

SABLEFISH MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION UPDATE

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) received a briefing on the sablefish management strategy evaluation (MSE) in [March 2018](#), which focused on a modeling of future climate-driven recruitment and the performance of a suite of static and dynamic harvest control rules given future climate impacts on recruitment. The Pacific Sablefish Transboundary Assessment Team (PSTAT) has established a scientific collaboration including scientists from the Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC), the Alaska Fisheries Science Center, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to develop a spatial MSE framework and movement models for Northeast Pacific sablefish (Attachment 1). Dr. Melissa Haltuch, NWFSC and member of the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), will brief the Council on the sablefish MSE framework and Ms. Maia Kapur will present the operating model that is being developed (Attachment 2). The PSTAT is soliciting Council input on the operating model.

The PSTAT is seeking feedback on the scope of uncertainties to be addressed in the Northeast Pacific sablefish MSE, management objectives, and alternative management strategies to be evaluated in the MSE. Considerations for a broader MSE framework are captured in the [proceedings](#) of the sixth national meeting of the Scientific Coordination Subcommittee in January 2018 hosted by the Pacific Council, which was themed, “The use of management strategy evaluation to inform management decisions made by the Regional Fishery Management Councils”.

The SSC is anticipated to provide technical recommendations to the PSTAT and Council on the spatial operating model being developed in the international sablefish MSE process. The SSC and other advisors may also provide recommendations on the scope of the sablefish MSE and management objectives they propose for evaluation. The Council should consider these recommendations and provide guidance as they deem necessary.

Council Action:

- 1. Review the management strategy evaluation and provide guidance, as necessary.**
- 2. Consider how the Council would like to engage in a stakeholder feedback process to inform the sablefish management strategy evaluation.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item G.4, Attachment 1: Report on the 2018 International Sablefish Workshop.
2. Agenda Item G.4, Attachment 2: A Transboundary Operating Model for Northeast Pacific Sablefish.
3. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- G.4 Sablefish Management Strategy Evaluation Update John DeVore
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Review the Management Strategy Evaluation and Provide Guidance, as Necessary

PFMC
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