

**Council Motion****D2 CQE/IFQ****October 7, 2025**

The Council requests an expanded discussion paper that retains the existing Community Quota Entity (CQE) and Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) program issues in the October 2025 paper (#1 – 4 below) and adds background on and discussion of four new issues (#5 – 8) such that a comprehensive package could be considered:

1. Ability of CQE to assign and manage quota in-season (e.g., explore processes similar to CDQ permitting for halibut or hired masters permits)
2. Allow time tendering in any federal or state commercial fishery off Alaska to count toward the 150-day transfer eligibility certificate (TEC) requirement to receive annual IFQ
3. Consider waiving the TEC requirement for individuals fishing annual IFQ derived from CQE-held quota share
4. Replace the existing NMFS interim policy with a regulation to establish a minimum age to be eligible to receive IFQ or QS by transfer (e.g., 12, 16, 18)
5. Potential to increase or remove the 50,000 lb sablefish vessel use cap for the Aleutian Islands CQE Program
6. Expansion of the designated unload areas for tenders receiving IFQ or CQE halibut or sablefish
7. Potential to waive the prior notice of landing requirement and restricted unload hours for small IFQ/CQE deliveries (e.g.,  $\leq 2,000$  lbs)
8. Potential to increase the amount of quota an individual Gulf of Alaska CQE can hold. (No change to the overall cap for the entire program: 21% of the total halibut QS and 21% of the total sablefish QS in each IFQ regulatory area in which CQEs are eligible to hold QS)

The expanded discussion paper should also provide background and clarification on whether current regulations allow CQEs in the Gulf of Alaska and the Aleutian Islands to hold federal processing permits.