

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) reviewed the preliminary year-at-a-glance summary ([Agenda Item J.2.a, Attachment 1](#)) and the proposed agenda for the June 2014 Council meeting ([Agenda Item J.2.a, Attachment 2](#)) and provides the following thoughts for Council consideration.

Dr. Jim Hastie requested time with the GMT at this meeting to have a pre-June discussion on stock complex prioritization, so that Northwest Fisheries Science Center staff could have some additional time in preparing for the stock assessments (e.g., preparing the backlog of age structures). The GMT was unable to meet with Dr. Hastie at this meeting, and requests having a conference call as early as possible. Furthermore, the GMT could combine this discussion with some biennial specifications analysis discussion, to maximize time, if it was a publicly noticed conference call or webinar.

During Agenda Items C.4, C.8, and C.9. at this Council meeting, several items were identified by either the GMT or the Council as needing further analysis. Table 1 includes those items, with the GMT's attempt to provide information on amount of analysis to be completed, priority for inclusion in the advanced briefing book, and if the item will be included in the regular 2015-2016 package or as part of the omnibus groundfish prioritization discussion. The GMT notes there are other anticipated items for discussion under the omnibus agenda item (e.g., trawl trailing actions) that are not included in Table 1 (i.e., this is not an all inclusive list).

We provide Table 2 with the June Council meeting agenda items that may require GMT discussion and/or statements. We ask the Council for guidance on priorities on how best to spend our time and efforts, if different from what we have anticipated. Additionally if there are agenda items the Council specifically does not wish the GMT to comment on, if those could be identified it would be helpful. That advice for this meeting was beneficial to the Team in focusing our time and efforts.

Table 1. The GMT plan for analyses that need to be completed for the June Council meeting, amount of work needed, and the anticipated process/agenda item.

Management Measure	Priority for BB	Amount of work needed	15- 16	Omnibus
Remodel nearshore fisheries with C.4 ACLs	H	H	✓	
Analyze range of nearshore HG	H	H	✓	
RCA adjustments	H	L→M	✓	
New RCA Lines >250 fm 300 and 350 fm RCA	H	H	✓	
Reduce fixed gear slope rockfish trip limits in the north (non-IFQ)	H	M→H	✓	
Other Trip Limit Adjustments	H	M	✓	
Retain Lingcod in periods 1,2, and 6	H	M	✓	
Allow canary retention in recreational fisheries	M	L	✓	
Commercial gear restriction for targeting flatfish in CA	M	M		✓
Off-the-top deductions to cover carryover	M	M		✓
Rougheye GCA	M	H		✓
50 fm depth restriction in the OR and WA recreational fishery	L	H		✓
Mid-water sport fishery	M	M→ H		✓

Table 2. April 2014 Council meeting agenda items that may require GMT input.

	Groundfish Agenda Items	Council Floor	GMT Statement?	GMT Priority[▪]
1	NMFS Report	Sat	No	
2	Initial Stock Assessment Plans and TOR	Sat	Yes	*
3	Omnibus regulation changes part 1/ part 2	Sat/Tues	Yes	*
4	SPEX: final EFPs	Sun	Yes	*
5	Inseason	Sun	Yes	*
6	Sablefish catch share program review	Mon	maybe	
7	EM Regulatory Process; Adopt PPA	Tues	maybe	
8	SPEX: MM FPA	Mon/Tues	Yes	*
	Non-Groundfish Agenda Items			
	Halibut: scoping CSP changes	Fri	No	
	Future workload planning	Wed	maybe	
	Total Potential Statements by the GMT		5-8	
<p>▪ The Council has final say in priority of Agenda Items, this is what the GMT thinks are the higher priority agenda items, provided to help inform the Council decision.</p>				

PFMC
04/10/14