

Community Development Plans

A CDQ group develops a Community Development Plan (CDP) that includes an allocation request (groundfish, crab, halibut, & PSCs) and economic development projects. These CDPs and allocation requests are reviewed and approved by the Western Alaska Community Development Association (WACDA). The six member WACDA is comprised of one representative of each CDQ group and is required to have unanimous approval of any recommendations.

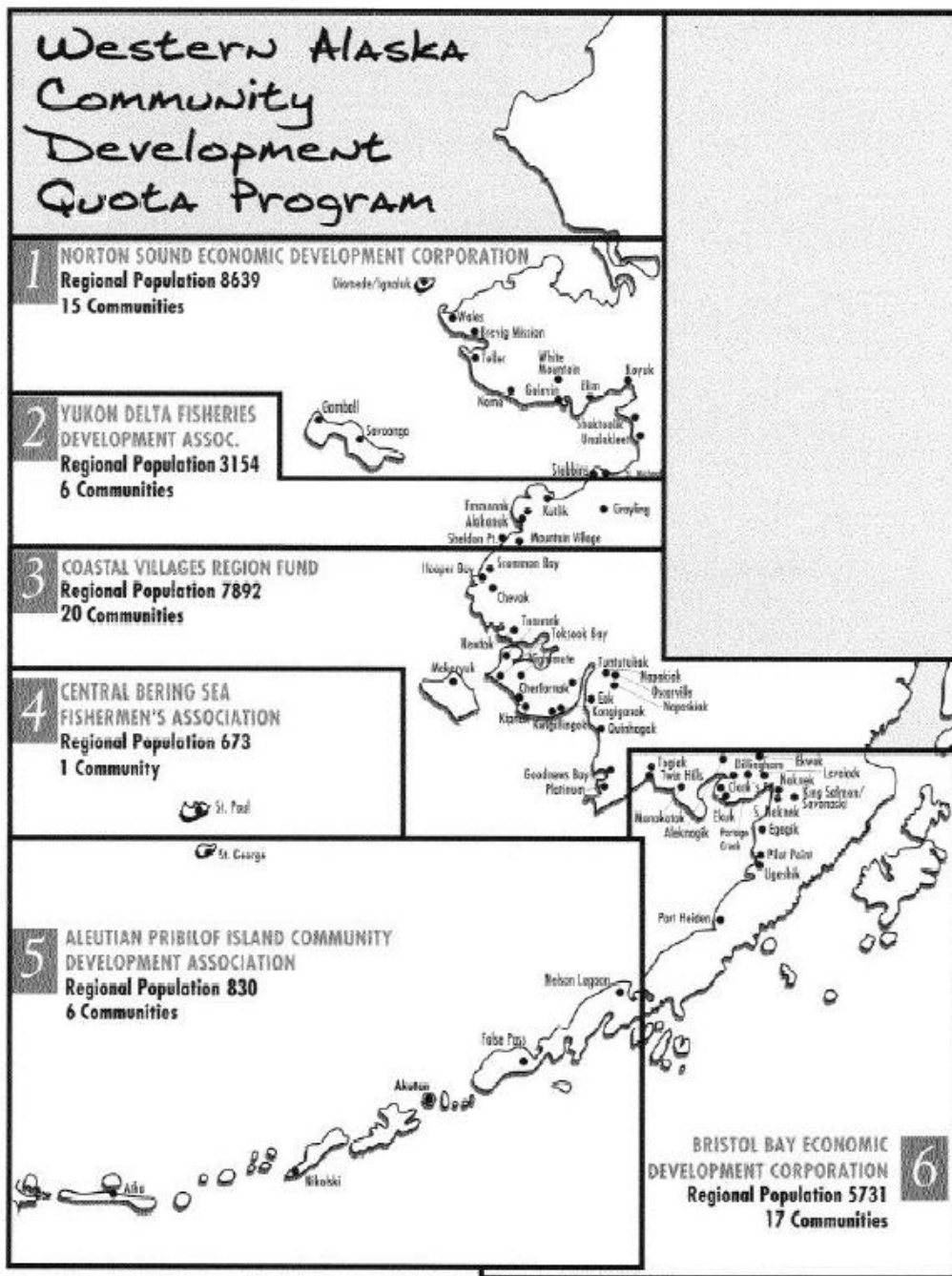


Figure 3. Alaska Community Development Quota Groups (source: NOAA)

Allocation Request

A percentage allocation of each species or species group is requested by the CDQ groups in 10 year cycles. The Council (NPFMC) is consulted, and NMFS has the final approval of the quota allocations. Allocations are granted as percentages of the CDQ portion of TACs and PSCs. These percentage allocations are applied to the TAC of each CDQ species on an annual basis.

BSAI Species	CDQ Program Allocation
(most) Groundfish Fisheries	10.7% of TAC
Pollock	10% of TAC
Fixed-Gear Sablefish	20% of TAC
Trawl Sablefish	7.5% of the TAC
King & Tanner crab	10% of the TAC
Halibut	20% of Area 4B, 50% of 4C, 30% of 4D, 100% of 4E

Table 1. CDQ Reserve Amounts

CDQ group responsibilities

50 CFR §679.30 Maintain the capability to communicate with all vessels harvesting its CDQ and PSQ at all times, monitor the catch of each CDQ or PSQ, submit a CDQ catch report, and ensure that no CDQ, halibut PSQ, or crab PSQ is exceeded.

The most important difference between CDQ fisheries and other BSAI fisheries is that once any CDQ or PSQ of a CDQ group is reached, the CDQ group has finished fishing for the year. CDQ groups may transfer CDQ and PSQ between groups to avoid an overage with a transfer request to NMFS.

When target quota is reached or PSCs close other fisheries, vessels have been able to augment their fishing with CDQ. Pollock CDQ is mostly fished on a haul-by-haul basis integrated with AFA pollock by AFA catcher/processors.

Some restrictions apply to both CDQ and non-CDQ fishing. CDQ allocations are divided into a directed fishing and incidental catch quotas, seasons, and areas the same as the non-CDQ fisheries. There is a January 1-20 “no trawl” period. Trawling for pollock or Pacific cod closes November 1. The sablefish and halibut season is the same as IFQ.

The mortality rate applied to the halibut catch depends on the target fishery and gear type, which then is accounted for as halibut Prohibited Species Quota (PSQ). If a longline vessel is retaining halibut, that catch is accounted for as halibut CDQ.

CDQ Catch Reporting

The individual allocations to CDQ groups are relatively small—six groups splitting up a small percentage of the various TACs. This is the primary reason for the increased equipment and observer coverage requirements in CDQ. On catcher/processors and motherships, observer data is the sole source of the catch monitoring and quota tracking.

CDQ groups are responsible for reporting their catch to NMFS by submitting CDQ Catch Reports to the Alaska Regional Office within seven days of harvest or landing. CDQ groups access the observer data from a secure NMFS web site, directly from the vessel operator, or through a private data reporting service. Observer data and CDQ Delivery Reports (from plants) are used to monitor catch by both the CDQ groups and NMFS.

References

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Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Public Law 94-265. (J. Feder)

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Websites

National Marine Fisheries Service Alaska Region <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/>

CFR 50 679: Fisheries of the EEZ off Alaska <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/regs/default.htm>

North Pacific Fishery Management Council: <http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/npfmc/default.htm>

The CDQ Program in Alaska: <http://www.cdqdb.org/>