

GROUND FISH MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORT ON WORKLOAD AND NEW
MANAGEMENT MEASURE PRIORITIES – INCLUDING THE SCOPING OF
MOTHERSHIP UTILIZATION ISSUES

Each year in March or April, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council), the public, and advisory bodies have the opportunity to consider tentatively scheduling groundfish topics on the Council's year at a glance (YAG) calendar, based on the workload of the Groundfish Management Team (GMT), Council, and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). However, due to the need for the April and June Council meetings to occur online and the resulting schedule changes, this process has not yet occurred in 2020. This report reminds the Council, advisory bodies, and the public of the status of this process as of the November 2019 Council meeting, when it was last discussed.

Appendix 1 provides the GMT's workload matrix, which shows the progress of ongoing and scheduled projects. 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.

Appendix 2 shows the most recent (November 2019) groundfish workload prioritization list (Table A) and those items that are still relevant but not yet prioritized (Table B). The GMT notes that the first item on the prioritized list is shown in strikethrough to indicate that the item has been addressed and can be removed from the list. **Given current GMT staffing, turnover, and workload, the GMT recommends the Council not prioritize any additional items until one or more of the already prioritized items are completed.**

The GMT will be submitting a supplemental report on the Mothership Sector Utilization part of this agenda item. If needed, the GMT will also submit a supplemental report under this agenda item to address any new items that may come up prior to, or at, the September 2020 meeting.

Appendix 1. GMT workload matrix, with progress of ongoing and scheduled projects.

Action	Category	Likely GMT Lead Analyst(s)	2020				2021												2022									
			Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug		
Biennial Groundfish Harvest Specifications	Biennial Process	All					***																					
Biennial Groundfish Management Measures		All					***																					
Exempted Fishing Permit Applications		Caroline, Erica, Kayleigh					***																					
Stock Assessment Updates and Panels		Chantel, Xi, Mel, Lynn																										
Inseason Monitoring & Management	Inseason	Mel, Whitney, TBD																										
ESA Humpback Whale Measures	ESA	Caroline/TBD																										
Non-Salmon ESA workgroup		Caroline, Lynn																										
Sablefish Management and Trawl Allocation Committee (SAMTAAC)	Individual Items	TBD																										
Non-Trawl RCA Adjustments (Including CCA Revisions)	Council Identified Priorities	Mel, Whitney, TBD	not scheduled on the June 2020 YAAG																									
Mothership Sector Utilization		Whitney, TBD																										
A-21 Trawl/Non-Trawl Allocations		TBD	not scheduled on the June 2020 YAAG																									
Emley Platt EFP into Regulation		Mel, Caroline	not scheduled on the June 2020 YAAG																									
Ecosystem Items	Ecosystem	Lynn, TBD																										
Climate and Communities		Lynn, TBD																										
Halibut CSP Process	Halibut	Lynn, Caroline, Erica																										
*** notes when regulations are expected to be final																												

Appendix 2. The most recent groundfish workload prioritization list (November 2019)

Table A. Potential groundfish management measure items prioritized by the Council. (Number and order is based on when items had been scheduled in November 2019.)

Item #	Sector	Short Title	Category	Analytical Workload (H, M, L)	Primary Analysts	Progress to Date	Scheduled on YAAG a/
A1	AlI	2020 Shortbelly Rockfish	Catch Accounting	M	Patrick/ Mel/Stacey Miller (NMFS lead)	FPA November 2019	Nov 2019
A2	Trawl, Non-Trawl	Non-Trawl RCA Modifications	Area Management	H	Mel/ Whitney/ TBD	None	No
A3	MS	Mothership Sector Utilization	Accumulation Limits	M/H	Council staff/ Whitney/ TBD	None	No b/
A4	Trawl, Non-Trawl	Trawl/Non-trawl Amendment 21 Allocations	Allocation	M/H	Depends on species chosen	None	No
A5	Fixed Gear	Moving Emley/Platt EFP into Regulations	Gear	M	Mel/ Caroline	Ongoing EFP	No
A6	IFQ	Gear Switching and Trawl Sablefish Area Management	Allocation/ Area Management	Very H	Council staff/ TBD	Ongoing	Sept 2020

a/ as shown in [Agenda Item C.5., Supplemental Attachment 4, June 2020](#)

b/ included in the [Proposed Pacific Council Meeting Agenda for September 2020](#), dated 07/16/2020

Table B. All other potential groundfish management measure items (not in priority order, nor scheduled on the Year at a Glance Calendar)

Item #	Sector	Short Title	Category	Analytical Workload (H, M, L)	Primary Analysts	Progress to Date
B1	Trawl, Non-Trawl	Clarify Catch Accounting Rules for Amendment 21	Catch Accounting	L	Council staff	None
B2	Trawl IFQ	Removal of Selective Flatfish Trawl (SFFT) requirement between 40° 10' and 42° N. lat.	Gear	Unknown	Council staff	Ongoing EFP (Year 3 of 3 needed per Salmon ITS)
B3	LE FG	LEFG Permit Price Reporting	Permitting	L (if any)	NWFSC	None
B4	Trawl, Non-Trawl, Rec	Create 60-Mile Bank RCA Lines	Area Management	M	CDFW staff	None
B5	Trawl, Non-Trawl	New Dressed to Round Conversion Factors for Sablefish	Catch Accounting	L	TBD	Preliminary discussions held at PacFIN meeting
B6	Trawl IFQ	Remove Certain Time and Area-Management Restrictions for Midwater Trawl Gear Targeting Non-whiting	Area Management	H	Council staff/TBD	Ongoing EFP (Year 2 of 3 needed per Salmon ITS)
B7	Trawl IFQ	Carryover when Management Units Change	Catch Accounting	M	Council staff	None
B8	Rec	Discard Mortality Rates for the Recreational Fisheries	Catch Accounting	M	Erica, Lynn, Caroline	Pending research
B9	IFQ	Increasing IFQ Carryover from 10 Percent	Harvest Specifications	No change from current	TBD	None
B10	IFQ	Aggregate Non-whiting QS Control Limits and Individual Species Weighting	Accumulation Limits	M	NWFSC / Council Staff	Pending research

Item #	Sector	Short Title	Category	Analytical Workload (H, M, L)	Primary Analysts	Progress to Date
B11	All	Sablefish Harvest Specification Change- Managing with ACTs	Allocation	L	TBD/ Council staff	Preliminary scoping
B12	Rec	Permitting Commercial Sale of Recreational Fish Waste	Permitting	None	NMFS WCR/EC staff	None
B13	Trawl IFQ	Petrals; Gutted/ Head-on conversion factor	Catch Accounting	L	Mel/TBD	None
B14	OA FG	Salmon VMS Ping Rate	Enforcement	L	EC Staff	Preliminary scoping

PFMC
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