Species in the BSAI with possible harvest opportunities if the Pacific cod TAC is reduced

Submitted by: Matt Robinson

Species	2019 ABC Metric tons	2019 TAC Metric tons	Difference in ABC and TAC Metric tons	Notes
Bering Sea pollock	2,467,000	1,383,000	1,084,000	Available for harvest only to vessels designated under the American Fisheries Act (AFA) Requires Congress to modify vessels that are eligible for access (AFA and regulations on NMFS Alaska Region website)
Yellowfin sole	267,500	156,000	111,500	Available to harvest primarily by Amendment 80 catcher/processors (~ 70%) and secondarily to other trawl vessels under regulation, TAC set below ABC for market and halibut bycatch considerations. (Allocations in Table 34 to part 679)
Arrowtooth flounder	64,494	14,000	50,494	TAC set below ABC for market and halibut bycatch considerations
Kamchatka flounder	10,317	5,000	5,317	TAC set below ABC for market and halibut bycatch considerations
Rock sole	132,000	49,100	82,900	Available to harvest only to Amendment 80 catcher/processors under regulation, TAC set below ABC for market, halibut bycatch considerations. (Allocations in Table 33 to part 679)
Flathead sole	65,227	16,500	48,727	Available to harvest only to Amendment 80 catcher/processors under regulation, TAC set below ABC for market and halibut bycatch considerations (Allocations in Table 33 to part 679)
Alaska plaice	32,700	16,252	16,448	TAC set below ABC for market and halibut bycatch considerations

Other flatfish	13,193	4,000	9,193	Mostly discarded, very limited markets
Northern rockfish	12,710	6,500	6,210	Mostly discarded, very limited markets
Blackspotted and Rougheye rockfish	678	225	453	Primarily bycatch in Amendment 80 fisheries, directed fishing is not permitted
Shortraker rockfish	499	150	349	Primarily bycatch in Amendment 80 fisheries, directed fishing is not permitted
Other rockfish	1,362	845	517	Primarily bycatch in Amendment 80 fisheries
Atka mackerel	84,400	72,500	11,900	Available to harvest primarily (~ 90% of TAC) to Amendment 80 catcher/processors and secondarily to other trawl vessels, TAC set below ABC for market considerations (Allocations in Table 33 to part 679)
Skates	39,957	27,000	12,957	Primarily bycatch in longline cod fisheries, no directed fishing has been allowed, limited markets and most catch is discarded
Sculpins	39,995	5,000	34,995	No established market, sculpins are discarded
Sharks	517	180	337	No directed fishing allowed, bycatch only, very limited markets
Octopuses	3,576	200	3,376	No directed fishing allowed, limited markets

$1,000,000 \text{ pounds} = \sim 450 \text{ metric tons}$

1% of the 2019 Pacific cod ABC = \sim 2220 metric tons or \sim 4,900,000 pounds

- Data on ABC and TAC from 2019 Harvest Specifications from NOAA Fisheries (see https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/18 19bsaitable2.pdf).
- Aleutian Islands pollock TAC cannot exceed 19,000 mt by regulation, Bogoslof pollock is closed to directed fishing under Endangered Species Act requirements, squid is no longer allocated as a TAC species.
- All regulatory citations may be found at https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov