

TRAWL INDIVIDUAL QUOTA INFORMATION SESSION  
(TUESDAY EVENING)

The Tuesday evening information session will be on the question of the relative proportion of quota shares that would go to permit owners and processors if an IFQ program is implemented. The following will be the order of business for the session.

Call to Order .....Don Hansen  
Issue Overview.....Jim Seger  
Opening Presentations .....Pete Leipzig and Jay Bornstein  
(order to be determined)  
Advance Questions (see below)..... Don McIsaac  
Other Questions .....Council Members  
Closing Comments.....Pete Leipzig and Jay Bornstein  
(order to be determined)

Opportunity will be provided for public comment or questions when this issue comes before the Council on Thursday, but not during the information session. The information session will be structured somewhat like a debate in order to ensure that an equitable opportunity is provided for both presenters to make their statements: presentations and responses to questions will be time limited; and opportunity will be provided to each presenter to comment on the initial response of the other.

The following two questions will be posed to the permit-owner and processor industry representatives.

1. **How would the allocation of some of the quota shares to processors help or hurt the effectiveness of a TIQ program in terms of the program performance with respect to National Standards in the MSA, goals and objectives of the Council's groundfish FMP, and the goals and objectives currently listed for the trawl individual quota program?** [Standards, goals and objectives are provided below for reference.]
2. **How would the allocation of some of the quota shares to processors affect the balance of marketing power between fishermen and processors?** Assume a hypothetical 3% accumulation cap on control of all nonwhiting groundfish quota shares (in aggregate). Note that under this hypothetical assumption, while the accumulation cap for all nonwhiting groundfish quota shares may be 3%, there may be higher caps for individual species, including whiting.

Presenters were invited to provide summaries of their positions for the briefing book (Agenda Item C.7.a, TIQ Information Session (2)).

**Title III -- National Fishery Management Program;  
Sec. 301. National Standards For Fishery Conservation and Management of the  
Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act**

- (a) **IN GENERAL.**--Any fishery management plan prepared, and any regulation promulgated to implement any such plan, pursuant to this title shall be consistent with the following national standards for fishery conservation and management:
- (1) Conservation and management measures shall prevent overfishing while achieving, on a continuing basis, the optimum yield from each fishery for the United States fishing industry.
  - (2) Conservation and management measures shall be based upon the best scientific information available.
  - (3) To the extent practicable, an individual stock of fish shall be managed as a unit throughout its range, and interrelated stocks of fish shall be managed as a unit or in close coordination.
  - (4) Conservation and management measures shall not discriminate between residents of different States. If it becomes necessary to allocate or assign fishing privileges among various United States fishermen, such allocation shall be (A) fair and equitable to all such fishermen; (B) reasonably calculated to promote conservation; and (C) carried out in such manner that no particular individual, corporation, or other entity acquires an excessive share of such privileges.
  - (5) Conservation and management measures shall, where practicable, consider efficiency in the utilization of fishery resources; except that no such measure shall have economic allocation as its sole purpose.
  - (6) Conservation and management measures shall take into account and allow for variations among, and contingencies in, fisheries, fishery resources, and catches.
  - (7) Conservation and management measures shall, where practicable, minimize costs and avoid unnecessary duplication.
  - (8) Conservation and management measures shall, consistent with the conservation requirements of this Act (including the prevention of overfishing and rebuilding of overfished stocks), take into account the importance of fishery resources to fishing communities in order to (A) provide for the sustained participation of such communities, and (B) to the extent practicable, minimize adverse economic impacts on such communities.
  - (9) Conservation and management measures shall, to the extent practicable, (A) minimize bycatch and (B) to the extent bycatch cannot be avoided, minimize the mortality of such bycatch.
  - (10) Conservation and management measures shall, to the extent practicable, promote the safety of human life at sea.

**Goals and Objectives for Managing the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery**

The Council is committed to developing long-range plans for managing the Washington, Oregon, and California groundfish fisheries that will promote a stable planning environment for the seafood industry, including marine recreation interests, and will maintain the health of the resource and environment. In developing allocation and harvesting systems, the Council will give consideration to maximizing economic benefits to the United States, consistent with resource stewardship responsibilities for the continuing welfare of the living marine resources. Thus, management must be flexible enough to meet changing social and economic needs of the fishery as well as to address fluctuations in the marine resources supporting the fishery. The following goals have been established in order of priority for managing the West Coast groundfish fisheries, to be considered in conjunction with the national standards of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Magnuson-Stevens Act).

Management Goals.

Goal 1 - Conservation. Prevent overfishing by managing for appropriate harvest levels and prevent any net loss of the habitat of living marine resources.

Goal 2 - Economics. Maximize the value of the groundfish resource as a whole.

Goal 3 - Utilization. Achieve the maximum biological yield of the overall groundfish fishery, promote year-round availability of quality seafood to the consumer, and promote recreational fishing opportunities.

Objectives. To accomplish these management goals, a number of objectives will be considered and followed as closely as practicable:

Conservation.

Objective 1. Maintain an information flow on the status of the fishery and the fishery resource which allows for informed management decisions as the fishery occurs.

Objective 2. Adopt harvest specifications and management measures consistent with resource stewardship responsibilities for each groundfish species or species group.

Objective 3. For species or species groups which are below the level necessary to produce maximum sustainable yield (MSY), consider rebuilding the stock to the MSY level and, if necessary, develop a plan to rebuild the stock.

Objective 4. Where conservation problems have been identified for nongroundfish species and the best scientific information shows that the groundfish fishery has a direct impact on the ability of that species to maintain its long-term reproductive health, the Council may consider establishing management measures to control the impacts of groundfish fishing on those species. Management measures may be imposed on the groundfish fishery to reduce fishing mortality of a nongroundfish species for documented conservation reasons. The action will be designed to minimize disruption of the groundfish fishery, in so far as consistent with the goal to minimize the bycatch of nongroundfish species, and will not preclude achievement of a quota, harvest guideline, or allocation of groundfish, if any, unless such action is required by other applicable law.

Objective 5. Describe and identify essential fish habitat (EFH), adverse impacts on EFH, and other actions to conserve and enhance EFH, and adopt management measures that minimize, to the extent practicable, adverse impacts from fishing on EFH.

Economics.

Objective 6. Attempt to achieve the greatest possible net economic benefit to the nation from the managed fisheries.

Objective 7. Identify those sectors of the groundfish fishery for which it is beneficial to promote year-round marketing opportunities and establish management policies that extend those sectors fishing and marketing opportunities as long as practicable during the fishing year.

Objective 8. Gear restrictions to minimize the necessity for other management measures will be used whenever practicable.

Utilization.

Objective 9. Develop management measures and policies that foster and encourage full utilization (harvesting and processing) of the Pacific coast groundfish resources by domestic fisheries.

Objective 10. Recognizing the multispecies nature of the fishery and establish a concept of managing by species and gear or by groups of interrelated species.

Objective 11. Strive to reduce the economic incentives and regulatory measures that lead to wastage of fish. Also, develop management measures that minimize bycatch to the extent practicable and, to the extent that bycatch cannot be avoided, minimize the mortality of such bycatch. In addition, promote and support monitoring programs to improve estimates of total fishing-related mortality and bycatch, as well as those to improve other information necessary to determine the extent to which it is practicable to reduce bycatch and bycatch mortality.

Objective 12. Provide for foreign participation in the fishery, consistent with the other goals to take that portion of the optimum yield (OY) not utilized by domestic fisheries while minimizing conflict with domestic fisheries.

#### Social Factors.

Objective 13. When conservation actions are necessary to protect a stock or stock assemblage, attempt to develop management measures that will affect users equitably.

Objective 14. Minimize gear conflicts among resource users.

Objective 15. When considering alternative management measures to resolve an issue, choose the measure that best accomplishes the change with the least disruption of current domestic fishing practices, marketing procedures, and the environment.

Objective 16. Avoid unnecessary adverse impacts on small entities.

Objective 17. Consider the importance of groundfish resources to fishing communities, provide for the sustained participation of fishing communities, and minimize adverse economic impacts on fishing communities to the extent practicable.

Objective 18. Promote the safety of human life at sea.

### **Trawl Individual Quota Program Goals and Objectives**

The following list of “goals, objectives, and constraints and guiding principles” outlines the purpose of the proposed action. This list is based on recommendations of the IEP, as modified by the TIQC and Council. The Council adopted this list in June 2005 while recommending to move forward with consideration of an Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) program for the trawl fishery.

#### **Goals**

1. Increase regional and national net benefits including improvements in economic, social, environmental and fishery management objectives.
2. Achieve capacity rationalization through market forces and create an environment for decision making that can rapidly and efficiently adjust to changing conditions.

#### **Objectives**

1. Provide for a viable, profitable and efficient groundfish fishery.
2. Minimize negative ecological impact while taking the available harvest.
3. Reduce bycatch and discard mortality.

4. Promote individual accountability – responsibility for catch (landed catch and discards).
5. Increase stability for business planning.
6. Increase operational flexibility.
7. Minimize adverse effects from an IFQ program on fishing communities to the extent practical.
8. Promote measurable economic and employment benefits through the seafood catching, processing, distribution elements, and support sectors of the industry.
9. Provide quality product for the consumer.
10. Increase safety in the fishery.

### **Constraints and Guiding Principles**

1. Taking into account the biological structure of the stocks including such factors as populations and genetics.
2. Taking into account the need to ensure that the total OYs and Allowable Biological Catch (ABC) for the trawl and all other sectors are not exceeded.
3. Accounting for total groundfish mortality.
4. Avoiding provisions where the primary intent is a change in marketing power balance between harvesting and processing sectors.
5. Avoiding excessive quota concentration.
6. Providing efficient and effective monitoring and enforcement.
7. Designing a responsive review evaluation and modification mechanism.
8. Take into account the management and administrative costs of implementing and overseeing the IFQ program and complementary catch monitoring programs and the limited state and federal resources available.