

## PROPOSED MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR 2003

Situation: Management measures adopted during the Council process are designed to implement new and existing rebuilding programs, achieve bycatch reduction mandates, keep total catch within the proposed harvest levels, and achieve optimum benefits to the various user groups and fishing communities. The harvest levels and allocations adopted for 2002 are attached to provide a reference when the Council deliberates management alternatives for 2003 (Exhibit C.8, Attachment 1).

In the last three years the Council has implemented a substantial restructuring of the groundfish fishery that includes gear restrictions, seasons, and dramatically lower harvest levels consistent with previously-approved rebuilding programs for overfished species. However, new assessments and rebuilding analyses for bocaccio, canary rockfish, and yelloweye rockfish indicate a worsening crisis in West Coast groundfish management for 2003. Rebuilding these species could require a cessation of most, if not all, on-bottom fishing on the continental shelf. Rebuilding will be protracted and costly. Allowing access to species in shallower or deeper zones may require new approaches, such as depth-based trip limits. Effort shifts to nearshore and slope areas are likely to exacerbate overcapacity problems in these fisheries, creating greater challenges for successful rebuilding of darkblotched rockfish and Pacific ocean perch on the slope. The inevitable economic consequences will be severe for all segments of the commercial and recreational fishing and support industries.

The Ad Hoc Allocation Committee (Committee) met by teleconference on May 21 (Exhibit C.8, Attachment 2) and in a two day meeting on June 3 and 4 (Exhibit C.8, Supplemental Attachment 3) to address the challenges posed by the need to rebuild these shelf rockfish species. The Committee is expected to propose a range of management alternatives including allocation alternatives for 2003. Additionally, the Groundfish Management Team, Groundfish Advisory Subpanel, and interested public are expected to provide recommendations and alternatives for 2003 management.

The Council should develop specific management options at this meeting to help focus public attention on the extent of changes that may be necessary and to provide the basis for adopting final management measures at the September Council meeting. The severity of the situation for shelf rockfish and the expected effort shifts from the shelf to nearshore and slope fisheries necessitates consideration of major adjustments to all sectors of the groundfish fishery. Allocation alternatives or specifications consistent with proposed management measures should also be considered and adopted by the Council at this time. A draft 2003 Annual Specifications Environmental Assessment will be prepared for Council consideration at the September Council meeting. The outline of the draft 2003 Annual Specifications Environmental Assessment is provided as Exhibit C.8, Supplemental Attachment 4.

### Council Action:

1. **Adopt proposed 2003 management measures for public review.**

### Reference Materials:

1. 2002 Specifications of Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC), Optimum Yields (OYs), and Limited Entry and Open Access Allocations, by International North Pacific Fisheries Commission (INPFC) Areas (weights in metric tons) (Exhibit C.8, Attachment 1).
2. Draft minutes of the May 21 Ad Hoc Allocation Committee teleconference (Exhibit C.8, Attachment 2).
- ✓ 3. Draft minutes of the June 3-4 Ad Hoc Allocation Committee meeting (Exhibit C.8, Supplemental Attachment 3). *received 6-17-02*
4. ~~Draft 2003 annual specifications Environmental Assessment outline (Exhibit C.8, Supplemental Attachment 4).~~ *none*
5. Public comment (Exhibit C.8.e).

### Supplemental Reference Materials

6. Exhibit C.8.d, Supplemental Ad Hoc Allocation Committee Data Report.
7. Exhibit C.8.e, Supplemental Public Comment 2

Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. Ad Hoc Allocation Committee Report
- c. Recommendations of the States, Tribes, and Federal Agencies
- d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- e. Public Comment
- f. **Council Action:** Adopt Proposed Measures for Public Review

John DeVore  
Phil Anderson

Groundfish Fishery Strategic Plan (GFSP) Consistency Analysis

The GFSP supports making the necessary allocation decisions, so fishery participants can plan on a specific share of future OYs (Sec. II.A.1(3)) and establishing an allowable level of catch that prevents overfishing while achieving OY based on best available science (Sec. II.A.2). The GFSP envisions choices made by the Council on 2003 management measures at this stage in the process would be consistent with these criteria.

The GFSP also supports establishing and maintaining a management process that is transparent, participatory, understandable, accessible, consistent, effective, and adaptable (Sec. II.C). The Council process of adopting specific proposed management measures at this September meeting would be consistent with these GFSP principles.

PFMC  
06/05/02

8. Exhibit C.8.c, Supplemental ODFW Report.
9. Exhibit C.8.c, Supplemental Congressional Report.
10. Public Comment C.8.e, Management Measures for 2002, from Chris Fryer
11. Item C.8.e, Public Comment, Proposed Management Measures for 2003. from Tracy Grogan.
12. Agenda Item # C-8, Proposed Management Measures for 2003; <Hunter Enterprises>
13. Exhibit C.8.e, Supplemental Public Comment 3.
14. Exhibit C.8.c, Proposed Treaty Indian Harvest Levels.
15. Exhibit C.8.d, Supplemental SAS Report.
16. Exhibit C.8, supplemental 2002 Canadian Rockfish Management Measures.

Supplemental Reference mtl's. (continued)

17. Exhibit C.8, Revised Supplemental Attachment 3
18. Exhibit C.8.c, Supplemental Quileute Tribe Comments
19. Exhibit C.8.c, Supplemental ODFW Report 2
20. Exhibit C.8.c, Supplemental ODFW Report 3
21. Exhibit C.8.c, Revised Supplemental WDFW Report 1
22. " " Supplemental WDFW Report 1,
23. Exhibit C.8.c, Supplemental WDFW Report 2.
24. Exhibit C.8.c, Revised Supplemental WDFW Report 2
25. Exhibit C.8.d, Supplemental Revised Ad Hoc Allocation  
Committee Data Report.
26. Exhibit C.8.d, Supplemental CPSAS Report.
27. Exhibit C.8.d, Supplemental GMT Report,
28. Exhibit C.8.c, Supplemental CDFG Report.
29. Exhibit C.8.d, Supplemental GAP Report.
30. Exhibit C.8.d, Supplemental EC Report.

