

PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR DEVELOPING THE 2023-2024 GROUND FISH HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Table 1. Proposed Council schedule for the activities associated with implementing the 2023-2024 harvest specifications and management measures. Bold font dates represent Council meeting dates.

Start Date	End Date	Task
May 3, 2021	May 7, 2021	Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panel #1 (online): Dover sole and spiny dogfish, one Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) representative attended.
June 21, 2021	June 30, 2021	The Council meets and adopts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A final process and schedule for developing groundfish harvest specifications and management measures for 2023-2024. • Initial discussion and guidance on new management measures considered for 2021 and beyond.
July 12, 2021	July 16, 2021	STAR Panel #2 (online): Lingcod, one Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) representative attended.
July 26, 2021	July 30, 2021	STAR Panel #3 (online): Vermilion & sunset rockfish, one Groundfish Management Team (GMT) and Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) representative will attend.
2021 ¹	2021	Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Groundfish Subcommittee meets to reach recommendations or comment on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Four full assessments and one data-poor assessment², as recommended by the STAR panels. 2. One update assessments (sablefish). 3. Three length based data-moderate assessments (squarespot, quillback, and copper rockfishes) 4. Overfishing limits (OFLs), where possible. 5. Stock categories (i.e., categories 1, 2, & 3).

¹ The Groundfish Subcommittee SSC will meet in June and September to complete these listed tasks, and may meet again if appropriate. Their meetings generally are announced and occur in conjunction with Council meetings.

² Full assessments include Dover sole, spiny dogfish, vermilion & sunset rockfish, and lingcod.

Start Date	End Date	Task
September 8, 2021	September 15, 2021	<p>The Council meets and adopts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stock assessments endorsed by the SSC.³ 2. Final preferred alternatives (FPAs) for OFLs recommended by the SSC, where possible. 3. Alternatives for stocks where there is a desire to explore a departure from default harvest control rules: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Determine a range of P* values and acceptable biological catches (ABCs), including preliminary preferred alternatives (PPA) for P* values and ABCs. b. A range of ACLs, including PPA ACLs. <p>Preliminary range of new management measures.⁴</p>
September 27, 2021	October 1, 2021	<p>The SSC Groundfish Subcommittee may meet to review any rebuilding analyses prepared for overfished species, any stock assessments approved for further review, and any new impact projection models recommended by the GMT at a “mop-up” panel (Location TBD). One GMT and GAP representative to attend.</p>
October 2021 TBD	October 2021 TBD	<p>GMT meets for a week to review new stock assessments and rebuilding analyses.</p> <p>GMT drafts a recommended range of ACLs and preliminary 2023-2024 management measures for consideration at the November Council meeting</p>
October 1, 2021	November 15, 2021	<p>Coastal treaty tribes initiate allocations and/or regulations specific to the tribes by written request to the Council and NOAA’s Regional Administrator before the November Council meeting for 2023 and 2024.</p>
November 14, 2021	November 15, 2021	<p>SSC meets to reach recommendations on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any rebuilding analyses. 2. Any stock assessments approved for further review, and new impact projection models from the September 27 to October 1 SSC Groundfish Subcommittee meeting. 3. Any remaining OFLs, stock categories, and sigmas not adopted at the September Council meeting.

³ Council action could be postponed from September to November for any stock assessments recommended for further review by the SSC (i.e., those assessments the Council authorizes to be sent to the September 27 to October 1, 2021 “mop-up” panel).

⁴ New management measures are those management measures that have not been analyzed or implemented in a previous cycle.

Start Date	End Date	Task
November 15, 2021	November 22, 2021	<p>The Council meets and adopts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any rebuilding analyses prepared for overfished species, stock assessments approved for further review, and new impact projection models recommended by the SSC. 2. Any remaining OFLs, stock categories, and sigmas endorsed by the SSC and not adopted at the September Council meeting. 3. FPA for P* values where there are no alternative HCRs included for analysis. 4. FPA for ABCs where there are no alternative HCRs decided for analysis. 5. A range of ACLs and PPA ACLs if possible. 6. A tentative range of two-year allocation alternatives.⁵ 7. Final range of new management measures for detailed analysis necessary to keep catch within or attain a specification or to address a habitat or protected resources concern. 8. Preliminary selection of exempted fishing permits for 2023-2024.
November 22, 2021	February 4, 2022 ⁶	<p>The Council staff, National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS), GMT, and subject matter experts prepare the requisite analytical documents.</p> <p>NMFS conducts National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) scoping and makes a preliminary determination regarding the type of NEPA analysis necessary for the proposed action.</p> <p>NMFS and Council staff prepare a schedule for regulation deeming and fishery management plan (FMP) transmittal, if necessary.</p>
November 20, 2021	April 3, 2022	<p>Opportunity for state and tribal agencies to hold constituent meetings to obtain input on final harvest specifications and preliminary management measures in preparation for the April meeting.</p>
January 2022 TBD	January 2022 TBD	<p>GMT meets for a week to review and analyze Council actions related to harvest specifications and management measures provided in 2021 for 2023 and 2024.</p>

⁵ Allocations to be reviewed for tentative adoption include both the trawl and non-trawl allocations as well as the within non-trawl sector apportionments and accountability measures (e.g., recreational harvest guidelines). Specifically, this includes two-year allocation alternatives for species not allocated under Amendment 21 (e.g., bocaccio, canary, cowcod, yelloweye and some non-overfished species).

⁶ Estimated public comment deadline for the March 2022 Council Briefing Book.

Start Date	End Date	Task
March 8, 2022	March 14, 2022	At the March Council meeting, the Council and advisory bodies will receive an informational briefing on selected results and provide guidance or take action on emerging issues, as necessary. NMFS will also update the Council on the results of the NEPA scoping and provide a schedule for regulation deeming and FMP transmittal, as necessary.
	March 25, 2022 ⁷	Analytical documents submitted for the April meeting advance briefing book for Council, advisory body, and public review.
April 6, 2022	April 13, 2022	The Council meets and adopts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FPA for ACLs. 2. PPA for management measures from the range adopted at the November Council meeting.⁸ 3. PPA for two-year allocations.
April 10, 2022	May 15, 2022 ⁹	Council staff, NMFS, GMT, and subject matter experts validate and refine analysis, consequent to the April Council meeting actions, as necessary. Council staff will provide the Council with a substantially complete document with supporting analysis that facilitates the Council's selection of their FPA. The document would cover, at a minimum, FPAs for ACLs, PPAs for management measures, and PPAs for 2 year allocations.
June 7, 2022	June 14, 2022	The Council meets and adopts: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corrections to the FPA for harvest specifications, if needed. 2. Final exempted fishing permits for 2023-2024. 3. FPA for allocations. 4. FPA for management measures.
June 14, 2022	July 15, 2022 ¹⁰	Council staff, NMFS staff, and the GMT meet to finalize analysis of the Council's FPA, if necessary. Council staff transmits final analytical documents for Secretarial review by NMFS.

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⁷ Estimated public comment deadline for the April 2022 Council meeting.

⁸ Additional management measures that require limited analysis could be added, if necessary; however, the January 1, 2023 fishery start date may be compromised.

⁹ Estimated public comment deadline for the June 2022 Council Briefing Book.

¹⁰ July 15 is an estimated deadline for the completed NEPA document. NMFS may determine an alternative deadline to better synchronize rulemaking and any MSA process associated with adoption of a potential FMP amendment.