

STATUS OF GROUND FISH FISHERIES AND INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS

Situation: The Council set optimum yield (OY) levels and various management measures for the 2004 groundfish management season, with the understanding these management measures will likely need to be adjusted periodically through the year in order to attain, but not exceed, the OYs. Under this agenda, the Council will receive updates on appropriate groundfish fisheries and consider adopting inseason adjustments.

The California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) will present information to the Council on the status of California recreational fisheries. The report will include a review of regulatory activities that have occurred since the November, 2003 Council meeting.

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) will present information on the status of ongoing fisheries, and any need for management measure adjustments.

Preliminary results from the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program (WCGOP) and proposed bycatch modeling methodologies are scheduled for initial review by the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) at this meeting (see Ancillary E, SSC Agenda). However, it is not expected that results of the reviewed bycatch models will be available for inseason management decision making at this Council meeting.

The Council is to consider advice from advisory bodies and the public on the status of ongoing fisheries and recommended inseason adjustments and adopt changes as necessary.

Council Action:

- 1. Consider information on the status of ongoing fisheries.**
- 2. Consider and adopt inseason adjustments as necessary.**

Reference Materials:

Exhibit E.4.b, CDFG News Release,: Recreational Lingcod Minimum Size and Bag Limits to Change.

1. Exhibit E.4.e, Public comments received by February 20, 2004.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agendum Overview
- b. CDFG Report on California Recreational Fisheries
- c. Report of the Groundfish Management Team
- d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- e. Public Comment
- f. **Council Action:** Consider Inseason Adjustments in the 2004 Groundfish Fishery

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PFMC
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