

## CONSIDERATION OF INDIVIDUAL QUOTA PROGRAMS

Situation: Recently, there have been industry initiatives to begin independent work on individual quotas (IQs). Reports on these efforts will be presented to the Council under this agenda item and related background materials are provided as attachments, including background information in Attachment 1.

Consideration of IQs has been constrained by a Congressional moratorium on new IQ programs which first expired October 1, 2000, but was subsequently extended two additional years. The moratorium was not renewed after its last expiration, October 1, 2002. However, Congressional Representative Wayne Gilchrest has requested the Council postpone any final decisions on IQ programs and first assist in the development of national framework guidelines for the design of IQ programs (Attachment C.10.a).

IQs for trawlers have been on the Council's workload list since just after the October 2000 adoption of the strategic plan. However, the Council has not had the resources available to advance development of a program. In June 2001, the Council created an Ad Hoc Trawl Permit Stacking Work Group. That group met February 26, 2002, but then activity was suspended while the permit buyback program was developed and other Council workload priorities were addressed.

After receiving the IQ reports, the Council should consider whether it may want to raise the priority for IQs on the workload list so that some progress can be made on this issue. Given other tasks that the Council has previously identified as high priority, the amount of effort that can be made between the September and November Council meetings will probably be limited. An example of an achievable task would be to authorize the Council chair to work with staff to draft a list of seats for an ad hoc IQ committee, identify individuals to fill those seats, and present the list in November for Council concurrence. Such a procedure would be consistent with that followed for the appointment of other Council ad hoc committees. Final determination of Council workload priorities is scheduled for Friday under agenda item B.7.

**Council Action: Plan future Council action regarding groundfish IQ development.**

### Reference Materials:

1. Exhibit C.10.a, Attachment 1 (Background Information on Council Consideration of Individual Quota Programs).
2. Exhibit C.10.a, Attachment 2 ( Letter from Congressional Representative Wayne T. Gilchrest, July 8, 2003).
3. Exhibit C.10.b, Canadian Symposium Report (Memo and Report on Meeting with British Columbia Individual Vessel Quota [IVQ] Participants, August 19, 2003).
4. Exhibit C.10.c, MTC Letter (Letter from Midwater Trawlers Cooperative, August 13, 2003).

### Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
  - b. Report on the Canadian Symposium
  - c. Whiting Catcher Vessel Industry Report
  - d. Newport, Oregon Inclusive Rationalization Meeting Report
  - e. Trawl Sector Initiatives
  - f. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
  - g. Public Comment
  - h. **Council Action:** Plan Future Council Action Regarding Groundfish IQ Development.
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