimated percentage of direct program costs to fishery value for the 2018 calendar year is 0.24 percent for the AFA inshore sector, and 0.34 percent for the AFA mothership sector. To calculate the 2018 fee liabilities, NMFS applied the respective fee percentages to the landings of Bering Sea pollock debited from each cooperative's fishery allocation that occurred between January 1 and December 31. The 2018 fee payments must be submitted to NMFS on or before December 31, 2018. Payment must be made in accordance

with the payment methods set forth in 50 CFR 679.66(a)(4)(iv).

#### *AIP Program Standard Price and Fee Percentage*

The AIP Program allocates the Aleutian Islands directed pollock fishery TAC to the Aleut Corporation, consistent with the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2004 (Pub. L. 108–109), and its implementing regulations. Annually, prior to the start of the pollock season, the Aleut Corporation provides NMFS with the identity of its designated representative for harvesting the Aleutian Islands directed pollock fishery TAC. The same individual is responsible for the submission of all cost recovery fees for pollock landed under the AIP Program. Cost recovery requirements for the AIP Program are at 50 CFR 679.67.

NMFS calculates the standard price for pollock using the most recent annual value information reported to the Alaska Department of Fish & Game for the Commercial Operator's Annual Report and compiled in the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission Gross Earnings data for Aleutian Islands pollock. Due to the time required to compile the data, there is a one-year delay between the gross earnings data year and the fishing year to which it is applied. For example, NMFS used 2017 gross earnings data to calculate the standard price for 2018 pollock landings.

For the 2018 fishing year, the Aleut Corporation selected participants to harvest or process the Aleutian Islands directed pollock fishery TAC. Some harvest occurred; however, the majority of that TAC was eventually reallocated to the Bering Sea directed pollock fishery TAC. Due to the small harvest, the estimated percentage of direct program costs to fishery value for the 2018 calendar year were disproportionately high and well above 3.0 percent. Pursuant to section 304(d)(2)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the fee percentage amount must not exceed 3.0 percent. Therefore, the 2018 fee percentage is set at 3.0 percent. To calculate the 2018 fee liability, NMFS applied the respective fee percentage to the pollock landings attributed to the AIP Program that occurred between January 1 and December 31. The 2018 fee payments must be submitted to NMFS on or before December 31, 2018. Payment must be made in accordance with the payment methods set forth in 50 CFR 679.67(a)(3)(iv).

#### *CDQ Standard Price and Fee Percentage*

The CDQ Program was implemented in 1992 to provide access to BSAI

fishery resources to villages located in Western Alaska. Section 305(i) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act identifies sixty-five villages eligible to participate in the CDQ Program and the six CDQ groups to represent these villages. CDQ groups receive exclusive harvesting privileges of the TACs for a broad range of crab species, groundfish species, and halibut. NMFS implemented a CDQ cost recovery program for the BSAI crab fisheries in 2005 (70 FR 10174, March 2, 2005) and published the cost recovery fee percentage for the 2018/2019 crab fishing year on July 19, 2018 (83 FR 34119). This notice provides the cost recovery fee percentage for the CDQ groundfish and halibut programs. Each CDQ group is subject to cost recovery fee requirements for landed groundfish

and halibut, and the designated representative of each CDQ group is responsible for submitting payment for their CDQ group. Cost recovery requirements for the CDQ Program are at 50 CFR 679.33.

For most CDQ groundfish species, NMFS annually summarizes volume and value information for landings of all fishery species subject to cost recovery in order to estimate a standard price for each fishery species. The volume and value information is obtained from the First Wholesale Volume and Value Report and the Pacific Cod Ex-Vessel Volume and Value Report. For CDQ halibut and fixed-gear sablefish, NMFS calculates the standard prices using information from the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Ex-Vessel Volume and

Value Report, which collects information on both IFQ and CDQ volume and value.

Using the fee percentage formula described above, the estimated percentage of direct program costs to fishery value for the 2018 calendar year is 0.66 percent for the CDQ groundfish and halibut programs. For 2018, NMFS applied the calculated CDQ fee percentage to all CDQ groundfish and halibut landings made between January 1 and December 31 to calculate the CDQ fee liability for each CDQ group. The 2018 fee payments must be submitted to NMFS on or before December 31, 2018. Payment must be made in accordance with the payment methods set forth in 50 CFR 679.33(a)(3)(iv).

TABLE 1—STANDARD EX-VESSEL PRICES BY SPECIES FOR THE 2018 FISHING YEAR

Species	Gear type	Reporting period	Standard ex-vessel price per pound (\$)
Arrowtooth flounder .....	All .....	January 1, 2018–October 31, 2018 .....	\$0.22
Atka mackerel .....	All .....	January 1, 2018–October 31, 2018 .....	0.32
Flathead sole .....	All .....	January 1, 2018–October 31, 2018 .....	0.26
Greenland turbot .....	All .....	January 1, 2018–October 31, 2018 .....	0.60
CDQ halibut .....	Fixed gear .....	October 1, 2017–September 30, 2018 .....	4.95
Pacific cod .....	Fixed gear .....	January 1, 2018–October 31, 2018 .....	0.41
	Trawl gear .....	January 1, 2018–October 31, 2018 .....	0.38
Pacific ocean perch .....	All .....	January 1, 2018–October 31, 2018 .....	0.22
Pollock .....	All .....	January 1, 2017–December 31, 2017 .....	0.14
Rock sole .....	All .....	January 1, 2018–March 31, 2018 .....	0.28
	All .....	April 1, 2018–October 31, 2018 .....	0.20
Sablefish .....	Fixed gear .....	October 1, 2017–September 30, 2018 .....	2.89
	Trawl gear .....	January 1, 2018–October 31, 2018 .....	0.77
Yellowfin sole .....	All .....	January 1, 2018–October 31, 2018 .....	0.20

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

**Dated:** November 26, 2018.

**Karen H. Abrams,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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## COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

### Procurement List; Additions and Deletions

**AGENCY:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

**ACTION:** Additions to and deletions from the Procurement List.

**SUMMARY:** This action adds services to the Procurement List that will be provided by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and

deletes products and services from the Procurement List previously furnished by such agencies.

**DATES:** *Date added to and deleted from the Procurement List:* December 30, 2018.

**ADDRESSES:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 1401 S. Clark Street, Suite 715, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4149.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael R. Jurkowski, Telephone: (703) 603-2117, Fax: (703) 603-0655, or email [CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov](mailto:CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov).

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Additions

On 4/20/2018 (83 FR 77) and 10/19/2018 (83 FR 203), the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices of proposed additions to the Procurement List.

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the services and impact of the additions

on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the services listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 8501-8506 and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

### Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will provide the services to the Government.

2. The action will result in authorizing small entities to provide the services to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 8501-8506) in connection with the services proposed for addition to the Procurement List.