

Please note: This motion may have been modified by several amendments; which will be available in the Final April 2009 Council Meeting Minutes and Voting Log. Some of the items listed in this document may or may not have been voted on. Again, please note the final will be available in the Final April 2009 Council Meeting Minutes and Voting Log.

Agenda Item F.3.d
Supplemental WDFW Motions in Writing
April 2009

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE MOTIONS ON GROUNDFISH FMP AMENDMENT 21: INTERSECTOR ALLOCATION

Working from Agenda Item F.3.a, Attachment 1, Preliminary Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Agenda Item F.3.b, GAC Report, I would move the following motions:

Motion # 1: Intersector Allocation between trawl and non-trawl: Adopt the GAC Alternative, which includes:

- Status quo allocation for Pacific whiting
- Allocations for all other species, except those for which IFQ would not be assigned through the trawl rationalization program as well as those species for which allocations would be decided through the biennial specifications process (actual species included listed in Table 2-10 on p. 23 of Preliminary Draft EIS). Note: longspine thornyhead south of 34°27' would not be included.
- Using 2003-2005 sector total catch percentages as the basis for allocations
- All trawl allocations greater than or equal to 95% would be set at 95% (actual percentages, by species, are in Table 2-9, on p. 21 of Preliminary Draft EIS)

Motion # 2: Pacific halibut trawl bycatch limits: Alternative 4, with one change (underlined):

- An initial limit for total Pacific halibut bycatch mortality (legal-sized and sublegal fish) in the trawl fishery of 15%, not to exceed 130,000 lbs. per year for the first four years.
- Beginning with the fifth year of implementation, the maximum amount set aside for the trawl rationalization program would be reduced to a total mortality amount of 100,000 lbs. per year.
- The total halibut bycatch mortality amount may be adjusted downward through the biennial specifications process for future years.
- The at-sea trawl sector and shoreside trawl sector south of 40°10' N. latitude would have a bycatch set aside of 5 mt each (total bycatch set aside of 10 mt), which would come out of the 15% trawl sector allocation.

Motion # 3:

1. At-sea sector set asides: Adopt the GAC recommendation to set the at-sea sector set asides large enough to not constrain their fisheries given the interannual variation in sector catches by establishing a 5 mt minimum set-aside for any incidentally caught species in the at-sea fisheries with all set asides rounded up to the nearest 5 mt (actual amounts specified in Table 4-23, p. 102 of Preliminary Draft EIS).
2. Within trawl bycatch allocations between whiting and non-whiting sectors would be set using 1995-2005 catch shares, except as follows:

Darkblotched rockfish – Allocate 9% or 25 mt, whichever is greater, of the total trawl allocation of darkblotched rockfish to the whiting fisheries (at-sea and shoreside combined). This amount accommodates the catches in both the 1995-2005 and 2003-2005 periods.

Pacific ocean perch (POP) – Allocate 17% or 30 mt, whichever is greater, of the total trawl allocation of Pacific ocean perch to the whiting fisheries (at-sea and shoreside combined). This amount accommodates the catches in both the 1995-2005 and 2003-2005 periods.

Widow rockfish – If widow rockfish is still under a rebuilding plan for the initial year of implementation of trawl rationalization, then 250 mt would be assigned for the initial allocation for the whiting fisheries (at-sea and shoreside), which is consistent with the amount set for 2009. If widow rockfish has been rebuilt by the initial year of implementation, then 10% or 500 mt, whichever is greater, would be assigned for the initial allocation for the whiting fisheries. This would accommodate the amount caught during the 1995-2005 period.

Yellowtail rockfish – Allocate 300 mt of yellowtail rockfish to shoreside whiting and 300 mt to at-sea whiting fisheries. This would split the difference between the average catches in the shoreside sector during the 1995-2005 time period and the average catches that occurred under a healthy widow rockfish period (1995-2000). The 300 mt set aside for the at-sea sector is consistent with the GAP recommendation.

See attached tables that describe the rebuilding ABCs and OYs for darkblotched rockfish, POP, and widow rockfish, and the results of the percentages specified above.

3. Bycatch sharing among whiting sectors: Consistent with 2009 allocations and the trawl rationalization program, distribute darkblotched and widow rockfishes and Pacific Ocean perch pro rata among whiting sectors.

Motion # 4: Framework for future allocations: Specify sector allocations to be decided through the biennial specifications and management process for only those species listed in Table 4-23 on p. 102, specifically:

Canary rockfish	black rockfish (WOC)	CA scorpionfish
Bocaccio rockfish	blue rockfish (CA)	cabezon (CA)
Cowcod rockfish	minor nearshore rockfish (N & S)	longnose skate
Yelloweye rockfish	minor shelf rockfish (N & S)	other fish

All other allocations would require a regulatory amendment process to revise.

Maintain FMP provision to suspend formal allocations if a stock is declared as overfished.