

TABLE 3.—PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION OF POLLOCK IN THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN REGULATORY AREAS OF THE GULF OF ALASKA; SEASONAL BIOMASS DISTRIBUTION, AREA APPORTIONMENTS; AND SEASONAL ALLOWANCES OF ANNUAL TAC IN 2004

[Values are rounded to the nearest metric ton]

Season	Shumagin (Area 610) (biomass distribution)	Chirikof (Area 620) (biomass distribution)	Kodiak (Area 630) (biomass distribution)	Total (biomass distribution)
A .....	2,894 (25%)	6,535 (56%)	2,274 (19%)	11,703 (100%)
B .....	2,894 (25%)	7,778 (66%)	1,031 (9%)	11,703 (100%)
C .....	5,500 (47%)	2,686 (23%)	3,517 (30%)	11,703 (100%)
D .....	5,500 (47%)	2,686 (23%)	3,517 (30%)	11,703 (100%)
Annual Total .....	16,788	19,685	10,339	46,812

#### Proposed Seasonal Apportionments of Pacific Cod TAC and Allocations for Processing of Pacific Cod TAC Between Inshore and Offshore Components

Pacific cod fishing is divided into two seasons in the Western and Central Regulatory Areas of the GOA. For hook-and-line, pot and jig gear, the A season is January 1 through June 10, and the B season is September 1 through December 31. For trawl gear, the A season is January 20 through June 10, and the B season is September 1 through November 1, (§ 679.23(d)(3)). After subtraction of incidental catch, 60 percent and 40 percent of the annual TAC will be available for harvest during

the A and B seasons, respectively, and will be apportioned between the inshore and offshore processing components as provided in § 679.20(a)(6)(ii). Between the A and the B seasons, directed fishing for Pacific cod is closed and fishermen participating in other directed fisheries may retain Pacific cod up to the maximum retainable amounts allowed under regulations at § 679.20(e) and (f). For purposes of clarification, NMFS points out that the dates for the A season and the B season Pacific cod fisheries differ from those of the A, B, C, and D seasons for the pollock fisheries. In accordance with § 679.20(a)(11)(ii), any overage or underage of Pacific cod harvest from the

A season may be subtracted from or added to the subsequent B season.

Regulations at § 679.20(a)(6)(ii) require that the TAC apportionment of Pacific cod in all regulatory areas be allocated to vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore and offshore components. Ninety percent of the Pacific cod TAC in each regulatory area is allocated to vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the inshore component. The remaining 10 percent of the TAC is allocated to vessels catching Pacific cod for processing by the offshore component. These seasonal apportionments and allocations of the proposed 2004 Pacific cod TAC are shown in Table 4.

TABLE 4.—PROPOSED 2004 SEASONAL APPORTIONMENTS AND ALLOCATION OF PACIFIC COD TAC AMOUNTS IN THE GULF OF ALASKA; ALLOCATIONS FOR PROCESSING BY THE INSHORE AND OFFSHORE COMPONENTS

[Values are rounded to the nearest metric ton]

Season	Regulatory area	TAC	Component allocation	
			Inshore (90%)	Offshore (10%)
A Season (60%) .....	Western .....	13,987	12,588	1,399
B Season (40%) .....	.....	8,392	7,553	839
.....	.....	5,595	5,035	560
A Season (60%) .....	Central .....	20,215	18,193	2,022
B Season (40%) .....	.....	12,129	10,916	1,213
.....	.....	8,086	7,277	809
.....	Eastern .....	2,607	2,346	261
Total .....	.....	36,809	33,127	3,682

#### “Other Species” TAC

The FMP specifies that the amount for the “other species” category is calculated as 5 percent of the combined TAC amounts for target species. The GOA-wide “other species” TAC is calculated as 10,847 mt, which is 5 percent of the sum of combined TAC amounts for the target species. As

discussed above, if Amendment 63 is approved, skates would be removed from the “other species” assemblage and the Council would recommend final OFL, ABC, and TAC amounts for skates and an adjusted TAC for the “other species” category for the 2004 fishing year in the final 2004 harvest

specifications for groundfish in the GOA.

#### Proposed Pacific Halibut PSC Mortality Limits

Under § 679.21(d), annual Pacific halibut PSC limits are established and apportioned to trawl and hook-and-line gear and may be established for pot gear. In October 2003, the Council