

CABEZON AND LINGCOD STOCK ASSESSMENTS AND LINGCOD
REBUILDING ANALYSIS FOR 2005-2006

Situation: The Council process for setting groundfish harvest levels and other specifications depends on periodic assessments of the status of groundfish stocks, rebuilding analyses of those stocks that are overfished and managed under rebuilding constraints, and a report from an established assessment review body or, in the Council parlance, a Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel. As appropriate, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) recommends the best available science for groundfish management decision-making in the Council process. The SSC reviews new assessments, rebuilding analyses, and STAR Panel reports and recommends the data and analyses that should be used to set groundfish harvest levels and other specifications for the following biennial management period.

New stock assessments for cabezon and lingcod were recently prepared. These have been reviewed by a STAR Panel and are now available for Council consideration. A new lingcod rebuilding analysis has also been prepared and should be entertained for use in management decision-making.

The Council should consider the new assessments, rebuilding analyses, and STAR Panel reports, as well as the advice of the SSC, other advisory bodies, and the public before adopting the new stock assessments and rebuilding analysis for use in 2005-2006 groundfish management.

Council Task:

- 1. Consider Approving New Stock Assessments for Use in 2005-2006.**
- 2. Consider Approving The Lingcod Rebuilding Analysis for Use in 2005-2006 Fishery Management.**

Reference Materials:

1. Exhibit D.6, Attachment 1: Status and Future Prospects for the Cabezon (*Scorpaenichthys marmoratus*) as Assessed in 2003 (147 page document on CD-ROM, enclosed separately, limited hard copies available at meeting).
2. Exhibit D.6, Attachment 2: Cabezon STAR Panel Meeting Report.
3. Exhibit D.6, Attachment 3: Assessment of Lingcod (*Ophiodon elongatus*) for the Pacific Fishery Management Council in 2003 (129 page document on CD-ROM, enclosed separately, limited copies available at meeting).
4. Exhibit D.6, Attachment 4: Lingcod STAR Panel Meeting Report.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- c. Public Comment
- d. **Council Action:** Approve Stock Assessments and Lingcod Rebuilding Analysis

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PFMC
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