

CONSIDERATION OF INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS

Management measures for the 2009 groundfish season were set by the Council with the understanding these measures would likely need to be adjusted throughout the biennial period to attain, but not exceed, the optimum yields (OYs). This agenda item will consider inseason adjustments to ongoing 2009 fisheries.

As part of this agenda item, the Council may discuss more precautionary approaches to managing petrale sole within the current biennium. The most recent stock assessment for petrale sole is relatively more pessimistic than the previous assessment and discussions have alluded to the possibility that this assessment may trigger a “red light” action should it be adopted. The Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) calls for more precautionary approaches in the second year of a biennium should it be found that management targets are not adequately conservative to meet rebuilding plan goals for *overfished species*. For reference, the FMP language on this matter is included as attachment 1.

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) will meet prior to this agenda item to discuss and recommend inseason adjustments to 2009 groundfish fisheries. After hearing this advisory body advice and public comments, the Council will consider preliminary or final inseason adjustments. Agenda Item E.9 is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16, should further analysis or clarification be needed.

Council Task:

- 1. Adopt initial or final inseason adjustments.**
- 2. Consider revised management measures for petrale sole, if appropriate.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item E.7.a, Attachment 1: Fishery Management Plan language on inseason adjustments to ABCs and OYs.
2. Agenda Item E.7.c, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
 - b. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - c. Public Comment
 - d. **Council Action:** Adopt Preliminary or Final Recommendations for Adjustments to 2009 Groundfish Fisheries
- Merrick Burden