

Allocations As A Conservation Tool
The Alaska Seafood Cooperative



Formed in 2008, 17 Trawl Catcher Processors

Largest Flatfish Fishery in the World

Access to >300,000 mt of Groundfish Annually,
But We Harvest Below TAC, ABC and OFL

Our Allocations Program Goal:
Improved Retention, Improved Utilization



NPFMC Perspective



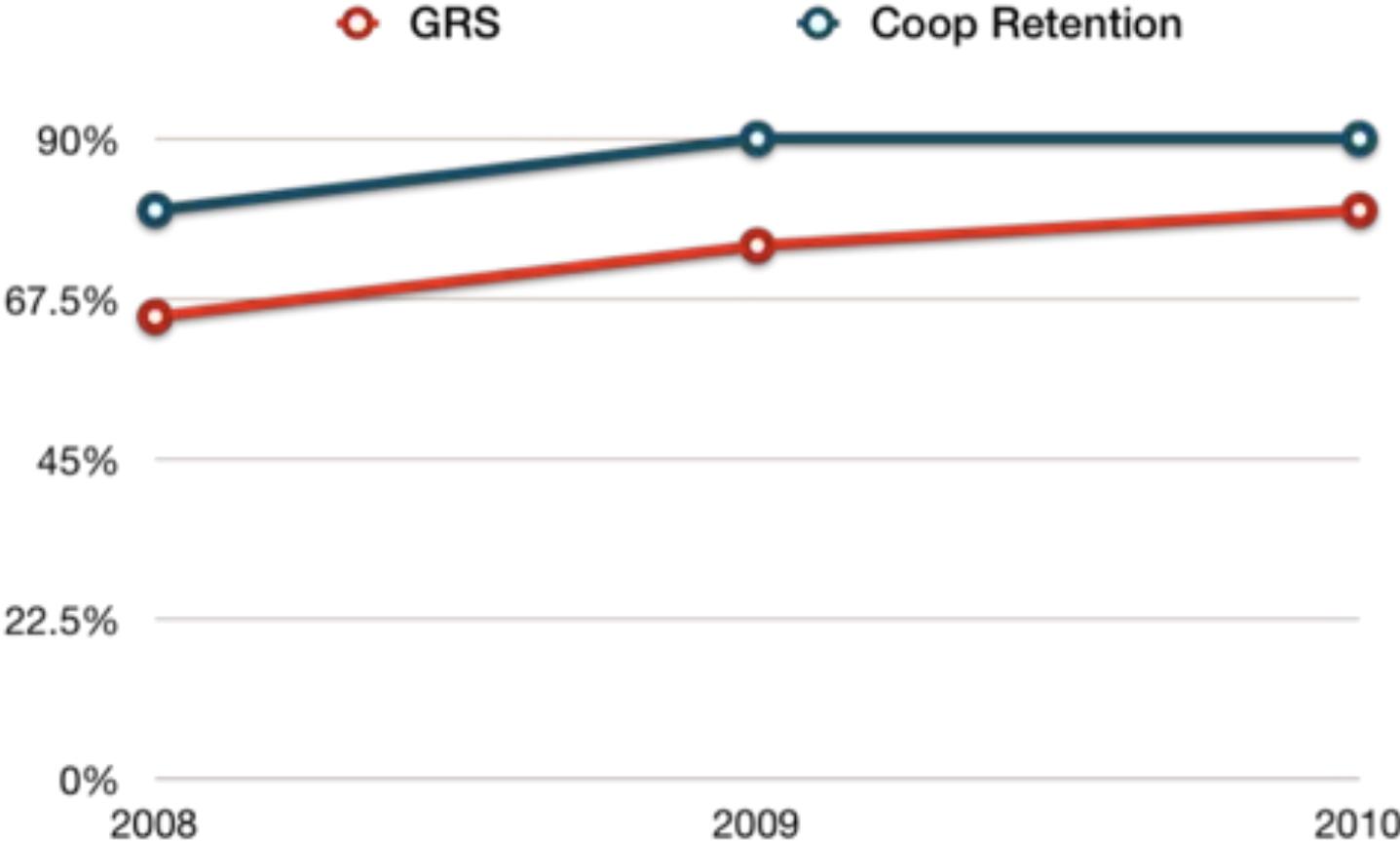
Retention Level Too Low for Multispecies Fishery
Solution: Impose Groundfish Retention Standard (GRS)

Two Observers Per Vessel
Flow Scales to Measure All Harvest
Daily Electronic Reporting - Harvest and Production
No Mixing of Hauls



Establish Coops to Reduce Compliance Problems
For Smaller Vessels

Coop Has Surpassed GRS Every Year GRS No Longer Considered Necessary



Fleet Perspective



Problem: Race for Fish Results in Waste

Solution: Individual Vessel Accountability Inside
Cooperative Structure

Result: Reduced Waste and Increased Harvest

Dollar Cost Basis (DCB) Regulatory Databases Per Day

Reduce Harvest of Unwanted Fish



Program Features

Coincident Openings for All Target Species

No Need for Seasonal PSC Allocations

Improved Pollock Bycatch Retention Rule



Vessels Can Now Move Away from High Bycatch Areas Without
Losing Harvest Opportunity

Fleet Can Now Stand Down During Periods of High Bycatch

Collaborative Efforts to Modify Gear to Reduce PSC

No Closures Due to PSC or TAC Limits



Collaborate Approach to Gear Modifications



The Race for Fish Is Over. Now It's A Race for Efficiency



Clawson & Tarrington



ABRondance

Market Aspects of Program Allow Smaller, Less Competitive Vessels to Exit With Compensation

Cost of Observers and Flow Scales Too High Relative to Production

High Percentage of Time Spent in Transit Because of Smaller Capacity



A wide expanse of sea ice under a cloudy sky. The ice consists of numerous small, irregular floes of varying sizes, some appearing as thin, flat sheets and others as thicker, more rounded chunks. The water between the floes is a deep, dark blue. The horizon is visible in the distance, with a few small, dark shapes that could be ships or structures. The sky is filled with soft, grey clouds, suggesting an overcast day.

Next Challenges

Steller Sea Lion Protections

Pacific Cod Allocations