

RECOMMENDED CLARIFICATION IN PROPOSED
AMENDMENT 24 FMP LANGUAGE CHANGES

For Amendment 24 Alternatives 1, 2, 3 (see [Agenda Item F.7.a, Attachment 8, June 2014](#)), the following change in the proposed amendment language for Section 5.1 is recommended. The recommended change would replace the third sentence from the end of the first paragraph of proposed amendment language in Section 5.1. The current proposed language and the recommended revision is the same in all three action alternatives.

Original Sentence (see [Agenda Item F.7.a, Attachment 8, June 2014](#))

If the status is not known, the same method used in the previous cycle is used to compute the default HCR.

Recommended Revised Sentences

If the status has not changed or is unknown, the same method used in the previous cycle is used to compute the default HCR. This includes cases where a constant catch HCR was used in the previous cycle to set the ACL below the ABC, in which case the same constant catch numerical value is used as the default ACL for the next biennial cycle.

Rationale for the Recommended Revised Sentences

The intent of the FMP language with respect to implementing a default harvest control rule (HCR) process is to be able to specify, as a default, the harvest control rules previously analyzed with as much flexibility to incorporate new science as possible. Changes in stock status that affect a 40-10 or 25-5 ACL deduction, if that is the default, would be reflected automatically in the default specifications. Likewise, any methodological, science-based change in the OFL or the sigma value affecting an ABC specification, would automatically be the default in the specifications. In cases where P* is used to determine ABCs, the default P* would vary among the alternatives as described.

Otherwise, the default rule, whether it be a previously analyzed constant catch (i.e., constant ACL) strategy or a specific series of ACLs that are part of a strategy that is designed to endure longer than one biennial cycle (e.g., a yelloweye ramp-down type of strategy) would be specified as the default except in cases where the ACL exceeds the default ABC.