

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON
COUNCIL THREE MEETING OUTLOOK, DRAFT NOVEMBER 2005 COUNCIL
MEETING AGENDA, AND WORK LOAD PRIORITIES

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) reviewed the preliminary draft Council meeting agenda for the October Council meeting and has the following comments.

Draft November Council Meeting Agenda

Agenda Items G.2., Approve remaining stock assessments and rebuilding analyses, and G.3., adopt a range of acceptable biological catches and optimum yields, are scheduled back-to-back for Tuesday. If the Scientific and Statistical Committee is unable to come to final conclusions on remaining assessments and rebuilding analyses at the mop-up Stock Assessment Review Panel meeting, the GMT recommends that they consider meeting earlier than currently scheduled (i.e., Sunday rather than Monday) in order to resolve any remaining issues. This would provide the GMT with sufficient time to prepare recommendations on harvest specifications for the Council to consider on Tuesday.

Work Load Priorities

At the June Council meeting, the Council provided the GMT with specific guidance regarding September agenda items for which the Council considered GMT feedback important, and agenda items for which the Council considered GMT input to be of low priority. This guidance provided the GMT with greater clarity when identifying how to focus GMT discussion and work on specific topics. The GMT would appreciate similar guidance from the Council regarding prioritization of our workload for the November Council meeting.