

PROPOSED PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL SCHEDULE AND PROCESS
FOR DEVELOPING 2005-2006 GROUND FISH FISHERY SPECIFICATIONS AND
MANAGEMENT MEASURES^{1/}

Option A: A November, March, April, and June Council Meeting Process

- October 14-17, 2003 The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and Council staff meet in Seattle, Washington to review new stock assessments and rebuilding analyses and draft a recommended range of 2005-2006 groundfish harvest specifications and preliminary management measures.
- November 3-7, 2003 The Council and advisory bodies meet in Del Mar, California to adopt:
1. New stock assessments for cabezon and lingcod and a new lingcod rebuilding analysis.
 2. The schedule and process for development of 2005-2006 groundfish fishery specifications and management measures.
 3. A range of 2005-2006 harvest specifications and a preliminary range of management measures.
- November 10, 2003-
January 30, 2004 The Bycatch Model Work Group develops proposed methodologies to model bycatch in trawl and fixed gear fisheries based on data from the Observer Program.
- January 14-16, 2004 The GMT and Council staff meet in La Jolla, California to complete a work plan to accomplish all the elements involved in the 2005-2006 groundfish fishery specifications and management measure process.
- January 23, 2004 The NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) releases the 2004 whiting stock assessment.
- January 30, 2004 The NWFSC releases a report summarizing the second year of observer data and proposed methodologies to model bycatch in trawl and fixed gear fisheries.
- February 2-4, 2004 Whiting Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel meets in Seattle, Washington.
- February 5-6, 2004 The Bycatch Model Work Group briefs the GMT and Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Groundfish Subcommittee on proposed methodologies to model bycatch in trawl and fixed gear fisheries; SSC Groundfish Subcommittee provides feedback as to any suggested improvements.

1/ Including 2004 whiting fishery management specifications and management measures.

- February 17-19, 2004 The GMT and Council staff meet in Portland, Oregon to analyze the preliminary acceptable biological catches (ABCs), optimum yields (OYs), and management measures adopted at the November Council meeting, as well as the whiting STAR report, and prepare a report presenting the results.
- February 26, 2004 Council staff distributes the GMT report on analysis of preliminary fishery specifications and management measures. (This is also the March Council Meeting Briefing Book distribution date.)
- February 27-
March 5, 2004 State and tribal agencies hold constituent meetings to obtain input on the analysis of preliminary management measures and recommendations for a range of refined management measures.
- March 8-12, 2004 Council and advisory bodies meet at the Sheraton Tacoma Hotel in Tacoma, Washington to adopt:
1. New observer data and bycatch models for trawl and fixed gear fisheries.
 2. Refined management measures for further analysis.
 3. Whiting fishery specifications and management measures for 2004.
- March 23-26, 2004 The GMT meets in Portland, Oregon to analyze the refined management measures, adopted at the March Council meeting, for presentation at the April Council meeting.
- April 5-9, 2004 Council and advisory bodies meet at the Red Lion Hotel in Sacramento, California to adopt final 2005-2006 groundfish harvest specifications and a preferred alternative for 2005-2006 management measures.
- April 13-16, 2004 The GMT meets in X to complete all remaining analytical tasks necessary for the preparation of a draft *Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Proposed 2005-2006 Groundfish Harvest Specifications and Management Measures*.
- May 21, 2004 Council staff completes a draft *DEIS for the Proposed 2005-2006 Groundfish Harvest Specifications and Management Measures*.
- Document authoring completed by May 12, 2004.
 - Document proofing and printing completed by May 19, 2004.
 - Document distribution completed by May 21, 2004.
- May 24-
June 11, 2004 State and tribal agencies hold constituent meetings to obtain input on final recommendations for final management measures.
- June 14-18, 2004 Council and advisory bodies meet at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Foster City, California to take final action on a complete set of 2005-2006 groundfish fishery specifications and management measures.
- July 16, 2004 Council staff completes and transmits final DEIS to NMFS.
- Document authoring completed by July 6, 2004.
 - Document proofing and printing completed by July 13, 2004.
 - Document distribution completed by July 16, 2004.

July 19-
December 31, 2004 NMFS conducts internal Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) process and further National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) processes, including notifying Council of approval or disapproval under MSA and Record of Decision signing under NEPA.

January 1, 2005 Groundfish fishery begins under adopted specifications and management measures.

PFMC
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