

GROUND FISH STRATEGIC PLAN TWO-YEAR REVIEW

Situation: The Groundfish Strategic Plan includes provisions for periodic review, both formal and informal reviews are anticipated. Formal reviews would be scheduled by the Council to review implementation progress, evaluate the plan's effectiveness, and modify the plan as necessary; formal reviews would notice the public as to the possibilities of changes in goals, objectives, or direction. Informal reviews are meant to provide the Council a report on implementation progress. The Council did not select a formal review cycle, although, the plan notes that "routine reviews" should occur every five years. At the September 2002 Council meeting the Council requested an informal review of general progress in implementing the Strategic Plan and its recommendations. Council staff will report on general implementation progress since adoption of the Plan in September 2002 (Exhibit G.9, Supplemental Attachment 1) to provide the opportunity for further guidance or to initiate a formal review.

The Council also requested an update on the status of several plan-related capacity reduction initiatives (trawl permit stacking, fixed gear permit stacking, and open access permitting). Relative to fixed gear there are three items for Council consideration: (1) a proposal to modify the maximum number of fixed gear permits that could be stacked per vessel from three to six (Exhibit G.9.f, Public Comment), (2) unresolved provisions of Amendment 14 to the Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (e.g., owner on-board requirements), and (3) a the number of permits that may be acquired through leasing. Supplemental Attachment 2 reviews the status of ongoing and pending capacity-related issues.

Based on this information, advisory reports, and public comments the Council could provide guidance relative to Strategic Plan implementation, as well as specific direction for the capacity-related initiatives.

Council Action:

1. Guidance and Planning to Achieve Objectives

Reference Materials:

1. Exhibit G.9, Supplemental Attachment 1 – Progress Report.
2. Exhibit G.9, Supplemental Attachment 2 – Status of three capacity-related initiatives.
3. Exhibit G.9.f, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. Summary of Achievements Toward Goals and Objectives
- c. Planning to Resolve Ongoing Issues
 - i. Trawl Permit Stacking
 - ii. Fixed Gear Permit Stacking
 - iii. Open Access Permitting
- d. Agency and Tribal Comments and Reports
- e. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- f. Public Comment
- g. **Council Action:** Guidance and Planning to Achieve Objectives

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Groundfish Fishery Strategic Plan (GFSP) Consistency Analysis

The Strategic Plan states "The Council would review the plan, with public participation, as part of a Council meeting. The public would have notice of the upcoming review, would have the opportunity to provide written comment to the Council, and would have the opportunity to provide comment to the Council during the meeting at which the review takes place. Advisory entities would have input through the standard Council meeting format. If the Council determines that action is necessary, it will initiate the necessary process."