

Groundfish Trawl Individual Quotas (TIQ)

Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) Status Report

June 2006

Summary of Project Status

Most Recent Actions:

- Council (June 2005)
 - adopted a set of TIQ alternatives for analysis
 - authorized the initiation of scoping for an intersector allocation Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- Council (November 2005)
 - reviewed provisions and made recommendations for addressing community concerns
 - eliminated an alternative that would have required TIQ for overfished species only
- Allocation Committee (November 2005)
 - met to develop intersector allocation alternatives
- Independent Experts Panel (March 2006)
 - met to review internal review draft of document to be presented at the April 18-20 workshop
- Public workshop held on stage 1 of the analytical process (April 18-20, 2006)

Current Activities:

- Drafting of the TIQ analytical package (including EIS) is in progress under a contract with Northern Economics Incorporated (NEI). The stage 1 draft, analytical approaches and methods will be presented for Council review at its June 2006 meeting.
- Public scoping for the intersector allocation is underway and historic harvest data is being summarized by sector. The Council will take up intersector allocation at its September 2006 meeting.

Next Major Events:

Date	Event	Location
June 11-16, 2006	Council Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Stage 1 Draft TIQ Analytical Package • Determine need to modify alternatives 	Foster City, CA (San Francisco Bay Area)
Summer, 2006 Sept, 2006	TIQC Meeting to review interim components analysis. Council Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review interim components analysis. • Confirm June action on Stage 1 draft • Review scoping results on intersector allocation 	Portland, OR Foster City, CA

Funding Status (TIQ Program and Intersector Allocation)

The projected Council funding need for full development of a TIQ system includes both deliberations on the design of a TIQ program and the intersector allocations necessary to determine the share of the optimum yield to be allocated to the trawl fishery.

Total Council need: \$2,250,000 (updated December 2005)

Total received: \$555,000

Total remaining need: \$1,695,000

Contract Work Status

Drafting the TIQ Analytical Package. The Council has entered into a contract with NEI in October 2005 to begin work on the TIQ analytical package. Drafting of the analytical package for the TIQ program has been divided into two stages because funding was not available to allow development of a complete package. The analytical package includes an EIS, regulatory impact review, regulatory flexibility analysis, and fishery impact statement, along with other required analyses. Funding for the full analysis will need to be secured prior to the end of the first stage in order for the analytical process to proceed to completion without further interruption.

An outline of the analysis and types of impacts to be evaluated was presented at a public workshop April 18-20, 2006. The document will be further developed and revised in response to information and comments received at the workshop. It will then be presented to the Council at its June 2006 meeting. The second stage of drafting will commence when the first stage is completed and needed funding has been secured.

Data summaries for Intersector Allocation. Summaries of historic harvest data for the commercial and recreational fisheries were compiled under contract with Dr. Edward Waters and presented to the Allocation Committee at its November 2005 meeting.

Committee Activity Status

TIQ Committee (TIQC)

The TIQC is the lead constituent committee advising the Council on development of the TIQ program. The TIQC has met six times, first in October 2003 and last in October 2005. Its first five meetings led to the development of the set of options adopted for analysis by the Council at its June 2005 meeting. At its October 2005 meeting, the TIQC reviewed alternatives developed by the TIQ Analytical Team to address community concerns.

TIQC members were given the opportunity to participate in an internal review of a preliminary draft of the analytical package under development by NEI and participate in the April 18-20, 2006 workshop on the draft stage 1 analysis. Upcoming activities for the TIQC include a one day meeting at the June 2006 Council meeting to review the draft NEI work product and a meeting in the summer of 2006 to review an interim analysis of some of the components of the alternatives.

TIQ Analytical Team (AT)

The AT has met four times, first in June 2004 and last in November 2004. At its November 2004 meeting, a work plan was developed for conducting additional analyses in support of TIQC policy deliberations to occur from January through May 2005. The work plan was only partially implemented due to a shortfall in the funding available for contractors working in support of the AT.

The last major work product of the AT was a set of community related options for Council consideration. The analytical basis for the options was presented to the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) at its September 2005 meeting and the options were reviewed by the Council at its November 2005 meeting.

Establishment of a contract with NEI has resulted in a shift in the roll of the AT. Rather than taking the lead in developing analyses, the AT role is now to provide expert advice to NEI on development of the analyses and to review NEI work products.

AT members attended the meeting of the IEP on March 16, 2006, and participated in the April 18-20, 2006 workshop on the draft stage 1 analysis.

TIQ Independent Experts Panel (IEP)

The IEP met two times, first in June 2004 and last in September 2004. Their first meeting was a joint meeting with the TIQ AT. At their September 2004 meeting, they recommended revisions to the goals and objectives, which were later adopted by the Council. The IEP also specified a process for its review of the draft analysis to be developed by the TIQ AT once the Council adopted alternatives for analysis. Since that time, workload and funding considerations have led to the transfer of the main responsibility for drafting analyses to the outside contractor (NEI).

Recent activities of the IEP included internal review of preliminary drafts developed by NEI prior to the April 18-20, 2006 workshop. IEP members were not available for the April workshop. A special meeting was held March 16, 2006 to provide NEI with an opportunity to receive advice from members of the IEP. A complete draft was not available at that time. The IEP agreed that it would meet again early on in the next stage of the drafting process, after some of the methods had been applied and initial results developed.

TIQ Enforcement Group (EG)

The TIQ EG met two times, first in May 2004 and last in September 2004. The TIQ EG developed enforcement alternatives and estimates of enforcement costs for status quo and management under a generic, catch-based individual quota program.

In December 2005, TIQ EG members were given the opportunity to participate in an internal review of a preliminary draft document developed by NEI. Some EG members participated in the April 18-20, 2006 workshop. The next task for the EG will be to review preliminary results from the analysis, when they become available.

Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC)

The SSC has been involved in review of the TIQ program only when it has come before the Council for major actions. The SSC reviewed the TIQ program alternatives at its November 2004 meeting and provided comments to the Council. It reiterated those comments at the June 2005 Council meeting. In June 2005, the Council charged the AT to work with the SSC to draft options to address community concerns. The SSC reviewed the technical basis for the options

developed by the AT at the September 2005 SSC meeting and provided comments at the November 2005 Council meeting.

SSC members Mike Dalton, Tom Jagielo, Hans Radtke, and David Sampson have agreed to take the lead for the SSC in tracking and reviewing development of the TIQ program. The SSC has been asked to participate in the internal review of preliminary drafts of the analysis developed by NEI. The SSC subgroup participated at the April 18-20, 2006 workshop. The next task for the SSC will be to review and comment to the Council on the contractor stage 1 analysis being provided at the June 2006 Council meeting.

Groundfish Management Team (GMT)

The GMT last reviewed and commented to the Council on the TIQ program at the June 2005 Council meeting. Merrick Burden is the GMT lead on the TIQ process. A GMT representative (Mark Saelens) attended the March 16, 2006 meeting of the IEP and the April 18-20 workshop on the draft stage 1 analysis. Because of other workload related to the 2007-2008 annual specifications process, the GMT will not have had time to review the draft stage 1 analysis for the June Council meeting. They will have an opportunity to review the document over the summer and provide comments at the September 2006 Council meeting.

Groundfish Advisory Panel (GAP)

The GAP reviews TIQ issues as they arise on the Council agenda. The GAP last advised the Council on the TIQ program at the November 2005 Council meeting, at which time, options to address community concerns were considered.

In December 2005, GAP members were given the opportunity to participate in an internal review of a preliminary draft of the analytical package under development by NEI. GAP members were invited to participate at the April 18-20, 2006 workshop. Because of workload related to the 2007-2008 annual specifications process, the GAP will not have had time to review the draft stage 1 analysis at the June Council meeting. They will have an opportunity to review the document and provide comments at the September 2006 Council meeting.

Allocation Committee

The Allocation Committee role is to address aspects of the TIQ system directly impacting other sectors. The main direct impact is the development of the intersector allocations necessary to determine the share of fish that will be available for the TIQ program. The Allocation Committee has requested data summaries and begun development of some approaches for determining the priorities and methods for resolving intersector allocation issues. An initial summary of historic harvest data was presented at the November 2005 Allocation Committee meeting. Data issues need to be resolved pertaining to (1) the source from which the recreational data was drawn and (2) commercial landings that could not be assigned to a sector of the fleet. The next Allocation Committee meeting focusing on the long-term intersector allocation issue may occur over the summer.