

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2009-2010 GROUND FISH FISHERIES—
PART II

This meeting marks the initiation of the Council harvest specifications and management measures decision-making process for 2009-2010 fisheries. The last stock assessments and rebuilding analyses were adopted for management use under Agenda Item D.3 and a range of optimum yields for each stock and stock complex was adopted under Agenda Item D.4 allowing for analysis of 2009-2010 harvest specifications. Under this agenda item, the Council should adopt or give guidance on concepts and a range of management measures designed to stay within the harvest specifications adopted under Agenda Item D.4.

The Council should attempt to give as much specific guidance on concepts and management measures as possible to facilitate informative impact analysis and preparation of a draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) or draft Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) over the winter. The NEPA analyses will help the Council develop a preferred suite of 2009-2010 management measures by next April, when a preferred alternative needs to be decided. Helpful guidance would be a range of recreational and commercial allocations for key species such as canary rockfish; a range of season and area restrictions for the primary fishing sectors; a range of trip limits, daily-bag-limits, and other harvest control measures for key target and constraining bycatch species; a range of geographic or sector-specific harvest guidelines; and a sense of how far fisheries should be restricted in 2009-2010 to rebuild depleted species more quickly. The Council could give this specific direction under this agenda item or otherwise delegate the structuring of alternatives to the Groundfish Allocation Committee, which is tentatively scheduled to meet next February.

To facilitate guidance on concepts to be included in the analysis of 2009-2010 management measures, a list of potential management issues solicited from agencies, industry, and the general public is provided in Agenda Item D.9.a, Attachment 1. The Council should carefully consider the intended scope of action and staff workload when deciding which issues are the highest priorities for analysis (see the schedule for the three large concurrent groundfish projects the Council will undertake over the next year, Agenda Item C.1.a, Attachment 1). Some matters on the list of potential issues may be particularly labor-intensive and others may not be as closely linked to the decisions typically considered in the biennial harvest specifications and management measures process.

Council Action:

Adopt, or give guidance on, a preliminary range of 2009-2010 management measures, including initial allocations.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item D.9.a, Attachment 1: Issues to Consider in the 2009-2010 Groundfish Specifications and Management Measures Process.
2. Agenda Item D.9.e, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview John DeVore
- b. Agency and Tribal Comments
- c. Report of the GMT Kelly Ames
- d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- e. Public Comment
- f. **Council Action:** Adopt Concepts and Guidance for a Preliminary Range of Management Measures, Including Initial Allocations

PFMC
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