

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE REPORT ON  
5-YEAR CATCH SHARE PROGRAM AND INTERSECTOR ALLOCATION REVIEW UPDATE

Mr. John DeVore (Council Staff) presented a proposed alternative catch share program review schedule to the SSC. The original approved schedule required SSC review of the draft program review document in September 2017 and final approval of the Program Review by the Council in April 2018. The proposed alternative is an accelerated schedule that would require SSC review of the draft document in June 2017 and final approval by the Council in November 2017.

The proposed alternative schedule for the catch share program review presents workload challenges to the SSC. The accelerated alternative schedule would require intensive review of the draft document by the SSC's Economics and Groundfish Subcommittees followed by a joint meeting prior to the June 2017 Council meeting. This timeline is problematic for two reasons. First, the Groundfish Subcommittee already has a June meeting scheduled because it must review four groundfish update assessments and the cowcod catch report. In addition, several Groundfish Subcommittee members will likely be involved in various stock assessment activities in June. Second, a NOAA Fisheries Science Program Review for economics and social science will occur in early- to mid-2017. Two of the five economics subcommittee members (including the chair) will be involved in the NOAA Fisheries Program Review in the run-up to the proposed June 2017 SSC review of the draft catch share document. Given these workload constraints, the SSC prefers the original approved review schedule, which includes SSC review of the draft document in September 2017 and final Council approval of the Program Review in April 2018.

PFMC  
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