

STATUS OF 2005 GROUND FISH FISHERIES AND CONSIDERATION
OF INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS

The Council set optimum yield (OY) levels and various management measures for the 2005 groundfish management season with the understanding these management measures will likely need to be adjusted periodically through the year with the goal of attaining, but not exceeding, the OYs. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) will meet on Sunday and Monday (see Ancillary A and Ancillary B agendas) to discuss and recommend inseason adjustments to ongoing 2005 groundfish fisheries.

The May 2 public notice of an emergency rule implemented by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) setting bycatch limits in the open access fishery is included in this agenda item (Agenda Item C.4.a, Attachment 1) for discussion and potential Council action.

Under this Agenda Item, the Council is to consider advisory body advice and public comment on the status of ongoing fisheries and recommended inseason adjustments prior to adopting final changes as necessary. The Council may provide guidance to the GMT and GAP prior to making final inseason adjustments under Agenda Item C.7 on Friday, or make final inseason adjustments under this agenda item. If the latter course is chosen, there will be opportunity to confirm or clarify the Council decision under Agenda Item C.7.

Council Action:

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

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item C.4.a, Attachment 1: NMFS Public Notice of an Emergency Rule to Set Bycatch Limits for Directed Open Access Fishery.
2. Agenda Item C.4.d, Public Comment: Public Comments received by the Briefing Book Deadline.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. Report of the Groundfish Management Team
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. **Council Action:** Adopt Preliminary or Final Inseason Adjustments for the 2005 Groundfish Fishery

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