

## GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE REPORT

In March 2019, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) adopted the Groundfish Management Team's (GMT) proposed groundfish workload prioritization process. While there is no prioritization item scheduled for this meeting, the GMT presents a draft of our workload matrix (Attachment 1) to help the Council better understand our progress on ongoing and scheduled projects, in context with what the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is working on ([G.1.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 2, April 2019](#)). The shaded blocks represent the GMT's anticipated timeline for direct involvement with the issue (e.g., through the Council's final action), noting that some GMT members may have additional workload to assist NMFS and Council staff in developing the final regulatory documents. Any feedback on this report would be helpful in improving this new process prior to the June Council meeting.

Additionally, based on Council action in March, the GMT is providing an updated groundfish workload prioritization list, with items renumbered as appropriate (Attachment 2). Changes from March include the removal of the item, entitled "Retain Halibut in the Sablefish Fishery (South of Pt. Chehalis)" (previously item #9), and the addition of item #17, "Commercial Use of Recreational Discards," to the list. Additionally, the GMT noted the progress of the analysis by the staff or if research or an Exempted Fishing Permit to inform future analysis is ongoing.

### Item #17: Permitting Commercial Sale of Recreational Fish Waste

#### Background

At the March 2019 Council meeting, the Enforcement Consultants (EC) brought forward a proposal to change Federal regulations to allow for ports to collect waste at recreational fish cleaning stations and use that fish waste (carcasses) to produce commercially sold products (e.g., fish meal). Currently, recreational caught fish, and any parts of, are prohibited from entering any commercial market.

#### Relevant Factors for Analysis

The GMT does not believe any analysis would be required by the team.

#### Potential Benefits

##### *Low*

There would be additional economic benefit to the ports in which companies establish contracts to collect and process these discards.

#### Workload

##### *Unsure/Likely Low*

We believe it would likely be low and the majority of the workload would fall on NMFS and enforcement staff. However, as this is a significant policy change, the GMT is unsure of what our workload would be and where our input would be needed.

#### GMT Proposed Process

The GMT looks to NMFS for suggestions on the best pathway for implementation.

### Attachment 1: GMT Workload

Action	Category	GMT Lead Analyst(s)	2019												2020												2021			
			Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar				
2021-2022 Groundfish Harvest Specifications	2021-2022 SPEX	All																									***			
2021-2022 Groundfish Management Measures		All																										***		
Inseason Monitoring and Management		All																												
P* Considerations and Phased in ABC		Patrick, Abby																												
Stock Assessment Updates and Panels		Jessi, Patrick, Mel																												
2021-2022 EFP Applications	Heather, Lynn																										***			
ESA Salmon Mitigation Measures	ESA	Patrick, Jessi, Karen																												
ESA Seabird Mitigation Measures		Caroline, Lynn																									***			
Non-Salmon ESA workgroup		Caroline, Patrick																												
Sablefish Management and Trawl Allocation Committee (SAMTAAC)	Individual Items	Jessi, Patrick, Abby, Mel																												
Non-Trawl RCA Adjustments (Including CCA Revisions)	Council Identified Priorities	Patrick, Mel, Jessi, Caroline																												
A-21 Trawl/Non-Trawl Allocations		Patrick, Mel, Jessi	TBD																											
Mothership Sector Utilization		Jessi, Patrick, Abby	TBD																											
Emley Platt EFP into Regulation		Caroline, Mel	TBD																											
Ecosystem Items	Ecosystem	Andrew, Heather																												
Climate and Communities		TBD																												
Halibut CSP Process	Halibut	Heather, Lynn, Caroline																												
Directed Commercial Halibut Fishery Workshop		Heather, Lynn, Jessi																												
*** notes when regulations are expected to be final																														

PFMC  
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## Attachment 2: Groundfish Workload Prioritization Items

New #	Sector	Short Title	Category	Analytical Workload (H, M, L)	Primary Analysts	Progress to Date
1	Trawl, Non-Trawl	Clarify Catch Accounting Rules for Amendment 21	Catch Accounting	L	Council/ NMFS staff	None
2	Trawl IFQ	Removal of Selective Flatfish Trawl (SFFT) requirement between 40° 10' and 42° N. lat..	Gear	Unknown	NMFS	Ongoing EFP
3	LE FG	LEFG Permit Price Reporting	Permitting	L (if any)	NWFSC	None
4	Trawl, Non-Trawl, Rec	Create 60-Mile Bank RCA Lines	Area Management	M	CDFW staff	None
5	Trawl, Non-Trawl	New Dressed to Round Conversion Factors for Sablefish	Catch Accounting	L	Patrick/ Jessi	Preliminary discussions held at PacFIN meeting
6	Trawl, Non-Trawl	Non-Trawl RCA Modifications	Area Management	H	Patrick/ Jessi/ Mel	None
7	Trawl IFQ	Remove Certain Time and Area-Management Restrictions for Midwater Trawl Gear Targeting Non-whiting	Area Management	H	NMFS staff/ Patrick/ Jessi	Ongoing EFP
8	Trawl IFQ	Carryover when Management Units Change	Catch Accounting	M	NMFS/ Council staff	None
9	Rec	Discard Mortality Rates for the Recreational Fisheries	Catch Accounting	M	Heather, Lynn, Caroline, Patrick	Research ongoing
10	IFQ	Gear Switching and Trawl Sablefish Area Management	Allocation	Very H	NMFS/ Council staff/ Jessi/ Patrick/ Mel	Ongoing
11	IFQ	Increasing IFQ Carryover from 10 Percent	Harvest Specifications	No change from current?	Jessi	None
12	IFQ	Aggregate Non-whiting QS Control Limits and Individual Species Weighting	Accumulation Limits	M	NWFSC / Council Staff	Pending research
13	Trawl, Non-Trawl	Trawl/Non-trawl Amendment 21 Allocations	Allocation	M/H	depends on species chosen	Intersector Allocation Review completed in June 2017
14	MS	Mothership Sector Utilization	Accumulation Limits	M/H	Jessi/ Patrick/ NMFS/ Council staff	None
15	Fixed Gear	Moving Emley/Platt EFP into Regulations	Gear	M	Mel/ Caroline	Ongoing EFP
16	All	Sablefish Harvest Specification Change- Managing with ACTs	Allocation	L	Jessi/Patrick/ NMFS/Council staff	Preliminary scoping
17	Rec	Permitting Commercial Sale of Recreational Fish Waste	Permitting	None	NMFS/EC staff	Unsure/Likely Low