INSEASON ADJUSTMENTS INCLUDING SHOREBASED CARRYOVER – FINAL ACTION

The management measures for groundfish are set by the Council with the general understanding that these measures will need to be adjusted within the biennium to attain, but not exceed, the annual catch limits. This agenda item will consider progress to date of the groundfish fisheries as well as routine inseason adjustments to the 2020 fisheries. Potential routine inseason adjustments include adjustments to Rockfish Conservation Area boundaries and adjustments to commercial trip limits. Adjustments are, in part, based on recent landings and the latest information from the West Coast Groundfish Observer Program.

Shorebased Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Surplus Carryover

At their March meetings, the Council provides recommendations to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding the issuance of the prior year surplus carryover quota pounds (QP) into the current year’s shorebased IFQ program. The surplus carryover provision in the shorebased IFQ program allows unused QP in amounts of up to ten percent of the cumulative QPs (used and unused) in a vessel account to be carried over from one year to the next (see regulations at 50 CFR 660.140(e)(5)). The current NMFS policy, based on a court ruling in 2014, is that NMFS will not issue surplus carryover QP for IFQ species that have ACLs established equal to their acceptable biological catches (Agenda Item F.4.a, Attachment 4, June 2014). The Council can recommend, for each individual species or species complex, that NMFS: a) issue carryover up to ten percent, b) issue carryover at some level less than ten percent (i.e., reduce the eligible carryover percent), or c) forego carryover.

Council Action:

1. Consider projections for the 2020 fisheries and adopt inseason adjustments, as necessary.
2. Consider data on 2019 surplus carryover QPs and projections for fishery performance in 2020. Recommend the amount of surplus carryover that should be issued.

Reference Materials:

1. If received, Public Comments are electronic only (see e-portal).

Agenda Order:

H.5 Inseason Adjustments Including Shorebased Carryover – Final Action Todd Phillips
   a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
   b. Public Comment
   c. Council Action: Adopt Final Inseason Adjustments for 2020, Including Shorebased Carryover, as Necessary to Achieve but Not Exceed Annual Catch Limits and Other Management Objectives

PFMC
02/10/20