

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT ON
GROUNDFISH MANAGEMENT

Situation: The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will report on its regulatory and scientific activities relevant to groundfish fisheries. Specific items for discussion include an update on 2004 regulations, progress on the Vessel Monitoring System, approval and implementation of Amendment 16-1 and Amendment 16-2, notice of a control date and proposed rulemaking on an individual quota program for the limited entry trawl fishery, an update on the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program, reports on regional bycatch plans, and other issues of interest to the Council.

Council Task:

1. Discussion.

Reference Materials:

1. Exhibit E.1.a, Control Date Letter.
2. Exhibit E.1.a, Notice of Rulemaking and Control Date: *Federal Register* notice of control date and proposed rulemaking for trawl IQs.
3. Exhibit E.1.a, Amendment 16-1 Letter.
4. Exhibit E.1.a, Amendment 16-2 Letter.
5. Exhibit E.1.a, NMFS Vessel Monitoring System Report.
6. Exhibit E.1.c, NMFS Northwest Region Bycatch Report.
7. Exhibit E.1.c, NMFS Southwest Region Bycatch Report.
8. Exhibit E.1.e, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

- a. Regulatory Activities
- b. Science Center Activities
- c. Regional Bycatch Plans
- d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- e. Public Comment
- f. Council Discussion

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