

GROUND FISH STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Situation: There are several matters for Council consideration under this agenda. The Trawl Permit Stacking Work Group will provide a process report. The Open Access Permitting Subcommittee will also provide an update to the Council. Finally, California Department of Fish And Game (CDFG) will provide a report on delegation of nearshore groundfish management authority.

Trawl Permit Stacking: The Council appointed the Trawl Permit Stacking Work Group in June 2001. The Work Group held its first meeting February 26, 2002. A full report from the Work Group will be provided.

Open Access Permitting: The Open Access Permitting Subcommittee met January 30-31, 2002 to continue laying conceptual groundwork for limiting entry to the open access fishery. The Subcommittee developed preliminary goals and objectives and requested certain data on the open access fishery. The subcommittee met again March 26, 2002 via a conference call, and will provide a progress report.

Delegation of Nearshore Groundfish Management Authority: CDFG will provide information to the Council about California's Marine Life Management Act and Nearshore Fishery Management Plan (FMP). The FMP's goals and objectives, management regime, and species covered will be discussed in the context of implications and expectations to the Council groundfish FMP.

It is anticipated the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel will provide recommendations to the Council for each of these items.

Council Task:

- 1. Provide guidance to the Trawl Permit Stacking Work Group and Open Access Permitting Subcommittee.**
- 2. Discuss the information presented by CDFG regarding delegation of nearshore groundfish management authority and provide guidance in the consideration of this issue at future Council meetings.**

Reference Materials:

1. Exhibit E.2.b, Trawl Permit Stacking Work Group Report.
2. Exhibit E.2.c, Open Access Permitting Committee Report.
3. Exhibit E.2.d, CDFG Nearshore Proposal.
4. Exhibit E.2.f, Public Comment.

Groundfish Strategic Plan (GFSP) Consistency Analysis

This agenda item is consistent with the implementation process detailed in the GFSP. Issues covered under this item conform to the implementation priorities adopted by the Council in April 2001.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. Report of the Ad Hoc Trawl Permit Stacking Work Group
- c. Report of the Ad Hoc Open Access Permitting Subcommittee
- d. Update on California Nearshore Fishery Management Plan
- e. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- f. Public Comment
- g. Council Discussion and Guidance

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