

## INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS

Situation: Several changes to trip limits have been implemented to date during 1999 (Attachment G.6.a.). The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) will review the pace of landings to date and may recommend additional adjustments. Typically, changes made at the June Council meeting would take effect July 1; however, the current limited entry cumulative period is June 1-July 31, so the only changes that can be made for that sector prior to August 1 would be increases.

Two particular issues have been identified for Council attention. First, soon after the April Council meeting another data error was discovered, this time for California *Sebastes* landings. It appears some landings were double-counted, which made it appear the fishery was proceeding too rapidly towards the optimum yield (OY). Based on this information, trip limits were cut sharply beginning June 1. Adjustments will likely be appropriate when the corrected information is reviewed. Second, the Council has received a request to move the Cape Mendocino trip limit boundary about 15 miles south to allow northern fishers access to certain fishing areas (see Public comment G.6.). The request comes from the open access sector but would affect limited entry fishers as well. This change, if adopted, would likely take effect July 1.

The Council may wish to consider a between-meeting management process to make adjustments prior to the September Council meeting. If so, the most logical time for a data review would be in conjunction with the August 9-13 GMT meeting.

### **Council Action:**

- 1. Consider adjustments to trip limits or other routine measures.**
- 2. Consider need and process for adjustments prior to September meeting.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. April, May and June 1999 Changes to Groundfish Trip Limits (Attachment G.6.a.).
2. Public Comments (Public Comment G.6.).

PFMC  
06/02/99