

PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR DEVELOPING THE 2017-2018 GROUND FISH HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

The table below represents the proposed Council schedule for the activities associated with implementing the 2017-2018 harvest specifications and management measures. Bold font dates represent Council meeting dates.

Start Date	End Date	Task
April 27, 2015	May 1, 2015	Stock Assessment Review (STAR) (Seattle, WA): Canary and Darkblotched Rockfish, one Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) representative attended.
June 10, 2015	June 10, 2015	Science and Statistical Committee (SSC) Groundfish Subcommittee meets to review: 1) assessments for canary and darkblotched rockfish, 2) assessment updates for sablefish, petrale sole, and chilipepper rockfish, 3) catch reports for Pacific Ocean perch and yelloweye rockfish, and 4) a data moderate assessment for arrowtooth flounder.
June 11, 2015	June 12, 2015	SSC meets to discuss and/or reach recommendations on: 1. Full assessments, data moderate assessments, update assessments, and catch reports recommended by the STAR Panel and the SSC Groundfish Subcommittee. 2. Range of alternatives for rebuilding revision rules. 3. Consider whether to recalculate sigmas for stock categories.
June 13, 2015	June 13, 2015	The SSC Groundfish and Economics Subcommittees meet to review the Shorebased Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program model.
June 12, 2015	June 16, 2015	The Council meets and adopts: 1. A final process and schedule for developing groundfish harvest specifications and management measures for 2017-2018. 2. Full assessments, data moderate assessments, update assessments, and catch reports as recommended by the SSC. 3. A report of the Groundfish Endangered Species

Start Date	End Date	Task
		<p>Workgroup (ESWG), including measures to be evaluated for 2017-2018, as necessary.</p> <p>4. A range of alternatives for rebuilding revision rules.</p>
July 6, 2015	July 10, 2015	STAR Panel (Santa Cruz, CA): Bocaccio and China Rockfish. One GMT and GAP representative will attend.
July 20, 2015	July 24, 2015	STAR Panel (Newport, OR): Black rockfish. One GMT and GAP representative will attend.
July 27, 2015	July 31, 2015	STAR Panel (Newport, OR): Widow rockfish and Kelp Greenling. One GMT and GAP representative will attend.
September 9, 2015	September 11, 2015	<p>SSC meets¹ to reach recommendations or comment on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Five full assessments, as recommended by the STAR panels. 2. Overfishing limits (OFL). 3. Stock categories (i.e., categories 1, 2, and 3). 4. Sigma values. 5. Reconsider the ecosystem component (EC) designation for skates including a preliminary preferred alternative (PPA) for managing skates (e.g., species specific or stock complex aggregation) 6. PPA for rebuilding revision rules. 7. Projection models for use in the analysis, including the model for informing impacts in the Shorebased IFQ Program.

¹SSC meeting dates are estimated based on past meeting schedules.

Start Date	End Date	Task
September 11, 2015	September 16, 2015	<p>The Council meets and adopts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stock assessments for the five species subject to summer STAR panels.² 2. Final preferred alternatives (FPA) for OFLs recommended by the SSC. 3. FPA sigma values recommended by the SSC. 4. A range of P* values, including PPA P* values, if applicable. 5. A range of acceptable biological catches (ABCs), including PPA ABCs levels, if applicable. 6. Reconsider the EC designation for skates. Select a PPA for managing skates (e.g., species specific or stock complex aggregation). 7. PPA for rebuilding revision rules. 8. Preliminary range of new management measures, including those recommended for consideration by the ESWG.³
September 28, 2015	October 2, 2015	<p>The SSC Groundfish Subcommittee meets to review rebuilding analyses prepared for overfished species as well as any stock assessments approved for further review by the Council at a “mop-up” panel (Seattle, WA). One GMT and GAP representative to attend.</p>
October 5, 2015	October 9, 2015	<p>The GMT meets to review revised stock assessments and rebuilding analyses, as necessary. The GMT, West Coast Region, General Counsel, and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) coordinator draft a recommended range of 2017-2018 harvest specifications and preliminary management measures for analysis (Seattle, WA or Portland, OR).</p>

²Council action could be postponed from September to November for any stock assessments recommended for further review by a 2015 STAR panel and/or the SSC (i.e., those assessments the Council authorizes to be sent to the September 28 to October 2 “mop-up” panel).

³New management measures are those management measures that have not been analyzed or implemented in a previous cycle.

Start Date	End Date	Task
November 13, 2015	November 14, 2015	SSC meets ⁴ to reach recommendations on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rebuilding analyses. 2. Any stock assessments relegated to “mop-up” reconsiderations completed at the September 28 to October 2 SSC Groundfish Subcommittee meeting. 3. Final considerations for rebuilding revision rules. 4. Final considerations for managing skates in the Fishery Management Plan (FMP).
November 14, 2015	November 19, 2015	The Council meets and adopts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rebuilding analyses and any assessments sent to the mop-up panel and recommended by the SSC. 2. FPA for rebuilding revision rules. 3. Adopt the FPA for managing skates in the FMP. 4. FPA for P* values. 5. FPA for ABCs. 6. PPA for non-overfished species ACLs. 7. A range of overfished species ACLs, if necessary, and PPA ACLs. 8. A tentative range of two-year allocation alternatives.⁵ 9. Final range of new management measures for detailed analysis. 10. Preliminary selection of exempted fishing permits for 2017-18.
November 20, 2015	February 9, 2016 ⁶	The Council staff, NMFS, GMT, and subject matter experts prepare the requisite analytical documents. NMFS conducts NEPA scoping and determines the type of NEPA necessary for the proposed action. NMFS and Council staff prepare a schedule for regulation deeming and FMP transmittal, if necessary.

⁴SSC meeting dates are estimated based on past meeting schedules.

⁵ Allocations to be reviewed for tentative adoption include both the trawl and non-trawl allocations as well as the within non-trawl sector apportionments and accountability measures (e.g., recreational harvest guidelines). Specifically, this includes two-year allocation alternatives for species not allocated under Amendment 21 (e.g., bocaccio, canary, cowcod, yelloweye and some non-overfished species (e.g., black rockfish in Oregon and California)).

⁶ Estimated public comment deadline for the March 2016 Council meeting.

Start Date	End Date	Task
November 20, 2015	April 9, 2016	Opportunity for state and tribal agencies to hold constituent meetings to obtain input on final harvest specifications and preliminary management measures in preparation for the April meeting.
February 9, 2016	March 8, 2016	If necessary, convene the Ad-Hoc Groundfish Allocation Committee (GAC) for a one to two day meeting prior to the March Council meeting (i.e., the meeting will occur at some point between the start and end date). The GAC will consider the results of the analysis and generate recommendations for Council consideration.
March 9, 2016	March 14, 2016	At the March Council meeting, the Council and advisory bodies will receive an informational briefing on selected results and provide guidance or take action on emerging issues, as necessary. NMFS will also update the Council on the results of the NEPA scoping and provide a schedule for regulation deeming and FMP transmittal, as necessary.
	March 21, 2016 ⁷	Analytical documents submitted for the April meeting advance briefing book for Council, advisory body, and public review.
April 9, 2016	April 14, 2016	The Council meets and adopts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FPA for ACLs. 2. PPA for management measures from the range adopted at the November Council meeting.⁸ 3. PPA for two-year allocations.
April 15, 2016	May 25, 2016 ⁹	Council staff, NMFS, GMT, and subject matter experts validate and refine analysis, consequent to the April Council meeting actions, as necessary. Council staff will provide NMFS with a substantially complete Council decision document with supporting rationale that facilitates the NEPA review process by NMFS. The document would cover, at a minimum, FPAs for ACLs, PPAs for management measures, and PPAs for 2 year allocations.

⁷Estimated public comment deadline for the April 2016 Council meeting.

⁸Additional management measures that require limited analysis could be added, if necessary; however, the January 1, 2017 fishery start date may be compromised.

⁹ Estimated public comment deadline for the June 2016 Council meeting.

Start Date	End Date	Task
June 23, 2016	June 28, 2016	<p>The Council meets and adopts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corrections to the FPA for harvest specifications, if needed. 2. Final exempted fishing permits for 2017-18. 3. FPA for allocations. 4. FPA for management measures. 5. A prioritized list of management measures to be analyzed outside of the harvest specifications and management measures process (i.e., omnibus prioritization exercise).
July 11, 2016	July 15, 2016	Council staff, NMFS staff, and the GMT meet to finalize analysis of the Council's FPA, if necessary.