

## ECOSYSTEM BASED MANAGEMENT: UPDATE LIST OF FISHERIES

At its June 2012 meeting, the Council recommended preventing the future development of fisheries for currently unfished forage fish species through a two-stage process: 1) amending and updating the federal list of authorized West Coast Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) fisheries and gear found in regulation at 50 CFR 600.725(v), and 2) developing any additional necessary protections for unfished and unmanaged forage fish through amendments to one or more of the Council's fishery management plans. At this meeting, the Council is initiating the first step in this process.

To develop Council recommendations on revisions to the List of Fisheries, the Council and its Ecosystem Plan Development Team (EPDT) drafted a set of proposed amendments to the current list for review by the states and tribes, its advisory bodies and the public. The most recent version appeared in the April Briefing Book (April 2013, Agenda Item H.1.a, Attachment 2 (<http://tinyurl.com/onrxkdl>)).

The EPDT has been working on revisions to the list in accordance with Council guidance from the June 2012 and April 2013 Council meetings (June 2012, Agenda Item G.1.d, Supplemental Revised Council Action [<http://tinyurl.com/7e7vmgx>]) and is scheduled to report their recommendations in June 2013 (Agenda Item H.1.a, Supplemental Attachment 1). These recommendations reflect the Council's June 2012 intent to identify authorized fisheries and gear in the "most specific and narrow terms possible."

At this stage, the Council is scheduled to develop recommendations to National Marine Fisheries Service to update the federal list of fisheries and gear. At this meeting, the Council may adopt a revised list for public review, or may direct the EPDT to further review the list before sending it out for public review. When final, the Council intends to transmit those recommendations, along with any accompanying analyses, to NMFS, requesting publication of a proposed rule to implement the recommendations. NMFS would then publish the proposed rule and, after an appropriate public comment period, determine whether to approve, disapprove, or partially approve a final rule implementing revisions to the list.

Attachment 1 provides the current list of authorized fisheries and gear with the EPDT's suggested revisions. Potential revisions to this table should consider only those fisheries that occur wholly or partially within Federal waters (3-200 nm offshore). No revision to the table should have the effect of prohibiting currently legal directed fisheries or incidental catch.

### **Council Action:**

#### **Consider Updates to the List of Fisheries.**

#### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item H.1.a, Attachment 1: Supplemental EPDT Report.
2. Agenda Item H.1.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 Updates to the List of Fisheries for Public Review

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