

Rubric for a two-way stair-step in the DHS Pacific cod fishery

This mechanism responds to concerns around the potential for foregone harvest in the statewater cod fishery.

Though we support a two-year performance threshold prior to reduced allocation, similar to the existing example in the Aleutian Islands fishery, discussions with federal stakeholders identified a priority for a more timely mechanism. So a one-year threshold has been incorporated here for consideration. Importantly, we preserved the step-up mechanism as written in current regulation.

Discussions with staff implied that regulatory language would be possible around the following provisions:

- If the Dutch Harbor Subdistrict (DHS) allocation is harvested within 90% of the total Guideline Harvest Level (GHL), the GHL will increase by 1% the following year. This may continue up to 15%.
- If the DHS allocation is not harvested within 90% of the total GHL, the GHL will decrease by 1% the following year. This may continue down to 10%.