

5-YEAR CATCH SHARE PROGRAM AND INTERSECTOR ALLOCATION REVIEW PLANS AND FISHERY MANAGEMENT UPDATE

At its June 2016 meeting, the Council adopted a calendar for the process of reviewing the catch share program and the groundfish fishery management plan's (FMP's) intersector allocations. At its September 2016 meeting, the Council accelerated that calendar. Under the accelerated calendar the catch share review is scheduled for completion by November 2017. The accelerated calendar includes a fallback position in which a range of alternatives for catch share review follow-on actions could be adopted in November 2017 but the review would not be finalized until the spring of 2018 (Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 1).

Following the adopted calendar, both the catch share program and intersector allocation topics are being scoped through the November 2016 Council meeting; however, a plan for moving forward with the intersector allocation rule after the November 2016 meeting has not been adopted. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has released general guidance for intersector allocations, which recommends underlying intersector allocations be reviewed when catch share programs are reviewed (see the five-year-review webpage for NMFS guidance on intersector allocations and catch share reviews: [Tinyurl.Com\5YearReview](#)). Additionally, the [groundfish fishery management plan](#) (FMP) specifies that "all intersector allocations will be formally reviewed along with the formal review of the trawl rationalization program five years after implementation of Amendments 20 and 21" (pp. 66-67). As a first step to inform the scoping process, a preliminary assessment of sector attainment of current groundfish FMP allocations has been developed (Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 2). This attachment is identical to one that was provided at the September Council meeting, except that it has been updated with an additional year of data. A list of factors to be considered as part of the intersector allocation review process and a possible way forward are provided in Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 3.

As part of the development of the catch share review, the appendix to the groundfish FMP, which describes the program, needs to be updated (Appendix E). The groundfish FMP authorizes that "Appendix E may be revised from time to time to reflect [regulatory] changes to the program, but changes can be made without submitting such changes for review by the Secretary as described in §304(a) of the MSA" (p. 90). For the September 2016 meeting, the Council was provided with a list of the actions taken since first approval of the program ([September Agenda Item F.5, Attachment 2](#)) and a proposed update of the Appendix E descriptive language with redline and strike-out ([September Agenda Item F.5, Attachment 3](#)). At that time, the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) recommended two modifications to the draft and requested more time for review ([September Agenda Item F.5.a, GMT Report](#)). The Council asked that the GMT recommendations be made and a clean copy of the draft updated appendix be provided for review at this meeting (Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 4). At this meeting, the Council should review the appendix and provide any additional guidance so that the update can be finalized. Taking into account this guidance, Council staff will update Appendix E after the Council meeting.

At this meeting, the blueprint (annotated outline) for the catch share review (Agenda Item F.6.a, Blueprint) is scheduled to be finalized. This outline will guide the work of analysts in developing a public review draft for presentation to the Council at its June 2017 meeting.

From late August through the end of September, scoping hearings on both the catch share review and intersector allocations were held in fishing communities. Over 150 members of the public attended and over 65 people spoke at the nine hearings (totals adjusted to take into account individuals attending multiple hearings). Additionally, numerous state and Federal agency representatives attended to hear the public comment, in addition to those on the formal hearing teams. Summaries of the hearings are provided (Agenda Item F.6.b, Scoping Hearing Summaries) and hearing officers will report on the hearings under Agenda Item F.6.b.

The Community Advisory Board, appointed by the Council in September to assist in the catch share review, met November 2 and 3 to review the blueprint for the review and will provide a report with their recommendations (Agenda Item F.6.c, Supplemental CAB Report). Additionally, the Scientific and Statistical Committee's groundfish and economic subcommittees met November 13 and 14 for a concentrated review of the blueprint. Their work informed the SSC report on this agenda item (Agenda Item F.6.c, Supplemental SSC Report).

Eleven written comments on the review were received at the Council office (Agenda Item F.6.d, Public Comment).

Council Action:

- 1. Provide guidance on moving ahead with the review of intersector allocations.**
- 2. Provide guidance on finalizing the update of the trawl catch share program description contained in Appendix E of the groundfish FMP.**
- 3. Adopt a blueprint for the catch share review document.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 1: Catch Share Review Calendar.
2. Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 2: Evaluating the Performance of Amendment 21 Allocations Since Implementation of the Trawl Catch Share Program (Through 2015).
3. Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 3: Five-Year Review of Intersector Allocations.
4. Agenda Item F.6, Attachment 4: Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan for the California, Oregon, and Washington Groundfish Fishery, Description of Trawl Rationalization (Catch Shares) Program Appendix E.
5. Agenda Item F.6.a, Blueprint: West Coast Groundfish Trawl Catch Share Program Five-year Review – Annotated Outline (Blueprint).
6. Agenda Item F.6.b, Hearing Summaries: Five-Year Review Hearing Summaries.
7. Agenda Item F.6.c, Supplemental CAB Report.
8. Agenda Item F.6.c, Supplemental SSC Report.
9. Agenda Item F.6.d, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

- F.6 5-Year Catch Share Program and Intersector Allocation Review Plans and Fishery Management Update
- a. Overview of the 5-Year Review Blueprint
 - b. Summary of Public Hearings
 - c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
 - d. Public Comment

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- e. **Council Action:** Provide Guidance on Plans for the 5-Year Review of the Trawl Catch Share Program and Allocations, Including Ad Hoc Community Advisory Board Tasks, Adopt Language Update for Appendix E to the Groundfish Fishery Management Plan, and Provide Other Guidance as Needed

PFMC
10/25/16