

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
SABLEFISH CATCH SHARE PROGRAM REVIEW PHASE I

Mr. Jim Seger briefed the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) regarding the draft review document for the limited entry fixed gear (LEFG) sablefish permit stacking program (Agenda Item C.6, Attachment 1). The SSC recommends the following be included in the document, if time allows:

1. Include vessel length distribution by Tier and number of permits to show the composition of the LEFG sablefish fleets.
2. Include results from a safety study conducted by the Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) to address to what extent the LEFG sablefish program promoted safety.
3. As a contrast to Figure 3-4 of the draft review document, include an additional figure showing the percent utilization by individual vessels. This new figure would indicate the number of vessels that exceeded their individual allocations, while Figure 3-4 shows the percent utilization of the overall allocation to the vessels in the LEFG sector.
4. Figures 3-9 and 3-10 show the percent revenue dependence on LEFG sablefish landings by port group. This reflects the percent of the landed value of fish that is LEFG sablefish but ports differ in the extent to which their local economies depend on fish landings. It would be informative to include additional figures that show LEFG sablefish revenue dependence relative to a broader measure of economic activities.
5. Information on regional economic impacts and net-revenue associated with the fishery would provide important information about economic contributions and returns from the fishery. These analyses would enhance the economic content of the report, and are available through work at the NWFSC.

For future research, the SSC makes the following recommendations:

1. Routine collection of permit sale prices to indicate the market value of the fishery.
2. Collect information about crew, captains and owners of vessels. Information about the county of residence, and participation in the fishery is necessary to understand the regional economic impacts of the fishery (for models such as IO-PAC), and to estimate the number of people who directly work in the fishery. This information will also assist in an evaluation of the community effect of the owner-on-board requirement.