

INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS

Management measures for groundfish are set by the Council with the general understanding that these measures will likely need to be adjusted within the biennium to attain, but not exceed, the annual catch limits (ACLs). This agenda item will consider routine inseason adjustments to ongoing 2016 fisheries. Potential inseason adjustments include adjustments to rockfish conservation area (RCA) boundaries and adjustments to commercial and recreational fishery catch limits. Adjustments are, in part, based on catch estimate updates and the latest information from the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program (WCGOP).

At their March 2016 meeting, the Council discussed the anticipated workload surrounding the numerous groundfish items scheduled for the April 2016 Council meeting. The Council recommended narrowing the scope of the April 2016 inseason agenda item to only include those actions that are needed to keep catch within the ACLs. Such actions include decreases to cumulative landing limits for the commercial fishery, decreases to recreational bag limits, and expansions to the RCAs to reduce catch.

Council Action:

Consider projections for the 2016 fisheries and adopt reductions to commercial and recreational fishery catch limits or modifications to the RCA boundaries to keep catch within the ACLs.

Reference Materials:

None.

Agenda Order:

- F.8 Inseason Adjustments Kelly Ames
- a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Consider Inseason Adjustments, as Necessary, to Keep Catch within the Annual Catch Limits