

## DEVELOPMENT OF GROUND FISH TRAWL INDIVIDUAL QUOTAS AND CONTROL DATE

Situation: Based on direction received from the Council at its September 2003 meeting, the Council Chair appointed the Ad Hoc Trawl Individual Quota (IQ) Committee (Exhibit D.12, Attachment 1). The committee is scheduled to meet October 28 and 29, 2003 and will provide a report under this agenda item. That report may include requests for additional guidance from the Council. The IQ committee meeting agenda is included as reference material (Exhibit D.12, Attachment 2).

In addition to responding to the committee report, the Council should evaluate the status of control dates pertaining to this program and determine whether or not additional control dates are required. Control dates put fishermen on notice that landings after the control date may not be counted toward qualification for IQs. The control date is intended to discourage increased effort during deliberation on a new program. Deliberations on IQ programs may encourage increased effort if fishers hope that additional landings will qualify them for a greater share of the initial allocation of quota shares. Such increases can deteriorate conditions in the fishery. Additionally, landings made only on the speculative basis of qualifying for greater initial allocation do not reflect true economic dependence or involvement in the fishery. Economic dependence and involvement are usually significant criteria on which initial allocation rules are based. Control dates do not require that the Council not consider landings after the date, but provide the Council with a more defensible position if it should decide to do so.

There are currently two control dates that may have some bearing on the program which will be developed for consideration: a general IQ control date of November 13, 1991 for all groundfish fisheries and a control date of April 9, 1998 which was announced in support of measures to “. . . further limit harvest capacity or to allocate between or within the limited entry commercial and the recreational groundfish fisheries. . . Possible measures include allocating harvest of particular groundfish species (rockfish and lingcod) between limited entry gear groups and between commercial and recreational fisheries and further limiting access to certain species within the Pacific Coast groundfish complex” (Exhibit D.12, Attachment 3).

### **Council Action:**

#### **1. Provide Guidance on the Next Steps in the Groundfish Trawl IQ Process.**

#### **Reference Materials:**

1. Exhibit D.12, Attachment 1: Ad Hoc Groundfish Trawl Individual Quota Committee Appointed press release.
2. Exhibit D.12, Attachment 2: Proposed Agenda for the Ad Hoc Trawl Individual Quota Committee meeting October 28-29, 2003.
3. Exhibit D.12, Attachment 3: *Federal Register* notice, Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.
4. Exhibit D.12.b, Supplemental TIQC Report: Report of the Ad Hoc Trawl Individual Quota Committee.

Agenda Order

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. Report of the Ad Hoc Groundfish Trawl IQ Committee
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Provide Guidance on the Next Steps in the Groundfish Trawl IQ Process

Jim Seger  
Dave Hanson

PFMC  
10/22/03