

The Privilege to Process Aleutian Islands Pacific Cod: Community Protection vs. Economic Efficiency in the National Standards

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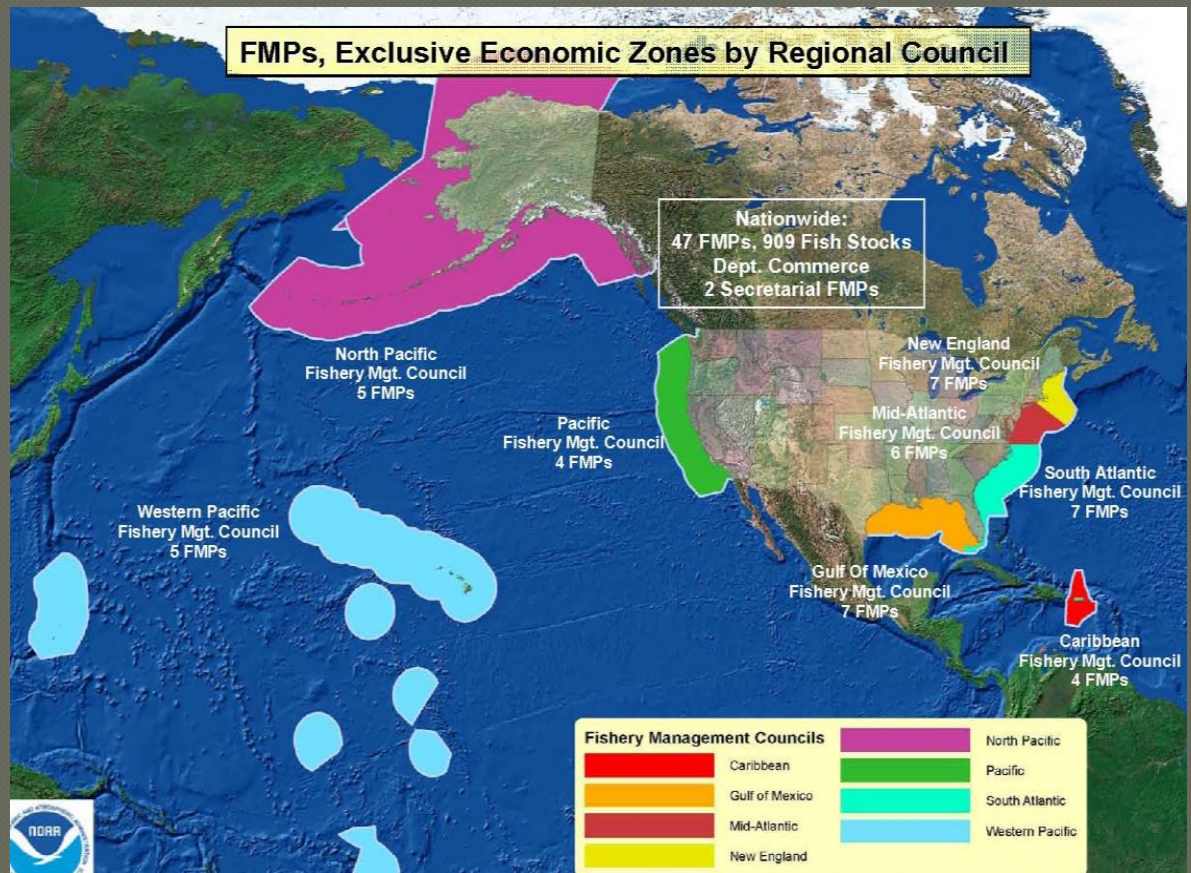
Who we are:

- Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) of 1976 established:

1) The 3-200nm exclusive economic zone (EEZ)

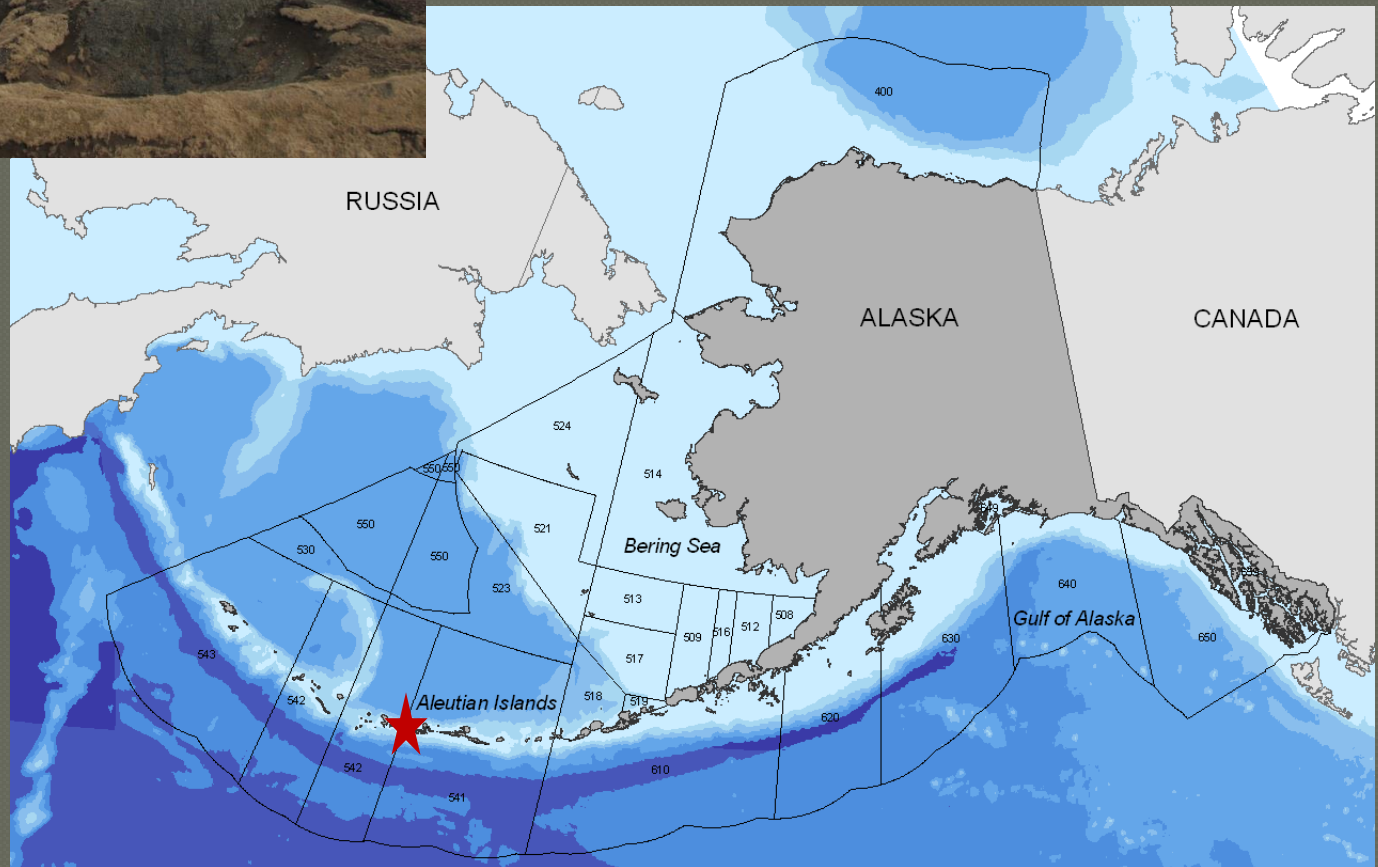
2) National Standards

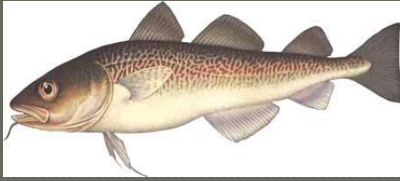
3) 8 regional Councils (composed of fishery participants and government agency representatives to develop regulations subject to approval by the Federal government (Secretary of Commerce))





Adak, AK:





Source: www.all-fish-seafood-recipes.com

AI Pacific Cod:

- Adak was the epicenter of the AI P-Cod fishery
- Management measures indirectly reduced cod deliveries to Adak fish plant
 - CPs “freed up” by the rationalization of other fisheries
 - Overall catch limit reduction
 - Catch limit split for BS and AI
- Production shifts to “off-shore” sector

Fish Processing in Adak:

- Adak plant cannot afford to operate without deliveries
- Plant was closed, auctioned to the city, is now seeking deliveries
- Council considers action to promote on-shore processing
 - “Exclusive CV Fishing Period”



Staff Informs the Decision Process:

Analytical Considerations

- Impact on communities
- Impact on at-sea processors
- Impact on “catcher vessels”
- Impacts on other gear sectors
- Impact on fishery-supporting businesses
- State and local fish taxes
- Impacts on safety
- Impacts on “small entities”
- Environmental impacts

Challenges

- Quick turn-around
- Confidential data
- Weighing anecdotal data
- Uncertainty in future market prices for fish
- Unknown business cost structure
- Unknown private business decisions

National Standards:

1. **Prevent Overfishing, while achieving optimal yield**
2. Use Best Scientific Information
3. Manage Stocks as Discrete Units
4. No Discrimination Between Residents of Different States
5. **Promote Efficiency in Fishery Resource Utilization**
6. Variations in Fisheries, Fish Stocks and Catches
7. Minimize Costs and Avoid Duplication
8. **Sustain Fishing Communities**
9. Minimize Bycatch and Bycatch Mortality
10. Promote Safety at sea

Example of NS balancing:

- Monopsony power?
- Uncertainty in private business characteristics



Source: Dave Fraser, ACDC

The decision-makers:



Source: Gail Bendixen



Source: NPFMC