

BIGEYE TUNA OVERFISHING RESPONSE UPDATE

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) notified the Council that it must take action to address overfishing of bigeye tuna by June 14, 2005. A similar notification was given to the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPFMC). At the June 2005 meeting, the Council was briefed on both the WPFMC's proposals to develop a fishery management plan (FMP) amendment to address bigeye tuna overfishing and on a strategy put forward by NMFS. (The WPFMC's proposed revisions to the NMFS strategy are contained in Attachment 1.) In response, the Council moved to begin work on an amendment to the Fishery Management Plan for U.S. West Coast Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species (HMS FMP) addressing this issue. NMFS Southwest Region agreed to take lead responsibility on developing the amendment package for Council consideration.

Mr. Mark Helvey will provide an update on the development of the amendment package (Exhibit C.2.b, NMFS Report).

Council Task: Council Discussion and Guidance on Response to Overfishing of Bigeye Tuna.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item C.2.a, Attachment 1: Letter from Ms. Kitty Simonds, WPFMC Executive Director, to Mr. Bill Robinson, NMFS with proposed revisions to NMFS strategy.
2. Agenda Item C.2.b, NMFS Report.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. NMFS Report
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comment
- e. Council Discussion and Guidance on Response to Overfishing of Bigeye Tuna

Kit Dahl
Mark Helvey

PFMC
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