

FIVE-YEAR CATCH SHARE FOLLOW-ON ACTION – PRELIMINARY ACTION

At its November 2017 meeting, the Council completed work on the five-year review of the trawl catch share program and provided preliminary guidance on the development of ranges of alternatives to address actions following from the review (“Follow-on Actions”). In March 2018, the Council finalized ranges of alternatives for analysis on most issues. At that time, it narrowed the alternatives for annual vessel quota pound (QP) limits down to one species, blackgill rockfish south of 40° 10’ N. latitude, and asked for an analysis of alternatives from the current 9 percent up to 30 percent. This narrowing of the scope of species being considered should also be reflected in a revision to the purpose and need statement. Drafts of a revised purpose and need statement and a specific range of alternatives are provided for Council consideration in Agenda Item I.7, Attachment 1.

At this meeting, the Council is scheduled to adopt its preliminary preferred alternatives on the following issues:

- at-sea whiting fishery bycatch needs and set-aside management,
- annual vessel QP limits for blackgill (south of 40° 10’ N. lat.),
- shorebased individual fishing quota sector harvest complex needs (post season trading, post season relief from annual vessel QP limits, and September 1st QP transfer deadline),
- catcher-processor sector accumulation limits, and
- new data collections for catcher processors and quota share owners.

Final action is scheduled for November 2018.

A number of other follow-on issues were considered through the biennial specifications process:

- increasing amounts for harvest,
- continuation of the Adaptive Management Program pass-through, and
- elimination of daily vessel QP limits.

Two follow-on issue areas were put into other processes. Increasing carryover will be considered as part of the annual catch limit flexibility consideration (scheduled for March 2019). Sablefish area management and gear switching is being addressed by the Sablefish Management and Trawl Allocation Attainment Committee. That committee met June 29 and has another meeting scheduled for October 11 and 12. It is scheduled to provide a progress report at the November 2018 Council meeting.

Finally, the following potential follow-on actions were deferred to the omnibus prioritization process:

- between sector QP trading,
- changing trawl/nontrawl allocations,
- carryover of at-sea set-asides,
- aggregate nonwhiting control limits, and

- QP weightings used to calculate aggregate nonwhiting QP holdings.

Council Action:

1. **Adopt purpose and need statements and range of alternatives on blackgill rockfish vessel QP limits.**
2. **Adopt preliminary preferred alternatives for the five-year catch share program follow-on actions.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item I.7, Attachment 1: Follow-on Actions—Alternatives and Draft Impact Analysis.

Agenda Order:

- I.7 Five-Year Catch Share Follow-On Action – Preliminary Action Jim Seger
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Preliminary Preferred Alternatives for the Five-Year Catch Share Program Follow-On Actions and Provide Further Guidance as Necessary

PFMC
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