

CONSIDERATION OF INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS

Management measures for groundfish are set by the Council with the general understanding that these measures will likely need to be adjusted within the biennium to attain, but not exceed, the annual catch limits (ACL). This agenda item will consider inseason adjustments to ongoing 2013 fisheries. Potential actions include adjustments to the Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA) boundaries and modifications to commercial and recreational fishery catch limits; however, at this meeting, trawl RCA adjustments will be considered under Agenda Item G.6. Adjustments are, in part, based on recent landings and the latest information from the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program.

In March, the Council recommended issuing the maximum eligible (up to 10 percent) surplus carryover quota pounds (QP) for all non-whiting species in the shorebased individual fishing quota fishery (IFQ). The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) issued carryover for all non-whiting IFQ species except lingcod and petrale sole (see [Agenda Item F.9.b, NMFS Letter 1, June 2013](#)). NMFS requested guidance from the Council on how to issue surplus carryover for lingcod because the QP management unit was previously coastwide but is now divided north and south of 40°10' N. latitude. The Council recommended an approach for issuing lingcod surplus carryover (see [Agenda Item F.9.b, NMFS Report, June 2013](#)), which was implemented by NMFS on July 9 (<http://tinyurl.com/k373exp>). Surplus carryover for petrale sole was not issued because NMFS determined there was a high risk of exceeding the 2013 petrale sole ACL. The Council recommended the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) re-analyze the risk of exceeding the petrale sole ACL for the September Council meeting when more information regarding the progress of the 2013 fishery is available. The GMT is expected to provide such analysis in a supplemental report.

Council Action:

- 1. Consider information on the status of 2013 fisheries and adopt inseason adjustments, as necessary.**
- 2. Consider the latest catch estimates for petrale sole relative to the potential issuance of surplus carryover.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item G.5.c, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
 - b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
 - c. Public Comment
 - d. **Council Action:** Adopt Inseason Adjustments to 2013 Groundfish Fisheries, Including Petrale Sole Carryover
- Kelly Ames