

TENTATIVE ADOPTION OF 2007-2008 GROUND FISH FISHERY  
SPECIFICATIONS/MANAGEMENT MEASURES AND AMENDMENT 16-4

Under this agenda item, the Council is scheduled to take tentative final action to: 1) adopt 2007-2008 optimum yields (OYs) and rebuilding plans for depleted groundfish species; 2) consider setting aside bycatch caps for proposed 2007 Exempted Fishing Permits (EFPs) (2007 EFP applications are included as Informational Reports in this briefing book); 3) adopt 2007-2008 groundfish management measures; and 4) adopt Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) Amendment 16-4 amendatory language. This tentative adoption will be followed by review and analysis by the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and the Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) with opportunity for clarification under Agenda Item F.5 on Thursday followed by final adoption under Agenda Item F.6 on Friday.

A preliminary draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) is provided to help the Council understand the interconnected consequences of these decisions: biological – effects on living marine resources; physical – effects on habitats and the marine ecosystem; and socioeconomic – effects on fishermen, processors and, fishing communities. Excerpted sections of the preliminary DEIS are provided as Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 1. These excerpted sections include: Chapter 2 in its entirety, which describes the 2007-2008 OY alternatives, rebuilding alternatives, and 2007-2008 management measure alternatives; portions of Chapter 4, which describes effects of these alternatives on West Coast marine species; and portions of Chapter 7, which describes the effects of these alternatives on West Coast fishing communities. Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 2 is a CD copy of the preliminary DEIS with all the sections completed as of the May 24 briefing book deadline. The DEIS will be formally submitted for public review in mid-July, after the Council's final, preferred alternatives are recommended and analyzed.

Draft FMP Amendment 16-4 amendatory language has been updated with the Council's recommended modifications from the April meeting and is provided as Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 3. This draft is complete except for section 4.5.4, which describes the species-specific groundfish rebuilding plans. Alternate versions of section 4.5.4, which will describe rebuilding plans under the Preferred Low OY and Preferred High OY alternatives set by the Council for overfished species in April, will be supplemental attachments under this agenda item. The Council should adopt the relevant version of these species-specific rebuilding plans, consistent with the final preferred OYs it sets for the seven overfished species.

State and tribal entities have provided recommendations for 2007-2008 groundfish management and Amendment 16-4 rebuilding plans. California Department of Fish and Game's recommendations are included in Agenda Item F.2.b, CDFG Report. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife presents their recommendations in Agenda Item F.2.b, ODFW Report and ODFW Report 2, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's recommendations are provided in Agenda Item F.2.b, WDFW Report. Additionally, public comments that were received at the Council office by the June briefing book deadline are included in Agenda Item F.2.d, Public Comments.

The Council should consider the state and tribal proposals and preliminary DEIS analyses, as well as advice from advisory bodies and the public before adopting final 2007-2008 OYs and management measures, final rebuilding plans, and the FMP Amendment 16-4 language codifying the Council's rebuilding plans. The Council may want to request additional analyses by the GMT and GAP under this agenda item. Results for any requested analyses can be provided on Thursday under Agenda Item F.5. Final Council action on 2007-2008 OYs and management measures, and Amendment 16-4 rebuilding plans is scheduled for Friday under Agenda Item F.6.

### **Council Action:**

- 1. Adopt Preferred 2007-2008 Optimum Yields for Depleted Groundfish Species.**
- 2. Consider Setting Aside EFP Bycatch Caps for 2007 EFPs.**
- 3. Adopt Tentative Final 2007-2008 Management Measures.**
- 4. Adopt Final Amendment 16-4 FMP Language.**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 1: Chapter 2 of the Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Proposed Acceptable Biological Catch and Optimum Yield Specifications and Management Measures for the 2007-2008 Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery and Amendment 16-4: Rebuilding Plans for Seven Depleted Pacific Coast Groundfish Species (DEIS).
2. Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 2: Excerpts from Chapters 4 and 7 of the DEIS.
3. Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 3: Draft Amendment 16-4 (Overfished Species Rebuilding Reprise) Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan for the California, Oregon, and Washington Groundfish Fishery.
4. Agenda Item F.2.a, Attachment 4: **CD Copy** of the Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Proposed Acceptable Biological Catch and Optimum Yield Specifications and Management Measures for the 2007-2008 Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery and Amendment 16-4: Rebuilding Plans for Seven Depleted Pacific Coast Groundfish Species (**on Council briefing book CD**).
5. Agenda Item F.2.b, CDFG Report: California Department of Fish and Game Report on Rockfish Conservation Area Management Alternatives for 2007-2008 Groundfish Management.
6. Agenda Item F.2.b, ODFW Report: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Report Summarizing Public Comment Received Regarding 2007-2008 Groundfish Management.
7. Agenda Item F.2.b, ODFW Report 2: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on the Proposed Stonewall Banks Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area.
8. Agenda Item F.2.b, WDFW Report: Washington Department Of Fish And Wildlife Report on 2007-2008 Groundfish Fishery Specifications/Management Measures and Amendment 16-4.
9. Agenda Item F.2.d, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

- a. Agenda Item Overview
- b. State, Tribal, and Federal Agency Recommendations
- c. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies
- d. Public Comments
- e. **Council Action:** Tentative Adoption of 2007-2008 Final Acceptable Biological Catches (ABCs), Optimum Yields (OYs), Management Measures, and Revised Rebuilding Plans for Overfished Species (Amendment 16-4)

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05/26/06