

PRELIMINARY PREFERRED MANAGEMENT MEASURE ALTERNATIVES FOR 2023-2024 FISHERIES

The Council is scheduled to select their preliminary preferred management measures alternatives for 2023-2024 fisheries. Under Agenda Item F.3, the Council will to adopt final preferred harvest specifications; however, should any harvest specifications remain outstanding, they can be adopted under this agenda item. Final action to adopt management measures for the 2023-2024 groundfish fisheries is scheduled for the June 2022 Council meeting. Anticipated Council actions under this agenda item are summarized in the Action Item Checklist (Agenda Item F.4, Attachment 1).

In November 2021, the Council forwarded a range of management measures for preliminary analysis. Council gave direction to the Groundfish Management Team (GMT) to prioritize analysis of harvest specifications and routine measures as part of their over-winter work. After the analysis of these items was completed, the GMT began analysis of new management measures, which included a Fishery Management Plan amendment, non-trawl Rockfish Conservation Area management modifications, and extending the primary 'tier' sablefish season. The GMT was able to complete analysis of both the routine measures and the new management measures. These detailed analyses are provided in the 2023-2024 Management Measure Council Decision Document (Agenda Item F.4, Attachment 2).

At the March 2022 meeting, the Council reviewed the status of the alternatives analyses and provided guidance to the GMT. The guidance included instructions to analyze removing annual catch target for cowcod south of 40° 10' N. lat., incorporate a Pacific Groundfish Fishery Management Plan Amendment to align the definition of block area closures with Federal Regulation language, and to delay consideration for developing quillback rockfish and copper rockfish set-asides off of California in the research, exempted fishing permit, and incidental open access fisheries until a later date.

The GMT and Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) are expected to provide further recommendations regarding the 2023 and 2024 groundfish management. The Council is scheduled to consider advisory body and public input before potentially modifying the management measure alternatives and adopting preliminary preferred alternatives.

Council Action:

- 1. Adopt any remaining final harvest specifications.**
- 2. Adopt preliminary preferred adjustments to routine management measures, including allocations.**
- 3. Identify new management measures to be analyzed and considered for final action at the June Council meeting and identify preliminary preferred measures, if possible.**

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.4, Attachment 1: Action Item Checklist.
2. Agenda Item F.4, Attachment 2: 2023-2024 Management Measure Analytical Document **(Electronic Only)**.
3. Agenda Item F.4.a, WDFW Report 1: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on 2023 and 2024 Groundfish Management Measures.
4. Agenda Item F.4.a, ODFW Report 1: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Report on the 2023-24 Biennial Management Measures for the Oregon Recreational Fishery
5. Agenda Item F.4.a, GMT Report 1: Report On Reconsideration of the Cowcod South Of 40° 10' N. Lat. Annual Catch Target.
6. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

- F.4 Preliminary Preferred Management Measures Alternatives for 2023-2024 Fisheries Todd Phillips, John DeVore
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Any Remaining Harvest Specifications and Preliminary Preferred Alternatives for Management Measures in 2023-2024 Fisheries

PFMC
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