

UPDATE ON 2019-2020 HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

In November 2017, the Council adopted final overfishing limits (OFLs), acceptable biological catches (ABCs), and annual catch limits (ACLs) for most stocks and complexes. A range of ACLs was forwarded for more detailed analysis for yelloweye rockfish, lingcod north and south of 40°10' N lat., and California scorpionfish. Since November, errors were discovered with respect to the adopted 2019 and 2020 harvest specifications for lingcod north and south of 40°10' N lat. and the 2020 harvest specifications for bocaccio south of 40°10' N lat. Attachment 1 provides the revised lingcod and bocaccio specifications. Attachment 2 provides a narrative description of six alternative lingcod projections all of which are provided in the Attachment 3 Excel file. These alternatives explore different removal assumptions for 2019 and beyond as requested by the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) across the two alternative harvest control rules the Council requested for detailed analysis. The Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will review revised harvest specifications and recommend the 2019 and 2020 OFLs for these stocks under this agenda item. The Council is scheduled to take final action on harvest specifications at the April 2018 Council meeting.

The Council also provided guidance to facilitate analysis of the integrated alternatives, which combines the ACL alternatives and adjustments to routine management measures. Guidance included two-year allocations, harvest guidelines for selected species, a range of season and area restrictions, and a range of trip limits, daily-bag-limits, and other management measures for key target and constraining bycatch species. Additionally, several new management measures were forwarded for preliminary analysis. Given the expected workload, the Council prioritized the analysis of harvest specifications, integrated alternatives, and measures to comply with the anticipated incidental take statement for salmon listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), all of which are necessary to support the January 1 fishery start date. A secondary priority was established for new management measures. The Council is scheduled to develop a preliminary preferred suite of management measures at the April 2018 Council meeting. After a public review period, the Council will take final action at the June 2018 Council meeting.

Council staff, in coordination with the GMT and the Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC), have prepared an analytical document that describes the impacts associated with the range of 2019-2020 groundfish harvest specifications and adjustments to routine management measures. Additionally, progress was made analyzing the new management measures forwarded for consideration. Under Agenda Item H.7, Council staff and the GMT are scheduled to provide an overview of the analysis and answer questions. The briefing is designed to help the Council focus on some of the key issues that will be discussed and decided at the upcoming April and June meetings.

Additionally, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is expected to provide a supplemental report detailing the results of the National Environmental Policy Act scoping and providing a schedule for regulation deeming and Fishery Management Plan (FMP) transmittal.

Under this agenda item, the Council is also scheduled to take action to adopt revised 2019 and 2020 harvest specifications for lingcod north and south of 40°10' N lat., as well as final 2020 harvest specifications for bocaccio. These specifications need to comport with SSC-endorsed OFLs for these stocks.

Council Action:

- 1. Revise 2019 and 2020 Lingcod Harvest Specifications as Appropriate.**
- 2. Revise 2020 Bocaccio Harvest Specifications as Appropriate.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item H.7, Attachment 1: Proposed 2019 and 2020 Harvest Specifications for Lingcod and Bocaccio.
2. Agenda Item H.7, Attachment 2: Narrative for Revised 2017 Lingcod Stock Projections.
3. Agenda Item H.7, Attachment 3: Excel File with Lingcod Stock Projections (Revised2017LingcodOFLs-18Dec2017_V6.xlsx) [**Electronic Only**].
4. Agenda Item H.7.b, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

H.7 Update on 2019-2020 Harvest Specifications and Management Measures

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- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
- b. Public Comment
- c. **Council Action:** Review Progress, Provide Guidance, and Adopt Revised Harvest Specifications, As Necessary

PFMC
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