

COST RECOVERY UPATE

At the April 2017 Council meeting, the Council requested that Council and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) staff meet to discuss ways to address transparency concerns about the annual trawl catch share cost recovery report (Agenda Item F.12, Attachment 1), such as those raised by the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) (Agenda Item F.12, Attachment 2). Under this agenda item, NMFS will present the results of that meeting and discuss possibilities for enhancing the next cost recovery report.

Background

As authorized under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) Sections 303A(e) and 304(d)(2), Amendment 20 included a Council recommendation that fees be charged for cost recovery. This was followed, in September 2011, with a Council recommendation on the methodology for identifying and assessing “management, data collection and analysis, and enforcement programs that are directly related to and in support of the program” (MSA 303A(e)(1)). The Council’s final recommendation on cost recovery is available on the trawl trailing action webpage and includes the following statement: “The Council should have an ongoing, periodic role in the cost recovery program, including reviewing cost recovery levels, after the cost recovery program becomes established.”

Cost recovery fees were first charged starting in 2014, and NMFS provided its first report on cost recovery at the April 2014 Council meeting. The NMFS report at the April 2017 meeting covered the 2017 cost recovery fee calculation, including an explanation of the recalculation of the previous year's fees, and results from the 2016 collections.

Council Action:

Make Recommendations on Future Cost Recovery Reports.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.12, Attachment 1: Trawl Rationalization Program Cost Recovery Annual Report.
2. Agenda Item F.12, Attachment 2: Excerpt From: Groundfish Advisory Subpanel Report On Trawl Catch Shares, Intersector Allocation Progress Reports And Cost Recovery Report (Agenda Item F.4.b, Supplemental GAP Report, April 2017).
3. *Agenda Item F.12.a, Supplemental NMFS Report.*

Agenda Order:

- F.12 Cost Recovery Update Jim Seger
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Council Recommendations on Future Cost Recovery Reports