A Maximized Retention and Monitoring Program for the Pacific Whiting Shoreside Fishery

FMP Amendment 10
Transition to Regulations

- 2007 fishery prosecuted under EFPs
- Temporary rule to establish processor responsibilities
  - RIR/EA available by early January 2007
  - Proposed rule published by late January
  - Final Rule effective by April 1
Regulatory Development & Implementation

November 2006  Draft EA chapters 1 & 2 with range of alternatives
March 2007    Draft EA for final Council action
Summer 2007   Proposed rule publishes
Winter 2007-08 Final rule publishes
April 2008    Core regulations in effect

NOTE: Regulations such as E-fish tickets and E-logbooks may become effective later than core regulations.
November 2006

- PFMC considers the range of alternatives
- PFMC provides recommendations on alternatives to be analyzed for March 2007
The Range of Alternatives

Alt. 1 **No Action** -- Catch sorted at sea

Alt. 2 **Status Quo** -- EFPs and maximized retention

Alt. 3 **Observers** -- Federal or industry funded observers & maximized retention

Alt. 4 **Electronic Monitoring System (EMS)** – Federal or industry funded EMS, catch monitors & maximized retention
Alternative 1 – No Action

- Catch in excess of trip limits would be prohibited
- LE permit with trawl endorsement
- Paper logbooks & fish tickets
- WCGOP observer coverage (≈20% of deliveries) - vessels randomly selected from all trawl vessels
- Port samplers, plus industry samplers in Oregon
- No legal overages
Alternative 2 - Status Quo

- Maximized retention defined in EFP
- LE permit with trawl endorsement & EFPs
- Paper logbooks until E-logs developed
- EMS to monitor maximized retention at-sea
- States manage EFPs & NMFS coordinates EMS
- Port samplers, plus industry samplers in Oregon
- Overages reported on fish tickets
- Vessels abandon prohibited species & overages to state
Alternative 3 - Observers

- Maximized retention
- LE permit with trawl & annual whiting endorsements
- Logbooks & fish tickets
  - E-logs and E-tickets when adequately developed
  - Daily fish ticket submission
- Observers monitor retention at sea
- Observers at processor to collect data for fish ticket verification, count salmon, & collect biological data
- Prohibited species & overages abandoned or donated
Alternative 3 - Suboptions

**Monitoring vessels at sea**
- Alt. 3A - Federally funded observers (WCGOP observers)
  - Vessels randomly selected from all trawl vessels (≈20% of deliveries)
- Alt 3B - Industry funded observers
  - Vessels pay directly to permitted provider

**Monitoring shoreside processors**
- Alt. 3A - Federally funded observers (WCGOP observers)
  - Availability dependent on monitoring needs in other groundfish fisheries
- Alt. 3B - Industry funded observers
  - Processors pay directly to permitted provider
Alternative 3 – Suboptions (continued)

Handling of prohibited species and overages

- Alt. 3A - Prohibited species donated and overages abandoned to state of landing. Sold at fair market value

- Alt. 3B - Profit from sale of prohibited species or overage fish illegal. Create a donation program
Alternative 4 – EMS & Catch Monitors

- Maximized retention
- LE permit with trawl & annual whiting endorsements
- Logbooks and fish tickets
  - E-logs and E-tickets when adequately developed
  - Daily fish ticket submission
- EMS for monitoring retention at sea
- Catch monitors at processor to collect data for verification of fish tickets & salmon counts
- Prohibited species & overages abandoned or donated
Alternative 4 - Suboptions

Funding for monitoring vessels at sea

Alt. 4A - Federally funded EMS
  - WCGOP funds availability depends on need to use same funds to monitor other groundfish fisheries to meet the MS-Act requirements

Alt. 4B - Industry funded EMS
  - Vessels pay directly to EMS permitted service providers

Funding for monitoring shoreside processors

Alt. 4A - Federally funded catch monitors (WCGOP observers)
  - Observers availability depends on need for observers to sample other groundfish fisheries to meet the MS-Act requirements

Alt. 4B - Industry funded observers
  - Processors pays directly to catch monitor provider
Handling of prohibited species and overages

- Alt. 4A - Prohibited species donated and overages abandoned to state of landing. Sold at fair market value

- Alt. 4B - Profit from sale of prohibited species or overage fish illegal. Create a donation program
Quick Comparison of Concerns

- Alt 1 - Inadequate to support bycatch limits that allow fishery full access to the whiting allocation

- Alt 2 - EFPs are a temporary fix. States & NMFS not interested in continuing. Lacks authority to resolve processor issues

- Alt 3 - Coverage provided by federally funded observers may not be adequate to support bycatch limit management

- Alt 4 - Coverage of federally funded EMS and catch monitors (observers) may not be adequate to support bycatch limit management
What is Needed from PFMC

- Does the PFMC believe that the alternatives in draft Chapter 2 adequately frame the *range* of alternatives?

- Does the PFMC have recommendations for modifying the alternatives (i.e. adding or rejecting any alternatives) before sending them out for public review?

- Is there a PFMC preferred alternative?

- Are there specific shoreside sector monitoring program issues that the PFMC wants analyzed in the EA?