

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON
PRESEASON MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE AND PROCESS, ACCEPTABLE
BIOLOGICAL CATCH, PRELIMINARY OPTIMUM YIELD, AND MANAGEMENT
MEASURES FOR 2005-2006 FISHERIES

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) requested the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) review whether bycatch rates from the Washington arrowtooth flounder exempted fishing permit (EFP) and Oregon flatfish EFP could be used in the bycatch model for these sectors for 2005/2006 management. The SSC can comment on this during the March 2004 Council meeting if information on bycatch rates and total catches, along with full documentation of the methodology used to estimate bycatch rates, are available for review.

The GMT requested the SSC review the methodologies used by the states to project inseason recreational catch. This methodology is being revised at present and will be completed by the GMT meeting in January 2004. Review of this methodology will, therefore, have to occur during a workshop in 2004. Although the SSC notes the importance of these projections in the management of groundfish species, the SSC is currently considering a number of other groundfish-related workshops (see Exhibit D.9).

The ability of the SSC to dedicate its resources to this review will impact its ability to participate in other workshops during 2004 and review of the revised lingcod and cabezon assessments.

The SSC notes the table of preliminary optimum yield (OY) and acceptable biological catches (ABCs) for 2005/2006. The SSC comments on the revised assessments of lingcod and cabezon and the rebuilding analysis of lingcod provided under Exhibit D.6. The ABCs/OYs for these species will change, possibly to a substantial extent, when the assessments are updated based on the SSC comments.

PFMC
11/06/03