

BIENNIAL MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR 2019-2020

This is the last of several agenda items at this meeting addressing harvest specifications and management measures for 2019-2020 groundfish fisheries. Under Agenda Items F.4 and F.6 the Council is scheduled to adopt stock assessments and harvest specifications, respectively, for each stock and stock complex. In the event the Council does not complete all tasks under Agenda Item F.6 or corrections are needed, the remainder of the harvest specifications decisions should be made under Agenda Item F.9. Additionally, under Agenda Item F.8, the Council is scheduled to adopt preliminary exempted fishing permits (EFPs), including deductions from the 2019-2020 annual catch limits (ACLs) to accommodate the EFPs.

Under Agenda Item F.9, the Council is scheduled to adopt stock complex alternatives, preliminary off the top deductions from ACLs, set-asides from the trawl allocation, and two-year allocations to facilitate the analysis. Lastly, the Council should adopt a final range of new management measures for more detailed analysis and provide guidance, as necessary, on routine adjustments to management measures. Detailed descriptions of anticipated Council actions are described in Agenda Item F.9, Attachment 1.

At the September 2017 meeting, the Council forwarded proposals from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) regarding management of Oregon blue/deacon, Oregon black rockfish, and the Nearshore Rockfish North of 40° 10' N. latitude complex as well as Oregon kelp greenling, Oregon cabezon, and the Other Fish complex ([Agenda Item E.9.a, Supplemental ODFW Report 1, November 2017](#) and [September 2017 Draft Motions in Writing](#)). Additionally, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) recommends the Council analyze an alternative that would remove Washington cabezon and Washington kelp greenling from the Other Fish Complex and manage them in a separate Washington cabezon/kelp greenling complex (Agenda Item F.9.a, WDFW Report 1). The Council should consider the proposals and recommend stock complex alternatives, based on the harvest specifications values adopted under Agenda Item F.6, for analysis, as necessary.

Management measures are used to meet the goals of the Magnuson-Stevens Act and Fishery Management Plan (FMP), including attaining but not exceeding the ACL and correcting or mitigating overages of the ACL if they occur. Deductions from the ACL, called off the top deductions from the ACL, are made to account for groundfish mortality resulting from Pacific Coast treaty tribal harvest, scientific research, non-groundfish fisheries, EFPs, and unforeseen catch events. Further, set-asides for some species are deducted from the trawl allocation to accommodate bycatch in the at-sea whiting fishery. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) is expected to provide a supplemental report summarizing the EFP impacts recommended by the Council under Agenda Item F.8 and other yield set-asides to be used in the analysis, which should be adopted or modified by the Council under Agenda Item F.9.

The ACL less the deductions is called the fishery harvest guideline (HG) or commercial HG (sablefish north of 36° N. latitude and Pacific whiting), which is the amount available for the sector-specific allocations. Sector allocations include formal long-term allocations contained in the FMP and short-term allocations implemented for the biennial period. Under this agenda item, the Council should adopt preliminary two-year allocations, including a range of alternatives if necessary, for several species to facilitate the analysis. Agenda Item F.9, Attachment 2 contains

information relevant to this decision. Additionally, the GMT is expected to bring forward information on fishery performance and further information for Council consideration.

At the September 2017 meeting, the Council adopted a preliminary range of new management measures and discussed adjustments to routine measures. Under this agenda item, the Council should select the final range of new management measures from the range adopted in September and provide guidance on adjustments to routine measures. The GMT has provided the background, relevant factors for the analysis, and an initial workload estimate of the management measures for Council consideration (Agenda Item F.9.a, GMT Report 1).

The Council should carefully consider the list of potential management measures proposed by management entities, advisory bodies, and the public when deciding which issues are the highest priorities for more detailed analyses. Results of the detailed analyses will help the Council develop a preliminary preferred suite of management measures at the April 2018 Council meeting. After a public review period, the Council will take final action at the June 2018 Council meeting with implementation scheduled for January 1, 2019.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt any remaining groundfish harvest specifications for 2019-2020.**
- 2. Adopt stock complex alternatives for analysis, as appropriate.**
- 3. Adopt deductions from the ACLs and the trawl allocations for analysis, as appropriate.**
- 4. Adopt preliminary two-year allocations for analysis, as necessary.**
- 5. Adopt a range of new management measures for more detailed analysis.**
- 6. Provide guidance on routine adjustments to management measures.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.9, Attachment 1: Action Item Checklist.
2. Agenda Item F.9, Attachment 2: Recent Year Allocations Relevant to Deciding a Range of 2019-2020 Allocations.
3. Agenda Item F.9.a, WDFW Report 1: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on Biennial Management Measures for 2019-2020.
4. Agenda Item F.9.a, GMT Report 1: Groundfish Management Team Report on Management Measures for the 2019-2020 Biennial Harvest Specifications.
5. Agenda Item F.9.b, Public Comment 1.

Agenda Order:

- F.9 Biennial Management Measures for 2019-2020 Kelly Ames/John DeVore
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Any Remaining 2019-2020 Harvest Specifications, Preliminary Two-Year Allocations, and Management Measures for Detailed Analysis