

Proposed Plan Amendment Language for the establishment of a forage fish species category - Amendment 36 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area:

1. In section 2.1, a summary of Amendment 36 is added to read as follows:

Amendment 36 implemented on [**insert date**] defined a forage fish species category and authorized that the management of this species category be specified in regulations in a manner that prevents the development of a commercial directed fishery for forage fish which are a critical food source for many marine mammal, seabird and fish species.

2. In section 14.2, the second paragraph of Part B is amended to read as follows:

14.2 Area, Fisheries, and stocks Involved

B.

Five categories of species or species groups are likely to be taken in the groundfish fishery. The optimum yield concern is applied to all except the "prohibited" species category. These categories are tabulated in Annex V and are described as follows:

1. Prohibited species (unchanged)
2. Target species (unchanged)
3. Other species (unchanged)
4. Forage fish species -- are those species not included in the target species category and which are a critical food source for many marine mammal, seabird and fish species. The forage fish species category is established to allow for the management of these species in a manner that prevents the development of a commercial directed fishery for forage fish. Management measures for this species category will be specified in regulations and may include such measures as prohibitions on directed fishing, limitations on allowable bycatch retention amounts, or limitations on the sale, barter, trade or any other commercial exchange, as well as the processing of forage fish in a commercial processing facility.
5. Nonspecified species (unchanged)

3. Annex V is revised to read as follows:

ANNEX V -- Species Categories Which Apply to the Bering Sea/Aleutian Groundfish Fishery

Prohibited Species ^{1/}	Target Species ^{2/}	"Other" Species ^{3/}	Forage Fish Species ^{4/}	Nonspecified Species ^{5/}
<u>Finfishes</u>				
Domestic: Pacific halibut Pacific herring Pacific salmon Steelhead Other Rockfishes	Pollock Cod Atka Mackerel Sablefish Pacific Ocean Perch Capelin	Sculpins Sharks Skates	Osmeridae family (eulachon, capelin and other smelts) Myctophidae family (lanternfishes) Bathylagidae family (deep-sea smelts) Ammodytidae family (Pacific sand lance) Trichodontidae family (Pacific sand fish) Pholidae family (gunnels)	Eelpouts (family Zoarcidae) Poachers (family Agonidae) and alligator fish. Snailfish, Lumpfishes, Lump suckers (family Cyclopteridae) Rattails (family Macrouridae) Ronquils, Searchers (family Bathymasteridae) Lancetfish (family Alepisanvidae) Prowfish (<u>Zaprora silenus</u>) Hagfish (<u>Eptatretus sp.</u>) Lampreys (<u>Lampetra sp.</u>)
Foreign: Pacific halibut Pacific herring Salmonids	Yellowfin Sole Turbots Other Flatfishes		Stichaeidae family (pricklebacks, warbonnets, eelblennys, cockscombs and shannys) Gonostomatidae family (bristlemouths, lightfishes, and anglemouths) Order Euphausiacea (krill)	
<u>Invertebrates</u>				
Domestic: King crab Tanner crab	Squids	Octopus		Anemones Starfishes Egg Cases Sea Mouse Sea Slug Sea Potato Sand Dollar Hermit Crab Mussels Sea Urchins
Foreign: King crab Tanner crab Other unallocated species				Jellyfishes Tunicates Sea Cucumber Sea Pen Isopods Barnacles Polychaetes Crinoids Crab - unident. Misc. - unident. Sponge - unident.

^{1/} Must be returned to the sea, no fee.

^{2/} TAC for each item; fee as in fee schedule.

^{3/} Aggregate TAC for group.

^{4/} Management measures for forage fish are established in regulations implementing the FMP

^{5/} List not exclusive; includes any species not listed under Prohibited, Target, "Other," or Forage fish species categories; no fee charged.

Proposed Plan Amendment Language for the establishment of a forage fish species category - Amendment 39 to the Fishery Management Plan for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska:

1. Section 2.2 is revised to add in alphabetical order the definition of "Forage fish" to read as follows:

Forage fish are all species of the following families: Osmeridae (eulachon, capelin and other smelts); Myctophidae (lanternfishes); Bathylagidae (deep-sea smelts); Ammodytidae (Pacific sand lance); Trichodontidae (Pacific sand fish); Pholidae (gunnels); Stichaeidae (pricklebacks, warbonnets, eelblennys; cockscombs and shannys); Gonostomatidae (bristlemouths, lightfishes, and anglemouths); and the Order Euphausiacea (krill))

2. Section 3.1 is amended to read as follows:

Five categories of species or species groups are likely to be taken by the groundfish fishery. Species may be split or combined with the Target Species category according to procedures set forth in Section 4.2.1.1 without amendments to this FMP, notwithstanding the designation listed below under Target Species. The optimum yield concept is applied to the "target species," other species," and "forage species" categories. The five categories are described as follows:

Target Species

Pollock
Pacific cod
Atka mackerel
Rockfish
- Other slope
- Demersal shelf
- Pelagic shelf
- Northern rockfish
- Thornyhead rockfish
- Shortraker/roughey
- Pacific ocean perch
Flatfish
- Deep water
- Shallow water
- Flathead sole
- Rex sole
- Arrowtooth
Sablefish

Other Species

Squid
Sculpins
Sharks
Skates
Octopus

Forage Fish

Osmeridae family (eulachon, capelin, and other smelts)
Myctophidae family (lanternfishes)
Bathylagidae family (deep-sea smelts)
Ammodytidae family (Pacific sand lance)
Trichodontidae family (Pacific sand fish)
Pholidae family (gunnels)
Stichaeidae family (pricklebacks, warbonnets, eelblennys, cockscombs and shannys)
Gonostomatidae family (bristlemouths, lightfishes, and anglemouths)
Order Euphausiacea (krill)

Prohibited Species

Domestic	Foreign
- Pacific halibut	All of the above and other unallocated species
- Pacific herring	
- Pacific salmon	
- Steelhead trout	
- King crab	
- Tanner crab	

Forage Fish Species Category. The forage fish species category is established to allow for the management of these species in a manner that prevents the development of a commercial directed fishery for forage fish which are a critical food source for many marine mammal, seabird and fish species. Management measures for this species category will be specified in regulations and may include such measures as prohibitions on directed fishing, limitations on allowable bycatch retention amounts, or limitations on the sale, barter, trade or any other commercial exchange, as well as the processing of forage fish in a commercial processing facility.

Nonspecified species (unchanged)

State Regulation of Shelf Rockfish Assemblages (unchanged)