

RC

RC 010



Alaska Board of Fisheries

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Freezer-Longline Coalition: Who we are

- Voluntary cooperative of 32 vessels that are 90% dependent on North Pacific p-cod (BSAI/GOA).
- An alliance of freezer-longliners and associated businesses committed to sustainable fishing of high quality seafood products with minimal bycatch.
- The BSAI freezer-longline p-cod fishery was the first cod fishery in the world to obtain MSC certification.

Freezer-Longline Coalition

- Participation in the BSAI/GOA CP cod longline sector is limited by the License Limitation Program (LLP).
- To address overcapitalization in the sector (and latent permits), the freezer-longline sector took out federal loans in 2007 (\$39 M for 30 years) for a voluntary buyback of three vessels and 13 permits/licenses.
- New vessel construction is underway replacing aging steel in the fleet. One new vessel (F/V Arctic Prowler) was built in Ketchikan.

Freezer-Longline Sector

- Freezer-longliner sector employs over 1,200 full time workers (in FTEs).
- Vessel ownership is both Alaskan and non-Alaskan. Fifteen FLC vessels (out of 31) have Alaskan ownership (from 25% to 100% including Alaskan CDQ groups).
- One company operates a shore-side cod oil plant in Dutch Harbor.
- 90% of landings are in Alaska (with raw fish tax).

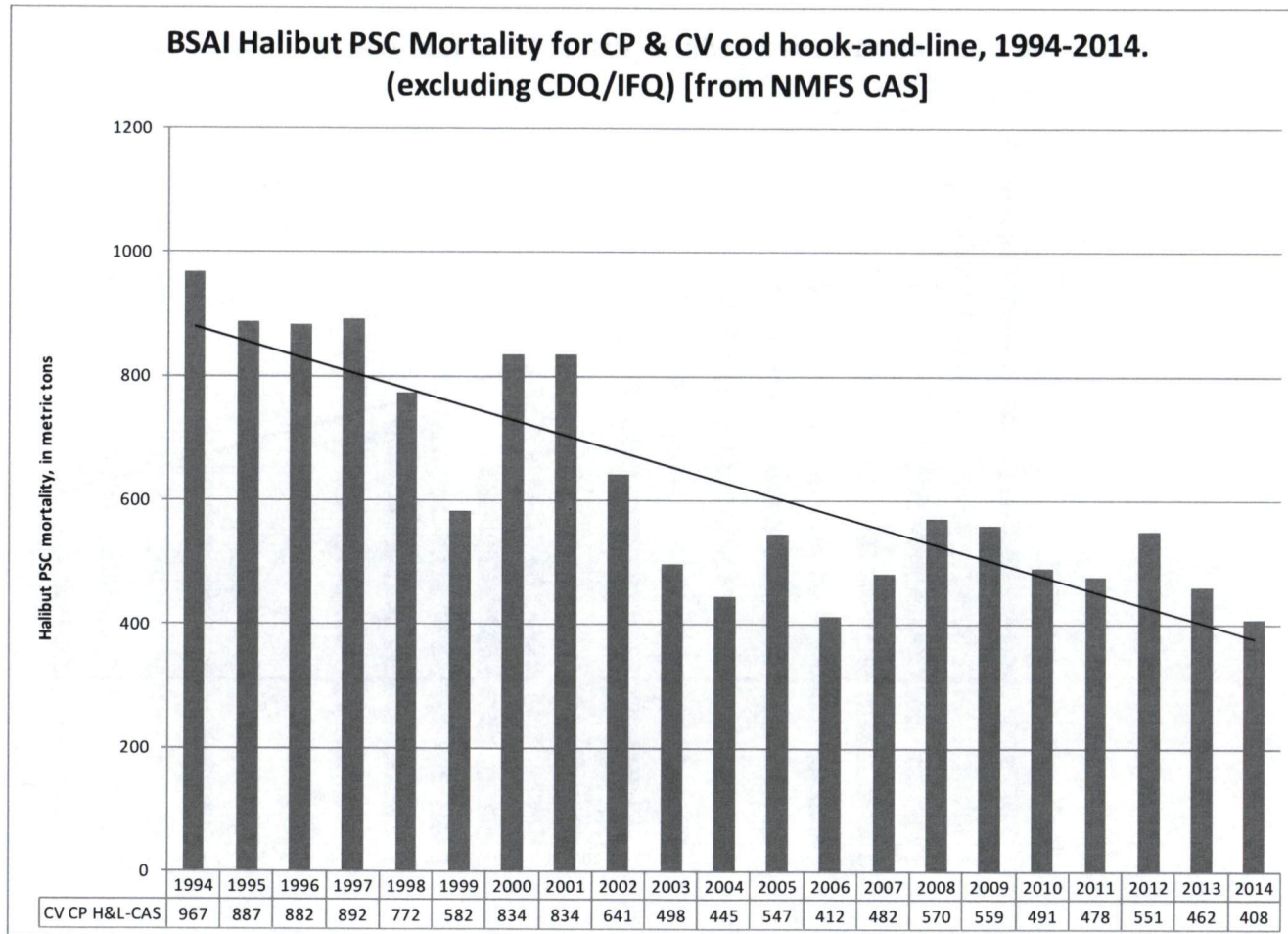
Freezer-longliners are highly specialized vessels that cannot easily convert to participate in other gear types or fisheries (due to configuration and federal license requirements).



The FLC has taken long term efforts to reduce halibut mortality and improve handling.

- From 1997 to 2014, halibut bycatch mortality in the BSAI CP H&L sector was reduced -58%.
- In 2014, the CP H&L sector accounted for only 11% of the total halibut bycatch mortality in BSAI groundfish fisheries (all gear: trawl, H&L, pot).
- From 1997 to 2014, the DMR (discard mortality rate) in the BSAI CP H&L sector was reduced -47%. The actual DMR for CP H&L in 2014 is 7.9%.
- For comparison, the IPHC rate for discard mortality in the directed halibut fishery is 16% DMR (unchanged from 1995-2015, and over twice the FLC rate).

The CP H&L sector reduced BSAI halibut mortality by -**58%** from 1994-2014. To date 2015 is -**30%** below 2014.



1997-2014: The actual DMR (discard mortality rate) has been reduced **-47%** (from 15% to 7.9%) [Note: 3.5% is a perfect score, blue line].

