DISCUSSION ~ DIRECTION ~ DECISION

Municipal Quota Entity

Sponsors: Bean/Knox



NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL Fishery Management Plan Amendment Proposal

12/20/16

Name of Proposer:

City and Borough of Sitka

Address:

100 Lincoln Street Sitka Alaska 99835

Telephone: 907 747-1811

Fishery:

IFQ and New

Brief Statement of Proposal:

Municipal Quota Entity (MQE) would be designed to provide the City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) an opportunity to purchase quota shares and lease quota shares to local fisherpersons. MQE would promote local economic growth, employment, and opportunities for the next generation of fishermen. SQE would be two parts:

- 1) Reserving a portion of the total allowable catch to be landed by rod and reel, and non-hydraulic means on boats less than 35'. This approach would allow local people- who are not fulltime commercial fishermen- to supplement their income by using their equipment, knowledge, skills and ability to catch and sell quota.
- 2) Allowing CBS to purchase quota in order to lease the back to local fulltime commercial fishermen through a merit based application process outlined, tracked and managed by CBS.

Objectives of Proposal:

On its face SQE is similar to previous proven allocative measures, but with several major variances, primarily in its design. The objective of MQE would to ease some of the unforeseen consequences of the IFQ and MQE programs by granting the CBS the procedural guarantee to purchase quota in order to allow local fishermen who were left out, as well as new fishermen, a way to participate in longline fisheries.

Need and Justification for Council Action:

According to section 8 of the national standards management measures shall, consistent with the conservation requirements of this Magnuson Stevens Act and take into account the importance of

fishery resources to fishing communities by the sustained participation of such communities, and to the extent practicable, minimize adverse economic impacts on such communities.

Foreseeable impacts:

By in large this proposal is a win-win for the community and the economy of Sitka and would solve some of the unforeseen consequences of the IFQ program.

Are there alternative solutions?

Enact a derby style fishery, and allocate a percentage of the total allowable catch to be caught on rod and reel by local residence.