

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON
FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA AND WORKLOAD PLANNING

The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) reviewed the Preliminary Proposed Council Meeting Agendas for the remainder of the year (Agenda Items C.1.a Attachments 2-4) and offers the following comments.

The GMT appreciates the courtesy that the Council has extended in prioritizing analyses for this current meeting. The June agenda is also particularly full given the need to adopt biennial groundfish specifications and management measures for 2009-2010, adopt a stock assessment schedule for 2009, adopt trawl rationalization alternatives for the preliminary draft Environmental Impact Statement, and begin the five-year review of essential fish habitat. These items are also in addition to an often lengthy suite of inseason management measure considerations that arise in June each year.

Given the workload for the June meeting and the need to front load the process, the GMT requests that a sub-group of GMT members (approximately 5 members) meet prior to the May 13-15, 2008 Groundfish Allocation Meeting (GAC) in Portland, Oregon. The GMT notes that the GAC meeting will start mid-day on a Tuesday, so the GMT suggests meeting a day and a half prior to allow the Team to discuss progress on issues arising from the 2009-2010 specifications and management measures analyses.

PFMC
4/11/08