

September 1994 meetings. Based on the SSC's comments concerning technical methods and new biological data not available in September, the Plan Team revised its ABC recommendations in the final SAFE report, dated November 1994. The revised ABC recommendations were again reviewed by the SSC, AP, and Council at their December 1994 meetings. While the SSC endorsed most of the Plan Team's recommendations for 1995 ABCs set forth in the final SAFE report, the SSC recommended revisions to ABC amounts calculated for Bogoslof pollock, Greenland turbot, and Atka mackerel. The Council adopted the SSC's recommendations for the 1995 ABCs. The final ABCs are listed in Table 1.

The Council developed its TAC recommendations based on the final ABCs as adjusted for other biological and socioeconomic considerations, including maintaining the total TAC in the required OY range of 1.4–2.0 million mt. None of the Council's recommended TACs for 1995 exceeds the final 1995 ABC for each species category.

Therefore, NMFS finds that the recommended TACs are consistent with the biological condition of groundfish stocks. The final TACs and overfishing levels for groundfish in the BSAI area for 1995 are given in Table 1 of this action.

Apportionment of TAC

As required by § 675.20 (a)(3) and (a)(7)(i), each species' TAC initially is reduced by 15 percent (special provisions apply to the hook-and-line and pot gear allocation for sablefish); this is the ITAC for the species. The sum of these reductions is the reserve. The reserve is not designated by species or species group, and any amount of the reserve may be reapportioned to a target species or the "other species" category during the year, providing that such reapportionments do not result in overfishing.

The ITAC for each target species and the "other species" category at the beginning of the year is apportioned between the DAH and TALFF, if any. Each DAH amount is further apportioned between two categories of

U.S. fishing vessels. The DAP category includes U.S. vessels that process their catch on board or deliver it to U.S. fish processors. The joint venture processors (JVP) category includes U.S. fishing vessels working in joint ventures with foreign processing vessels authorized to receive catches in the U.S. exclusive economic zone.

In consultation with the Council, the initial amounts of DAP and JVP are determined by the Director, Alaska Region, NMFS (Regional Director). Consistent with the final 1991–94 initial specifications, the Council recommended that 1995 DAP specifications be set equal to ITAC and that zero amounts of groundfish be allocated to JVP and TALFF. In making this recommendation, the Council considered the capacity of DAP harvesting and processing operations and anticipated that 1995 DAP operations will harvest the full TAC specified for each BSAI groundfish species category. The ABCs, TACs, ITACs, OFLs, and initial apportionments of groundfish in the BSAI for 1995 are set out in Table 1.

TABLE 1. FINAL 1995 ACCEPTABLE BIOLOGICAL CATCH (ABC), TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH (TAC), INITIAL TAC (ITAC), AND OVERFISHING LEVELS OF GROUND FISH IN THE BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS AREAS ^{1 2}

Species	ABC	TAC	ITAC DAP ^{3 4}	Over fishing level
Pollock:				
Bering Sea (BS)	1,250,000	1,250,000	1,062,500	1,500,000
Aleutian Islands (AI)	56,600	56,600	48,110	60,400
Bogoslof District	22,100	1,000	850	22,100
Pacific cod	328,000	250,000	212,500	390,000
Sablefish BS	1,600	1,600	1,360
AI	2,200	2,200	1,870	4,900
Atka mackerel total	125,000	80,000	68,000	335,000
Western AI	55,600	16,500	14,025
Central AI	55,900	50,000	42,500
Eastern AI/BS	13,500	13,500	11,475
Yellowfin sole	277,000	190,000	161,500	319,000
Rock sole	347,000	60,000	51,000	388,000
Greenland turbot total	7,000	7,000	5,950	27,200
BS	4,669	4,669	3,969
AI	2,331	2,331	1,981
Arrowtooth flounder	113,000	10,227	8,693	138,000
Flathead sole	138,000	30,000	25,500	167,000
Other flatfish ⁵	117,000	19,540	16,609	137,000
Pacific ocean perch.				
BS	1,850	1,850	1,573	2,910
AI	10,500	10,500	8,925	15,900
Other red rockfish ⁶ .				
BS	1,400	1,260	1,070	1,400
Sharpchin/Northern.				
AI	5,670	5,103	4,338	5,670
Shortraker/Rougheye.				
AI	1,220	1,098	933	1,220
Other rockfish ⁷ :				
BS	365	329	280	365
AI	770	693	589	770
Squid	3,110	1,000	850	3,110
Other Species ⁸	27,600	20,000	17,000	136,000