

INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS

Management measures for groundfish are set by the Council with the general understanding that these measures will likely need to be adjusted within the biennium to attain, but not exceed, the annual catch limits. This agenda item will consider inseason adjustments to 2015 fisheries. Potential inseason adjustments include adjustments to Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) boundaries and adjustments to commercial and recreational fishery catch limits. Adjustments are, in part, based on recent landings and the latest information from the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program.

In April 2015, the Council tasked the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) with conducting a literature review of research evaluating skate discard mortality rates, which is provided in Agenda Item D.7.a, GMT Report. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) is scheduled to review the GMT report and provide recommendations for skate discard mortality rates for use in management under Agenda Item D.7. The Council should consider the reports of the advisory bodies and adopt skate discard mortality rates, as necessary.

Council Action:

- 1. Consider projections for the 2015 fisheries and adopt inseason adjustments, as necessary.**
- 2. Consider the literature review of research evaluating skate discard mortality rates and adopt SSC recommendations, as appropriate.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item D.7.a, GMT Report: Groundfish Management Team Report to the Scientific and Statistical Committee on a Literature Review of Skate Discard Mortality.

Agenda Order:

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| D.7 | Inseason Adjustments | Kelly Ames |
| a. | Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities | |
| b. | Public Comment | |
| c. | Council Action: Consider Inseason Adjustments and Adopt Discard Mortality Rates for Skates | |