

## PHASE I WORK PLAN FOR CONSIDERATION OF A TRAWL INDIVIDUAL QUOTA (IQ) PROGRAM

The trawl IQ program entails two major decision issues for the Council: (1) design of the elements of the trawl IQ program, (2) consideration of allocation between trawl and other sectors of the industry. Four phases have been identified for the development of the program. With regards to these two decision issues the objectives for Phase I<sup>1/</sup> are:

- (1) develop trawl IQ program alternatives to be analyzed in an EIS through a NEPA compliant scoping process;
- (2) determine the breadth of allocation issues which may need to be addressed to support the trawl IQ program.

The attached table and corresponding figure provides a step-by-step workplan for the portion of Phase I related to development of trawl IQ program alternatives. A time frame for action is provide through July. Progress after July will depend on other workload and resources available to support the process. Some key elements of the process include:

- Appointment of an analytical team (likely understaffed based on current agency commitments).
- Contracting for support for the analytical team.
- Development of a workplan for the enforcement tracking and monitoring group and formation of the group.
- Enlistment of assistance from independent economic reviewers<sup>2/</sup>.
- Initiation of a public scoping process including release of a detailed scoping document and scoping hearings in each state.

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- 1/ Phase II will entail development of the trawl IQ program EIS and a NEPA scoping process for allocation alternatives. The two processes are staggered to reduce delays from bottlenecks in the process. Phase III involves final NMFS action on the trawl IQ program and development of an allocation EIS (if necessary). Phase IV entails implementation of the trawl IQ program (if necessary) and final NMFS action on and implementation of the allocation EIS (if necessary).
  - 2/ The initial budget for this project included travel money for economists to attend TIQC meetings and provide advice on development of alternatives. After additional discussions with potential participants in this group it was decided that a more effective way for them to participate would be to provide independent review and comment on the options and analytical approaches developed during the scoping process.

Table: Phase I of plan for developing trawl IQ alternatives (excluding allocation issues).

Council	Scoping and Alternative Development	Analytical Team and Independent Economists	ETM
<b>March-April</b>			
Council decision on appointment of teams (Analytical Team, Enforcement/Tracking/Monitoring Team)	TIQC meeting to complete informal scoping of strawman options for public scoping.  Announce start of formal scoping.	Contract help for analytical team.  Identify independent economists to advise on analysis and option development.	Establish a workplan for ETM
<b>May-June</b>			
Release Public Scoping Document (options and scope for analysis) (after review at June meeting?)		Analytical team meets with contractor and independent economists to scope analytical issues.  Analytical team and contractor assembles background data and begins analysis of some central IQ program issues (e.g. concentration limits).	. . . tasks dependent on workplan . . .
<b>July - ???</b>			
	Public Scoping Hearings	Analytical team and contractor continue work	
	End scoping Summary of public comments	Independent economists review results of scoping and provide other options for consideration.	
	TIQC reviews public scoping comments, comments of independent economists and background data from analytical team. Develops recommendations.		
Council reviews:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• public comments</li> <li>• TIQC recommendations</li> <li>• independent economist comments</li> <li>• analytical team initial work product.</li> </ul> Specifies initial options for preliminary analysis.			

Table: Phase I of plan for developing trawl IQ alternatives (excluding allocation issues).

Council	Scoping and Alternative Development	Analytical Team and Independent Economists	ETM
Council adopts options for draft EIS	TIQC reviews preliminary analysis, report from tracking and monitoring group and develops recommendations	Analytical team completes preliminary analysis.	Report from tracking and monitoring group.

# Possible Pathway for Phase I TIQ Scoping

