

UPDATE ON TRAWL INDIVIDUAL QUOTA (TIQ) PROGRAM

Situation: At the November 2003 Council meeting, the Council voted unanimously to move forward with consideration of a dedicated access privilege program of individual quotas for the groundfish trawl fishery, via preparation of an EIS. Written updates on progress were presented at the March and April 2004 Council meetings. The following events, occurring since the April Council meeting, reflect progress since then.

- May 4            TIQ Oversight Committee agreed to plans for expenditure of funds and the process, through the step in which the Council specifies an initial set of options for preliminary analysis.
- May 7            The Advisory Committee for the California Groundfish Fishery Disaster Relief Program made funding the Council IFQ process its first priority for surplus funds.
- May 21          Council Chairman, Don Hansen, appointed panel of independent experts as an unpaid review body (Exhibit C.9.a, Attachment 1).
- May 24          Notice of intent to produce an EIS was published in the Federal Register (provided as part of the scoping document).
- May 25-26      TIQ Enforcement Group met to scope enforcement issues.
- June 8-9        TIQ Analytical Team met with independent experts panel and contractors to scope analytical tasks.
- June 13         Scoping hearing held in Foster City California.

The formal public comment period of the scoping process is scheduled to end August 2. Two additional scoping hearings are proposed.

Possible hearing schedule and locations, for Council consideration:	
Tuesday July 20, 2004	Seattle, Washington
Tuesday July 27, 2004	Newport, Oregon

Several additional steps will occur preparatory to the next Council decision, whether or not to continue the process and specify initial options for comprehensive analysis. The TIQ Analytical Team is scheduled to meet again July 1 and 2 to develop an approach for analysis that can be developed while the scoping process is completed. Following completion of the scoping process the independent experts panel will meet to review the results of the scoping process. Then, the scoping results, panels comments, and analysis will be given to the TIQ Committee for review and development of comments for the Council. The TIQ Enforcement Group will meet to review scoping comments and develop options for the Council and the groundfish Allocation Committee will meet to evaluate the scope of the between sector allocation tasks that may be entailed in this project. When these activities are completed, a summary of public comment together with reports from the TIQ Committee, TIQ Analytical Team, TIQ Enforcement Group, the TIQ Independent Experts Panel and the Allocation Committee will be presented to the Council for review, determination of whether or not to move forward, and specification of initial options for intensive analysis.

A draft public scoping document is provided for Council review and approval (Exhibit C.9.a, Attachment 2).

**Council Action:**

**1. Provide Guidance on Next Steps in the Process and Approve Scoping Documents for Public Distribution.**

**Reference Materials:**

1. Exhibit C.9.a, Attachment 1: Membership on the Ad Hoc Groundfish Trawl IQ Independent Experts Panel.
2. Exhibit C.9.a, Attachment 2: Draft Public Scoping Document: Dedicated Access Privileges for the Pacific Coast Limited Entry Trawl Groundfish Fishery.
3. Exhibit C.9.c, Public Comment.

**Agenda Order:**

- a. Agendum Overview
  - b. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
  - c. Public Comment
  - d. **Council Action:** Provide Guidance on Further Development and Approve Scoping Documents for Public Distribution
- Jim Seger

PFMC  
06/01/04