

## AMENDMENT 21 AT-SEA SECTOR ALLOCATION REVISIONS

In April 2016, the Council adopted a motion to consider managing the bycatch of darkblotched rockfish and Pacific ocean perch (POP) in the at-sea whiting trawl fisheries by specifying annual set-asides or changing the formal allocations of these species to these sectors. The amounts proposed to be set aside or re-allocated to the at-sea whiting sectors are as follows:

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Darkblotched</b>	<b>POP</b>
Catcher-Processors	25 mt	20 mt
Motherships	20 mt	15 mt

Changing these allocations or specifying these two species as set-aside species for these sectors requires an amendment to the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) since these species were formally allocated to these sectors under Amendment 21. Such an action compels a three-meeting process to decide a change. Since this initiative was first introduced in April, the earliest a final decision can be made is September. The Council announced the intent to implement new regulations by the start of the 2017 whiting season on May 15, so this is the preferred Council schedule to decide this matter. At this meeting, the Council will adopt for public review a range of alternatives for more detailed analysis and identify a preliminary preferred alternative, as appropriate. In September, the Council is scheduled to select a final preferred alternative.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) provided a proposed Purpose and Need and a range of alternatives for the action (Agenda Item G.2.a, WDFW Report 1) and are planning to provide an initial analysis (Agenda Item G.2.a, Supplemental WDFW Report 2) to aid in these decisions. .

### **Council Action:**

**Adopt a Range of Alternatives and Consider Identifying a Preliminary Preferred Alternative for At-Sea Fishery Sector Allocations for Pacific Ocean Perch and Darkblotched Rockfish, Including Deciding New Allocations or Set-asides**

### **Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item G.2.a, WDFW Report 1: Proposed Purpose and Need and Strawman Range of Alternatives for Revised Amendment 21 At-Sea Allocations.
2. Agenda Item G.2.a, Supplemental WDFW Report 2: Analysis of Range of Alternatives for Revised Amendment 21 At-Sea Allocations.
3. Agenda Item G.2.b, Public Comments.

Agenda Order:

- G.2 Amendment 21 At-Sea Sector Allocation Revisions John DeVore
- a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
  - b. Public Comment
  - c. **Council Action:** Adopt a Range of Alternatives and Consider Identifying a Preliminary Preferred Alternative for At-Sea Fishery Sector Allocations for Pacific Ocean Perch and Darkblotched Rockfish, Including Deciding New Allocations or Set-asides

PFMC  
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