

inshore pollock cooperative allocations and listed catcher/processor and catcher vessel harvesting sideboard limits, are found in Tables 8 through 13.

Table 2 also lists seasonal apportionments of pollock and harvest limits within the Steller Sea Lion Conservation Area (SCA). The harvest within the SCA, as defined at

§ 679.22(a)(7)(vii), is limited to 28 percent of the annual directed fishing allowance (DFA) until April 1. The remaining 12 percent of the annual DFA allocated to the A season may be taken outside of the SCA before April 1 or inside the SCA after April 1. If the 28 percent of the annual DFA is not taken inside the SCA before April 1, the

remainder is available to be taken inside the SCA after April 1. The A season pollock SCA harvest limit will be apportioned to each industry sector in proportion to each sector's allocated percentage of the DFA as set forth in the AFA. These proposed amounts, by sector, are listed in Table 2.

TABLE 2.—PROPOSED 2004 ALLOCATIONS OF THE POLLOCK TAC AND DIRECTED FISHING ALLOWANCE (DFA) TO THE INSHORE, CATCHER/PROCESSOR, MOTHERSHIP, AND CDQ COMPONENTS<sup>1</sup>

[All amounts are in metric tons]

Area and sector	2004 allocations	A season <sup>1</sup>		B season <sup>1</sup>
		A season DFA (40% of annual DFA)	SCA harvest limit <sup>2</sup>	B season DFA (60% of annual DFA)
Bering Sea subarea .....	1,491,760	.....	.....	.....
CDQ .....	149,176	59,670	41,769	89,506
ICA <sup>1</sup> .....	46,990	.....	.....	.....
AFA Inshore .....	647,797	259,119	181,383	388,678
AFA Catcher/Processors <sup>4</sup> .....	518,237	207,295	145,106	310,942
Catch by C/Ps .....	474,187	189,675	.....	284,512
Catch by CVs <sup>4</sup> .....	44,050	17,620	.....	26,430
Unlisted C/P Limit <sup>5</sup> .....	2,591	1,036	.....	1,555
AFA Motherships .....	129,559	51,824	36,277	77,736
Excessive Harvesting Limit <sup>6</sup> .....	226,729	.....	.....	.....
Excessive Processing Limit <sup>7</sup> .....	388,678	.....	.....	.....
Total Bering Sea DFA .....	1,491,760	577,908	404,535	866,862
Aleutian Islands ICA <sup>8</sup> .....	1,000	.....	.....	.....
Bogoslof District ICA <sup>8</sup> .....	50	.....	.....	.....

<sup>1</sup> Under § 679.20(a)(5)(i)(A), after subtraction for the CDQ reserve—10 percent and the ICA—3.5 percent, the pollock TAC is allocated as a DFA as follows: inshore component—50 percent, catcher/processor component—40 percent, and mothership component—10 percent. The A season, January 20–June 10, is allocated 40 percent of the DFA and the B season, June 10–November 1 is allocated 60 percent of the DFA.

<sup>2</sup> No more than 28 percent of each sector's annual DFA may be taken from the SCA before April 1. The remaining 12 percent of the annual DFA allocated to the A season may be taken outside of SCA before April 1 or inside the SCA after April 1. If 28 percent of the annual DFA is not taken inside the SCA before April 1, the remainder is available to be taken inside the SCA after April 1.

<sup>4</sup> Under § 679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(4), not less than 8.5 percent of the DFA allocated to listed catcher/processors (C/Ps) shall be available for harvest only by eligible catcher vessels (CVs) delivering to listed catcher/processors.

<sup>5</sup> Under § 679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(4)(iii), the AFA unlisted catcher/processors are limited from exceeding a harvest amount of 0.5 percent of the DFA allocated to the AFA catcher/processors sector.

<sup>6</sup> Regulations at § 679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(6) require that NMFS establish an excessive harvesting share limit equal to 17.5 percent of the sum of the pollock DFAs.

<sup>7</sup> Regulations at § 679.20(a)(5)(i)(A)(7) require that NMFS establish an excessive processing share limit equal to 30.0 percent of the sum of the pollock DFAs.

<sup>8</sup> The Aleutian Islands subarea and the Bogoslof District are closed by the proposed specifications to directed fishing for pollock. The amounts specified are for incidental catch amounts only, and are not apportioned by season or sector.

#### Allocation of the Atka Mackerel TAC

Under § 679.20(a)(8)(i), up to 2 percent of the Eastern Aleutian District and the Bering Sea subarea Atka mackerel ITAC may be allocated to the jig gear fleet. The amount of this allocation is determined annually by the Council based on several criteria, including the anticipated harvest capacity of the jig gear fleet. The Council recommended and NMFS proposes that 1 percent of the Atka mackerel ITAC in the Eastern Aleutian

District and the Bering Sea subarea be allocated to the jig gear fleet in 2004. Based on an ITAC of 8,851 mt, the jig gear allocation is 89 mt.

Regulations implementing Steller sea lion protection measures at § 679.20(a)(8)(ii)(A) apportion the Atka mackerel ITAC into two equal seasonal allowances. After subtraction of the jig gear allocation, the first allowance is made available for directed fishing from January 1 to April 15 (A season), and the second seasonal allowance is made

available from September 1 to November 1 (B season)(Table 3).

Under § 679.20(a)(8)(ii)(C)(1), the Regional Administrator will establish a harvest limit area (HLA) limit of no more than 60 percent of the seasonal TAC for the Western and Central Aleutian Districts. A lottery system is used for the HLA Atka mackerel directed fisheries to reduce the amount of daily catch in the HLA by about half and to disperse the fishery over two areas, *see* § 679.20(a)(8)(iii).