

BIENNIAL MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR 2021-22

Under this agenda item, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduled to address the management measures for 2021-2022 groundfish fisheries, including adopting stock complex alternatives, preliminary off the top deductions from annual catch limits (ACL), set-asides from the trawl allocation, and two-year allocations to facilitate the analysis. The Council should also identify the proposals and recommend stock complex alternatives, based on the harvest specifications values adopted under Agenda Item H.6, for analysis, as necessary. Further, the Council should consider adoption of a final range of management measures necessary to implement the harvest specifications for more detailed analyses and provide guidance, as necessary, on routine adjustments to management measures.

Management measures are used to meet the goals of the Magnuson-Stevens Act and Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP), including attaining but not exceeding the ACL and correcting or mitigating overages of the ACL if they occur. Management measures applicable to this action are those that have been previously analyzed, are defined in regulation, or are necessary for ACL management or mitigating potential impacts on protected species and/or critical habitats.

Also covered under this action are deductions from the ACLs. These amounts are called off-the-top deductions and are made to account for groundfish mortality resulting from Pacific Coast treaty Tribal harvest, scientific research, non-groundfish fisheries, exempted fishing permits, and unforeseen catch events. Further, set-asides for some species are deducted from the trawl allocation to accommodate bycatch in the at-sea whiting fishery. The ACL less the deductions is called the fishery harvest guideline (HG) or commercial HG (sablefish north of 36° N. latitude and Pacific whiting), which is the amount available for the sector-specific allocations. The Groundfish Management Team (GMT) is expected to report on these yield set-asides as well as summarize the impacts from Council-recommended exempted fishing permit impacts under Agenda Item H.5. The Council should consider adopting and/or modifying the ACL deductions under this agenda item.

This agenda item also provides the opportunity for the Council to review sector allocations. Sector allocations include formal long-term allocations specified in the FMP and short-term allocations implemented for the biennial management period. Under this agenda item, the Council should adopt preliminary biennial allocations, including a range of alternatives as necessary, for detailed analysis.

At the September 2019 meeting, the Council [adopted](#) a preliminary range of new management measures detailed in [Agenda Item H.8.a, Supplemental CDFW Report 1, September 2019](#), [Agenda Item H.8.a, Supplemental GMT Report 1, September 2019](#), and [Agenda Item H.8.a, Supplemental GAP Report 1, September 2019](#). Summarized descriptions of these potential management measures are described in the Action Item Checklist (Agenda Item H.8, Attachment 1). It is important to note, that [Agenda Item H.8.a, Supplemental CDFW Report 1](#) from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) was considered to be a preliminary description of potential management measures as CDFW indicated it could be refined based on the results of their public scoping process. CDFW is expected to provide an update to that report at this meeting.

The GMT will provide the background, relevant factors for the analysis, and an initial workload estimate of the management measures for Council consideration.

The Council should carefully consider the list of potential management measures proposed by management entities, advisory bodies, and the public when deciding which issues are the highest priorities for more detailed analyses. Results of the detailed analyses will help the Council develop a preliminary preferred suite of management measures at the April 2020 Council meeting. After a public review period, the Council will take final action on biennial management measures at the June 2020 Council meeting with implementation scheduled for January 1, 2021.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt stock complex alternatives for analysis, as appropriate.**
- 2. Adopt deductions from the ACLs and the trawl allocations for analysis, as appropriate.**
- 3. Adopt preliminary two-year allocations for analysis, as necessary.**
- 4. Adopt a range of new management measures for more detailed analysis.**
- 5. Provide guidance on routine adjustments to management measures.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item H.8, Attachment 1: Action Item Checklist.
2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- H.8 Biennial Management Measures for 2021-2022 Todd Phillips/John DeVore
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Preliminary Two-Year Allocations and a Range of Alternative Management Measures for Detailed Analysis

PFMC
10/17/19