

PRELIMINARY HARVEST LEVELS FOR 2002

Situation: Each year, the Council recommends harvest specifications for the upcoming fishing year. At the April 2001 meeting, the Council discussed revisions to the groundfish management process and adopted a three-meeting process, in contrast to the current two-meeting process. Under the new process, the Council is scheduled to make preliminary harvest level recommendations at the June meeting. The intent of Council action was for the revised management process to take effect in 2002. However, to facilitate this year's annual management process, the Council could provide guidance based on available information. Available information could include preliminary results from the stock assessments (Agendum C.4) and/or the rebuilding analyses for widow rockfish and darkblotched rockfish (Agendum C.10).

Council Action:

- 1. Guidance regarding preliminary acceptable biological catches and optimum yields for 2002.**

Reference Materials: None.

PFMC
05/24/01