

AGENDA ITEM F.3

SCOPING OF TRAWL CATCH SHARES DISCARD SURVIVAL CREDITS FOR SABLEFISH AND LINGCOD



Attachments and Reports

1. Agenda Item F.3, Attachment 1: Scoping Document
2. Agenda Item F.3.a, GMT Report 1: Sablefish and Lingcod Discard Mortality Rates
3. Supplemental SSC, GMT, and GAP Reports



Council Action

1. Scope issues for applying sablefish and lingcod discard survival credits in trawl catch share accounts.
2. Provide guidance on future analyses and schedule.



NMFS Total Mortality Estimates and Discard Mortality Rates

Mortality rates applied in bottom trawl and fixed gear fisheries:

Species	Fishery	Gear	Discard Mortality Rate
Lingcod	IFQ Bottom Trawl	Trawl	50%
	IFQ Fixed Gear	Line	7%
Sablefish	IFQ Bottom Trawl	Trawl	50%
	IFQ Fixed Gear	Line and Pot	20%



Review of Current Mortality Estimates

- GMT Report provided a review of the rates (Item F.3.a, GMT Report 1: Sablefish and Lingcod Discard Mortality Rates)
- Recommended using these rate for management
- SSC reviewed the GMT report



IFQ Accounting

- In IFQ accounts - All fish are considered dead (discards are debited at 100%)
- Vessel Accounting System - can apply discard mortality rates prior to debiting of accounts



2015 Discard Estimates and ACL Attainment

Lingcod

- Discard Estimates = trawl 25mt, longline 0.01mt
- ACL Attainment = 12.7%

Sablefish

- Discard Estimates = trawl 11mt, logline 5mt, pot 7mt
- ACL Attainment = 96.8%



Length Limit for Lingcod

- 22 inches in OR/WA and 24 inches in CA
- Scoped removal in 2013-2014 specifications process
- Potential to reduce discard in fishery if length limit is reduced
- Could cause disparate size regs for IFQ vs. Non-IFQ fisheries



Potential Benefits and Concerns

Lingcod

- Could provide additional fishing opportunity for participants
- Could increase discard of small fish
- No change in the likelihood of exceeding ACL (attainment is 12.7%)
- 22 inch min could be revised to allow retention (Enforcement concerns - IFQ vs Non-IFQ size limits)



Potential Benefits and Concerns

Sablefish

- Could provide additional fishing opportunity for participants
- Stretch out quota throughout year to target Dover, thornyhead, petrale sole, and arrowtooth flounder
- Could increase discard of small fish - not sure how much
- No change in the likelihood of exceeding ACL (96.8% attainment)



Future Analysis and Schedule

Develop a range of Alternatives (ROA)

- Potential range could be:
 - No Action
 - Apply GMT/SSC approved rates to IFQ Accounts
 - Use rates that are lower than 100% but greater than GMT/SSC rates

Need to analyze potential discard sizes and amounts under ROA

Selection of Final Preferred Alternative scheduled for November, 2017



Council Action

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